PEP8

- general mostly "agreed upon" python style standards
- guidelines such as:
    - use spaces instead of tabs
    - 4 spaces for indentation

PEP257 - DOCSTRING CONVENTIONS

- What/Why?
  - what: string used to document module, class, function, or method
  - why: don't want to have to read code to understand what it does

DOCSTRING CONVENTIONS

- What should have docstrings?
    - All modules (we'll talk more about what this means later)
    - All functions
    - Public methods (including things like **init** constructor)

DOCSTRING SPECIFICS

- always use triple quotes
- describe what it does, what it returns

ONE LINE DOCSTRINGS

- one-liners okay for really obvious
- general "do X and return Y"
- should be phrase ending in period
- opening and closing quotes go on same line

MULTI-LINE DOCSTRINGS

- start with summary line like one-line docstring
  - important it fits on one line
  - follow that with blank line
  - may be on same line as opening quotes or next line

DOCSTRING FOR FUNCTION/METHOD

- summarize its behavior
- document its arguments (including optional and keyword arguments)
- document its return values
- document its side effects
- document exceptions raised
- document any restrictions on when it can be called

DOCSTRING FOR CLASS

- summarize its behavior
- list public methods and instance variables
- document each method separately as well
  - docstring for constructor
  - docstring for all public methods
- there will be a little more once we talk about inheritance