
Introduction to Python



Fondren Library
Research Data Services



ASSIGNING VARIABLES

In [28]:

```
1 a = 3
2 b = 4
3
4 c = a + b
5 d = a*b + c
6 e = a**b/c
7
8 print (c)
9 print (d)
10 print (e)
11
```

7

19

11.571428571428571

What is a Function?

A **function** in programming is a reusable block of code that performs a specific task. You can pass data to a function, and it can return data back. Functions help organize your code, make it more readable, and reduce repetition.

#Define a function called greet that takes a name as a parameter and prints a greeting.

```
def greet(name):  
    print("Hello, " + name + "!")
```

#Call the function greet with "Alice" as the argument.

```
greet("Alice")
```

This function, when called, will output: `Hello, Alice!`

What is a Function?

A **function** in programming is a reusable block of code that performs a specific task. You can pass data to a function, and it can return data back. Functions help organize your code, make it more readable, and reduce repetition.

```
# Define a function called greet that takes a name as a parameter and prints a greeting.
```

```
def greet(name):  
    print("Hello, " + name + "!")
```

```
# Prompt the user for their name  
user_name = input("Enter your name: ")
```

```
# Call the function greet with the user-provided name as the argument.  
greet(user_name)
```



Built-In Function: INPUT

How old are you?

How old are you?

```
How old are you?6
Your age is 6
```

```
In [20]: 1 Age = input("How old are you?")
          2 print ("Your age is ",Age)
```

Exercise 2:

Create a variable affiliation, prompt a question, "Are you a student or a staff member?"

```
print "You are a " + input
```



USER-DEFINED FUNCTION

In [26]:

```
1 def C_F(C):  
2     F = 1.8*C+32  
3     return F  
4  
5 temp = C_F(20)  
6 print(temp)  
7
```

68.0

Exercise 3: Create a BMI function and calculate BMI for person1 and person2. $BMI = \text{weight}/\text{height}^2$

person1: height:1.65m, weight:60kg

person2: height:1.75m, weight:75kg

```
5 def BMI(H,W):  
6     bmi=  
7  
8     person1 =  
9     person2 =  
10    print(person1)  
11    print(person2)
```



BASIC DATA STRUCTURES IN PYTHON

- Lists `[1,2,3]` ordered and changeable
- Tuples `(1,2,3)` ordered and unchangeable
- Dictionary `{'a': 1, 'b':2, 'c':3}` changeable, key-value pairs



LIST

Create a list:

```
1 mylist = ['apple', 'orange', 'banana']  
2 print (mylist)
```

```
['apple', 'orange', 'banana']
```

Access item:

```
1 mylist = ['apple', 'orange', 'banana']  
2 print (mylist[1])
```

```
orange
```

Change Item Value:

```
1 mylist = ['apple', 'orange', 'banana']  
2 mylist[1] = 'cherry'  
3 print (mylist)
```

```
['apple', 'cherry', 'banana']
```

Add Items:

```
1 mylist = ['apple', 'orange', 'banana']  
2 mylist.append('pear')  
3 print(mylist)
```

```
['apple', 'orange', 'banana', 'pear']
```

Remove Items:

```
1 mylist = ['apple', 'orange', 'banana']  
2 mylist.remove('apple')  
3 print(mylist)
```

```
['orange', 'banana']
```

Exercise 4:

- 1) Create a list of your favorite songs, print the list
- 2) Print the 3rd item in the list
- 3) Change the 3rd item into another song
- 4) Add one more song
- 5) Remove one song



CONTROL FLOW – IF/ELSE

In [31]:

```
1 GPA = 4.0
2 if GPA > 3.8 and GPA <= 4.0:
3     print ("Welcome to Rice!")
4 elif GPA <= 3.8:
5     print ("Sorry")
6 else:
7     print ("Ooops, type a GPA in range")
```

Welcome to Rice!

Exercise 5: Create a variable called "behavior", assign a value "good" to it

```
# if "good" print "candy"
# elif "bad" print "no candy"
# else print "ask your mom"
```

Control Flow - dictate how a program runs under different conditions or inputs

IF - Allows for us to execute on code, only if a set of conditional statements are true.

X is True IF

6 = 6

7 < 5

ELSE

T = "Apple"

Return T

ELIF, ELSE - Used in addition to IF statements, to execute code when a set of conditional statements aren't true.

FOR and WHILE Loops - Repeat code based on a set of conditionals, iterating on a sequence of code, conditionals, or outputs

```
behavior = "good"  
if behavior == "good":  
    print("candy")  
elif behavior == "bad":  
    print("no candy")  
else:  
    print("ask your mom")
```



CONTROL FLOW – FOR LOOP

```
1 for x in range(1,6):  
2     print (x)
```

```
1  
2  
3  
4  
5
```

Exercise 6:

Create a list called "animals" and put "cat","dog","pig"...in it
Use for loop to print each one out

```
5 animals=['cat','dog','pig']  
6 for x in animals:  
7     print (x)|
```

```
cat  
dog  
pig
```

While Loop - Execute on a set of statements as long as a set of conditional statements are true.

```
i = 1
```

```
while i < 6:
```

```
    print(i)
```

```
    i += 1
```

objectives

- to introduce how to perform an analysis in python
- to understand the typical workflow of an analysis
- to understand some basic functions in python and associated libraries

packages (or libraries)

- review: what is a function?
- review: what is a program?
- packages expand our list of offerings of pre-constructed functions
- pre-constructed vs. customized functions
- packages are typically organized according to some specific task (data cleaning, data visualization, accessing a database, machine learning, etc.)
- whatever you're trying to do with data and whatever field/area/domain you're trying to do it in, chances are there is already an established library for that (and probably even more than one)

some important packages for data analytics

- pandas - adds spreadsheet functionality to python (dataframes)
- numpy - adds support for multi-dimensional arrays and matrices, and several relevant mathematical functions (linear algebra)
- matplotlib - adds data visualization functionality and several options for customization
- seaborn - adds a layer on top of matplotlib for additional out-of-the-box visualization options and several options for statistical visualizations

**Next Class: Data
Visualizations with Pandas
and Matplotlib Packages**

Break Time

Office Hours - 8PM to 9PM

