

Introduction to Python

Open Science Methods Workshop

Nils Holmberg

2024-09-10

[Course link](#) and [Schedule](#)

Part 1: Getting Started

In this part, participants will be introduced to Python environments, with a focus on using **Google Colab Notebooks**, an accessible and powerful tool for coding in Python. We will cover the installation and setup process, ensuring everyone is ready to run Python code in their browsers. The session will also explore basic Python syntax, including variables, data types, and control structures like loops and conditionals, laying the foundation for more advanced applications in social science research.

Part 2: Data Analysis

This section focuses on performing **data analysis** with Python, using libraries like **Pandas** for **dataframe manipulation**. Participants will learn how to load, clean, and transform data, enabling them to analyze datasets commonly used in social science. We'll also dive into **results visualization** using **Matplotlib** and **Seaborn**, teaching participants how to create informative charts and graphs to present their findings effectively.

Part 3: Text Analysis

In this part, participants will explore the basics of **text analysis** in Python, starting with reading text data from various sources such as documents or online content. We will cover **text tokenization**, the process of breaking text into individual words or phrases, using libraries like **spaCy** and **NLTK**. This will allow participants to process, analyze, and extract meaningful insights from large volumes of textual data, such as social media posts or survey responses.

Part 4: Image Analysis

The **image analysis** section will introduce participants to working with visual data in Python. We'll cover how to read and process **image content** using libraries like **OpenCV** and **Pillow**. Participants will also explore basic **object recognition** techniques, learning how to detect and classify objects within images, which is particularly useful for social science fields that rely on visual data, such as media studies or behavioral analysis.

Part 5: Data Collection

The final part of the workshop focuses on **data collection** techniques using Python. Participants will learn **web scraping** methods to gather data from websites using tools like **BeautifulSoup** and **Scrapy**. Additionally, we will explore how to design and run **web experiments**, allowing researchers to collect behavioral data from users in real-time. These skills will empower participants to gather the data they need for their social science research projects.

This is a Quarto website.

To learn more about Quarto websites visit <https://quarto.org/docs/websites>.