Python Summer Course

Course 1: Python Basics & Objects

Théophile Gentilhomme July 9, 2025





Introduction



My first code





What is programming?

"Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages."

Wikipedia







Why Learn with Python?

- \bigvee Easy to read and write its simple syntax is close to English
- Beginner-friendly widely used in teaching and welldocumented
- Versatile used in data science, AI, web development, automation, and more
- Large community thousands of free libraries and tutorials available
- Cross-platform runs on Windows, macOS, and Linux
- Slower performance compared to compiled languages like C/C++





🚺 Not ideal for mobile appdevelopment or real-time



Setting Up Python: How It Works

Python is an interpreted language:

- You write source code in .py files
- The Python interpreter reads and executes your code line by line

To run Python code, you need:

- The Python interpreter
- A code editor (e.g. VS Code, Thonny, Jupyter Notebook)





? What do I use?







Installation Options

Option 1: Install Python Locally (e.g. Download from python.org)

Option 2: Use Environment management (e.g. Anaconda)

Option 3: Use Python in the Browser (e.g., Google Colab)





G Google Colab

- 1. Go to colab.research.google.com
- 2. You may have to login to your Google acount
- 3. Create a new Notebook
- 4. Start programming!





notebooks in 2 mins

- Write text (Markdown) => + Text
- Write code (Python) = > + Code
- Run cells





Python as a Calculator

You can just write operation directly into the cells

```
Python Code ⊕ Start Over

1 3 + 1
```

Your turn: try it out using + − * / % ** //





Variable

A variable is a name that stores a value in your program, like a labeled box that holds data.

It lets you remember values (like numbers, text, results of calculations)

You can use or change the value later

Python creates the variable when you assign it a value

```
▶ Run Code
  # Assign values to variables
  name = "Alice"
  age = 30
  height = 1.65
  # Use variables in expressions
7 print ("Name:", name)
```





Types

```
Python Code  ○ Start Over
                                                                            ▶ Run Code
 1 # Integer
 2 | age = 25
   print("Age:", age, "->", type(age)) # <class 'int'>
 4
   # Float
 6 height = 1.75
   print("Height:", height, "->", type(height)) # <class 'float'>
 8
 9 # String
10 name = "Alice"
   print("Name:", name, "->", type(name)) # <class 'str'>
11
12
13
   # Boolean
   is_student = True
14
   |print("Is student:", is_student, "->", type(is_student)) # <class 'bool'>
16
17 # List
18 grades = [88, 92, 79]
19 print("Grades:", grades, "->", type(grades)) # <class 'list'>
                                  Python Basics & Objects
```





Everything is an Object in Python

In Python, **everything**, i.e. numbers, strings, functions, etc., is an object.

Objects have data (attributes) and behaviors (methods)

You can call methods with dot syntax: object.method()

Even simple things like numbers and strings are full objects





Everything is an Object in Python

An object is an instanciation of a class (we will see what a class is later).

```
▶ Run Code
 1 # String is an object with methods
   text = "hello"
   print(text.upper()) # 'HELLO'
   print(text.replace("l", "x")) # 'hexxo'
 5
   # Method (function) of an object is also an object!
   func = text.upper
   print(type(func))
 9
   # Even types are objects
   print(type(42))
12 print(type("hi"))
```







Boolean Conditions in Python

Boolean conditions are used to **ask questions** in your code: they return either <u>True</u> or <u>False</u>.

Common comparison operators:

- == → equal
- != → not equal
- <, >, <=, >= \rightarrow less/greater than (or equal)

Example: Number check

```
Python Code ⊕ Start Over

1  x = 10
2  print (x > 5) # True

Python Pasies & Objects
```





Combine conditions using:

- and: both must be True
- or: at least one must be True
- not: negates the condition

Example: Combining conditions





The if Statement

The if statement allows your program to **make decisions** based on conditions.

- Runs code only when the condition is True
- Can include elif (else-if) and else branches
- Python uses indentation to define the blocks

Syntax

```
1 if condition:
2  # do something
3 elif other_condition:
4  # do something else
5 else:
6  # fallback
```





The if Example







The for loop lets you **repeat a block of code** for each item in a sequence.

- Commonly used to loop over lists, strings, or ranges
- Automatically stops when the sequence ends



```
1 for item in sequence:
2  # do something with item
```





Example: Looping over a list





Example: Looping with range ()





Example: Looping with break and

continue







A while loop repeats a block of code **as long as a condition** is **True**.

- Good for loops where you don't know in advance how many times to repeat
- The condition is checked before each loop

Syntax

```
1 while condition:
2  # code to repeat
3  # Can use continue and break
```





Example: Counting with while

```
Python Code Start Over

1    count = 1
2    3    while count <= 3:
        print("Count is:", count)
5        count += 1
6    7    v while True:
        count -= 1
9        if count < -3:
10        break
```







These are basic but powerful tools for **interacting with the user**.

print(): Display output

input(): Get user input

Used to **ask the user for information**. Always returns a **string**.





Example

```
1 user_name = input("What is your name? ")
2 print("Nice to meet you,", user_name)
```



Reminder:

If you need a number from input(), use int() or float():

```
1 age = int(input("Enter your age: "))
2 print("In 5 years, you'll be", age + 5)
```





Your turn!



Write a Python program that:

- 1. Greets the user using their name (input() + print())
- 2. Asks 3 multiple-choice questions
- 3. Uses if statements to check answers
- 4. Uses a for or while loop to ask questions one by one
- 5. Keeps track of the score using a variable
- 6. Prints the final score and a custom message (e.g., "Well done!" or "Try again")



