# An introduction to Python programming

### **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Use IDLE to test Python expressions and statements in the interactive shell.
- 2. Use IDLE to open, compile, and run a Python source file.

- 1. List three reasons why Python is a good first language for new programmers.
- 2. Describe a console program.
- 3. Explain how Python compiles and runs a program in terms of source code, bytecode, and the virtual machine.
- 4. Explain how main memory and disk storage work together when a program is running.
- 5. Distinguish between systems software and application software.
- 6. Distinguish between testing and debugging.
- 7. Distinguish between syntax errors and runtime errors.
- 8. Describe an exception.

# How to write your first programs

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Use the IDLE shell to test numeric and string operations.
- 2. Code, test, and debug programs that require the skills that you've learned in this chapter. That includes the use of:

comments for documenting your code and commenting out statements str, int, and float values and variables arithmetic expressions string concatenation special characters in strings the built-in print(), input(), str(), float(), int(), and round() functions function chaining

- 1. Describe the use of indentation when coding Python statements.
- 2. Describe the use of Python comments, including "commenting out" portions of Python code.
- 3. Describe these data types: str, int, float.
- 4. List two recommendations for creating a Python variable name.
- 5. Distinguish between underscore notation and camel case.
- 6. Describe the evaluation of an arithmetic expression, including order of precedence and the use of parentheses.
- 7. Distinguish among these arithmetic operators: /, //, and %.
- 8. Describe the use of += operator in a compound arithmetic expression.
- 9. Describe the use of escape sequences when working with strings.
- 10. Describe the syntax for calling one of Python's built-in functions.
- 11. Describe the use of the print(), input(), str(), float(), int(), and round() functions.
- 12. Describe what it means to chain functions.

## How to code control statements

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

1. Code, test, and debug programs that require the skills that you've learned in this chapter. That includes the use of:

if statements while statements for statements break and continue statements pass statements

2. Use pseudocode to plan your control structures and programs.

- 1. Distinguish between a Boolean variable and a Boolean expression.
- 2. Describe the evaluation of a Boolean expression, including order of precedence and the use of parentheses.
- 3. Describe the sort sequence of string values and the use of the lower() or upper() method of a string for comparing two string values.
- 4. Describe the flow of control of an if statement that has both elif and else clauses.
- 5. Distinguish between the flow of control in a while loop and the flow of control in a for loop.
- 6. Describe the use of break and continue statements.
- 7. Describe the use of pseudocode for planning a program and its control statements.

# How to define and use functions and modules

### **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Define and use functions in your programs including the use of default values, named arguments, local variables, and global variables.
- 2. Create, document, import, and use your own modules.
- 3. Import and use the random module.
- 4. Use a hierarchy chart or outline to plan the functions of a program.

- 1. In general terms, describe how to define a function, including the use of a return statement.
- 2. In general terms, describe how to call a function.
- 3. In general terms, describe how to define and call a main() function.
- 4. Describe the use of default values in a function definition and in the statements that call the function.
- 5. Describe the use of named arguments in calling statements.
- 6. Describe the recommended use of global variables, local variables, and global constants.
- 7. In general terms, explain how to create and document a module.
- 8. Distinguish among importing a module into the default namespace, a specified namespace, and the global namespace.
- 9. Describe how to use Python standard modules, such as the random module.
- 10. Describe the problem that can occur if you import a module into the global namespace.
- 11. Explain how to use a hierarchy chart or outline to plan the functions of a program.

# How to test and debug a program

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Plan the test runs for a program.
- 2. Trace the execution of a program with print() functions.
- 3. Use top-down coding and testing to simplify debugging.
- 4. Use the IDLE shell to test the functions of your programs and modules.
- 5. Use the IDLE debugger to set breakpoints, step through the statements of a program, and view the values of the data items at each step.
- 6. Use IDLE to view the stack for a program when an exception occurs.

