

C9418: Intro Programming in Python

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Outline

- 1 Introduction to Programming
- 2 Introduction to Python
- 3 Expressions and Variables
- 4 Control Flow

Programming

- A program is “a sequence of coded instructions for a computer”
- Programming is the coding of these instructions by humans
- “The purpose of programming is to create a program that exhibits a certain desired behavior.”
- Programming is “writing the source code of computer programs”

General Programming Steps

- 1 Pick a programming language
- 2 Write “source code” inside a text file
 - Source code is understandable by humans [who know the language]
 - Each language has different code syntax
- 3 (For compiled languages) A “compiler” translates source into binary / machine code that is understandable by computers
- 4 Computer executes code

Writing Python Programs

- Code can be written and saved using special programming environments – file type is .py
- Code can also be written in a normal text editor
 - Notepad, Notepad++, vim, emacs, gedit, textedit
 - NOT Word, OpenOffice, LibreOffice
- We will use Python IDLE, an officially supported integrated development environment
- Python interpreter executes code directly from your source code – Python is an **interpreted language**

Python Interpreter

- The first thing you see after opening Python IDLE is a command prompt
- This is a shell for the Python interpreter
- Go ahead and type stuff into it
- In its most basic form, the interpreter acts like a calculator, supporting all basic mathematical operations and orders of operations
- Of course, the shell is infinitely more powerful than this, and we will slowly build up our knowledge of what Python can do

Writing and Saving Programs

- No code you write into the interpreter is permanent – it will be lost when you close the interpreter
- You can save code into a file so that you can run it whenever you want
- In Python IDLE, File -> New Window opens a Python file, which you can write code into, save, and run

Hello World! Your First Program!

- A programming tradition – your first program simply outputs the text `Hello World!`
- “Output”, in this and most cases, means to write text on the screen

```
1 # Program: hello.py
2
3 print "Hello World!"
```


Basic Python syntax

- Python is CASE SENSITIVE!
 - This means that `Print "Hello World!"` is WRONG
- `#` starts a comment
 - Everything on the line after the `#` is the comment
 - Comments have no effect on the program
 - Use them so others can understand your program
- `"` starts and ends a string
 - A string is a sequence of characters
 - If you want the quote character, use `\`
 - `"\"Hello World!\""` is the string consisting of the characters `"Hello World!"`
- Programs are made up of one-line statements:

```
1 do_this_first
2 then_do_that
3 finally_do_something_else
```

The `print` Statement - Part 1

- This statement is used for outputting text on the screen
- `print "Hello World!"` outputs `Hello World!`
- `print "text"` outputs `text` (literally)
- Don't forget the space after `print`, and the quotation marks!
- The enclosing quotation marks don't show up in the output
- After the text, a line break is output
- Can include line break in string with `\n` character

So wait, can Python do anything besides print messages?

- Yes, it can!
- Python can calculate the results of expressions
- Python can store and manipulate data using variables

Literals

- The building blocks of expressions
- A basic representation of a simple value
- Integer literals - `0`, `17`, `-10`, etc.
- Floating point literals - `1.0`, `3.14159`, etc.
- String literals - `"Hello World!"`, etc.
- Boolean literals - `True`, `False`

The `print` Statement - Part 2

- Can be used to print any literal

```
1 print 17
2 print 3.14159
3 print "Hello World!"
4 print True
5 print False
```

Arithmetic Expressions

Addition (+)	$17 + 5 \Rightarrow 22$	Subtraction (-)	$17 - 5 \Rightarrow 12$
Multiplication (*)	$17 * 5 \Rightarrow 85$	Division (/)	$17 / 5 \Rightarrow 3$
Modulus (%)	$17 \% 5 \Rightarrow 2$	Parenthesis (())	$(17 + 5) * 2$
Negative (-)	$-(17 + 5)$		

The `print` Statement - Part 3

- Can be used to print any expression

```
1 print 17 + 5
2 print 17 - 5
3 print 17 % 5
```

- Can print multiple expressions on one line

```
1 print "The value of 17 + 5 is", 17 + 5
```

- IDLE shell can print expressions without typing `print`

Logical (Boolean) Expressions

Equality (==)	17==5 => False
Inequality (!=)	17!=5 => True
Greater than (>)	17>5 => True
Greater than or equal (>=)	17>=5 => True
Less than (<)	17<5 => False
Less than or equal (<=)	17<=5 => False

```
1 print 17 == 17
2 print 17 == 5
3 print 17 != 5
4 print 17 > 5
5 print 17 <= 5
6 print 17 == (12 + 5)
7 print True == True
8 print True == False
```


Variables

- Can store values into memory locations
- Reference this memory with **variables**

```
1 variable = expression
```

- Computes value of `expression`, and **assigns** it to `variable`

```
1 temperature = 50
2 average = (17.5 + 73.9) / 2
3 temperature = temperature - 10
```

- In the last example, the expression value overwrites the old stored value in memory
- Variable name must start with a letter, consists of letters, numbers, and underscores

The `print` Statement - Part 4

- Variables can be used as values, and used in expressions
- So `print` can display stored values

```
1 temperature = 50
2 print temperature
3 print temperature - 10
```

User input

```
1 name = raw_input("What is your name? ")
2 print "Your name is", name
3
4 temperature = input("What is the temperature? ")
5 print "That is", temperature - 32, "above freezing"
```

Coding Challenge

- Write code to take two numbers of user input, add them together, and print the result.
- Write code to take the temperature in fahrenheit and print it in celsius.
 - $C = \frac{F - 32}{1.8}$

Conditional Execution with `if`-statements

- Execute a block of code only if an expression is `True`.

```
1 temperature = input("What is the temperature? ")
2 print "The temperature is", temperature
3 if temperature < 32:
4     print "It is below freezing!"
5     print "Don't forget to wear your jacket!"
```

- Those messages will only print when the temperature is below 32
- `if`, followed by the true/false expression, followed by a colon
- The conditional block must be indented