

Pre-Work

1. What experiences have you had with coding and/or programming so far? What other experiences (programming-related or not) have you had that may help you as you progress through this course?

Besides the experience from the course, the bulk of my programming experience comes from my day to day job. The trading/investing platform that I work(thinkorswim) with has a scripting language(thinkscript) that is unique to the platform. Although its syntax is different from Turing-complete languages, many of the concepts translated well to learning Javascript. The patience required to step through many lines of someone else's code, debugging tricks, and problem solving skills can be applied to any programming language.

2. What do you know about Python already? What do you want to know?

As I understand, Python is one of the easier languages to learn. I don't want to overestimate how easy it will be, so I'm excited to run into a few roadblocks and overcome them. I am also very curious about the Mojo language. As I understand, the natural trade off is that Python is a much less performant language, so I'm curious to see if there's any real-world applications of it or if it's more hypothetical.

3. What challenges do you think may come up while you take this course? What will help you face them? Think of specific spaces, people, and times of day of week that might be favorable to your facing challenges and growing. Plan for how to solve challenges that arise.

As with any new language, there will surely be new syntax that I don't intuitively understand. IDLE/IPython will be nice applications to use for quickly trying out new functions as I am learning them. Breaking more complex problems into smaller bite-size pieces can be very helpful when I'm stuck.