

An Engineer's Beginners Guide To Python (from a students perspective)

Muhie Al Haimus

May 22, 2024

1 Introduction

This document could be thought as the one stop shop to succeed in EMS412U python side of the module.

2 Week 0: The laying the foundation

Let's start with the most basic python program and explain some key concepts. Below is a "code block", this contains the actual raw python code.

```
1 # Author: Muhie
2 # Date: 21/05/24
3 # Explanation of the program: Outputs a Hello World! to the screen
4 """I can
5 write a comment
6 on multiple lines"""
7 print("Hello World!")
8
```

Lines 1-3: In every program you write you MUST always start with:

- Your name
- Today's date
- A brief explanation of the program

As you can see in the example above before writing my name, date and explanation I use a hashtag (#) symbol, this denotes a comment. A comment is completely separate to the main program, comments do not effect the functionality of the program. One more thing to note is that if you need a comment over multiple lines you can use three quotation marks: three before the start of the comment and then three after the comment, as seen above with *lines 4-6*. *Line 7:* This is where the actual python code starts the keyword

Syntax - these are mainly keywords (and symbols like a hashtag #).

3 KEY CONCEPTS YOU'LL NEED FOR WEEKS 1-12

3.1 Week 1: Variables

A variable is simply a value that can change.

```
1 # Author: Muhie
2 # Date: 22/05/24
3 """Explanation of the program: A simple program showing how
   variables can be assigned in python"""
4
5 a = 5 # integer
6 b = "hello" # string
7 c = True # boolean
8 d = 3.14 # float
9
```

3.2 Week 2: Selection and Iteration

```
1 # Author: Muhie
2 # Date: 22/05/24
3 """Explanation of the program: A simple program showing what a for
   loop does and what an if statement is"""
4
5 a = 5
6 if a > 5:
7     print("a is greater than 5!")
8 elif a == 5:
9     print("a is equal to 5!")
10 else:
11     print("a is not equal to 5 or greater than 5")
12
13
14
```

3.3 Week 3:

4 I NEED HELP WHAT DO I DO!

A good reference guide to python syntax and concepts