

Comments, Variables and Scope

```
# everything after # is a comment

x = 1

def foo():
    y = 2

print(x) # this works
print(y) # this doesn't
```

```
def foo():
    global y
    y = 2

print(y) # this works now
```

- start comments with a #
- assigning a variable in Python is easy, just type the name, an =, and its value
- variables outside of functions have global scope (they can be used anywhere)
- variables inside functions have local scope (they can only be used inside the function)
- you can override this by defining a variable in a function with the **global** keyword (but don't worry about this for now)

Exercise: hello_name

- Create a new file called **hello_name.py**
- Write a function that takes one parameter (a greeting), and prints the greeting, followed by a name
- Get the name by using the **input()** function to read in a name from the terminal (see snippet [1])
- The output should look like snippet [2] (using whatever greeting you decide to use)

[1]

```
# get input from the terminal  
name_str = input()
```

[2]

```
Enter your name:  
Matt  
Hello, Matt
```