- 1. Distinguish among syntax, runtime, and logic errors.
- 2. Distinguish between testing and debugging.
- 3. Describe the process of tracing the execution of a program with print() functions.
- 4. Describe top-down coding and testing.
- 5. Describe the use of the IDLE shell for testing the functions of a program or module.
- 6. Describe the use of breakpoints and the IDLE debugger for stepping through a program.
- 7. Describe the use of the stack when a program exception occurs.
- 8. Describe the debugging problems that can occur when you use floating-point numbers in arithmetic expressions.

## How to work with lists and tuples

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Use lists in your programs.
- 2. Use lists of lists in your programs.
- 3. Use tuples in your programs.

- 1. Describe how an item in a list is accessed.
- 2. Describe the use of these list methods: append(), insert(), remove(), index(), and pop().
- 3. Distinguish between the way mutable types like a list are passed to and returned by functions and the way immutable types like integers are passed to and returned by functions.
- 4. Describe the use of a list of lists.
- 5. Describe the use of these functions with lists: count(), reverse(), sort(), min(), max(), choice(), shuffle(), and deepcopy().
- 6. Differentiate between a shallow copy of a list and a deep copy.
- 7. Distinguish between a tuple and a list.
- 8. Describe the use of a multiple assignment statement when you unpack a tuple.

# How to work with file I/O

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

1. Use text, CSV, or binary files to save and retrieve the data that's used by your programs.

- 1. Differentiate between text and binary files.
- 2. Describe the benefit of using a with statement for opening and closing a file.
- 3. Describe the use of the csv module, writer objects, and reader objects for writing a list of lists to a CSV file and reading a list of lists from a CSV file.
- 4. Describe the use of the pickle module and the load() and dump() methods for saving a list of lists to a binary file and reading a list of lists from a binary file.

# How to handle exceptions

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Add the proper level of exception handling to your programs.
- 2. Use raise statements to test the exception handling in your programs.

- 1. Describe the types of exceptions that need to be handled by a program.
- 2. Describe the operation of a try statement with one or more except clauses.
- 3. Describe the use of an exception object in your exception handling routines.
- 4. Describe the use of the exit() function in the sys module.
- 5. Describe the use of a finally clause in a try statement.
- 6. Explain why you may need to raise exceptions when testing your exception handling routines.

## How to work with numbers

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

1. Code, test, and debug programs that work with numbers. That includes the use of:

the math module the format() method of a string for formatting numbers the locale module for formatting currency values for specific countries the decimal module

- 1. Describe how the use of floating-point numbers can lead to inaccurate results.
- 2. Describe the purposes of the math, locale, and decimal modules.
- 3. Describe two ways to eliminate the types of errors that can occur when using floating-point numbers.

# How to work with strings

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

1. Code, test, and debug programs that work with strings. That includes:

```
slicing a string
finding and replacing parts of a string
splitting a string into a list of strings
joining the items in a list into a string
```

- 1. In general terms, describe the coding that's used for Unicode characters.
- 2. Describe these built-in functions: the ord() function for working with characters and the len() function for working with strings.
- 3. Describe these string methods: islower(), isdigit(), startswith(), lower(), strip(), rjust(), find(), replace(), split(), and join().
- 4. Explain how delimiters work with the split() method and the join() method.

## How to work with dates and times

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

1. Code, test, and debug programs that work with dates and times. That includes:

creating date, time, and datetime objects formatting dates and times working with spans of time comparing datetime objects

- 1. Describe the three ways to create date, time, and datetime objects: with methods, with constructors, and by parsing.
- 2. Distinguish between aware and naïve date, time, and datetime objects.
- 3. Describe the way spans of times are used when working with dates and times.
- 4. Describe the way you compare date and time objects.

## How to work with dictionaries

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Use dictionaries in your programs.
- 2. Use dictionaries that contain complex objects like lists and other dictionaries.

- 1. Differentiate between a list and a dictionary.
- 2. Describe the use of these dictionary methods when creating view objects: key(), items(), and values().
- 3. Describe the use of the dict() method for converting a list or tuple to a dictionary.
- 4. Describe the way you access items when working with a dictionary of dictionaries, a dictionary of lists, or a list of dictionaries.

# How to work with recursion and algorithms

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

1. Use recursion in a program.

- 1. Describe an algorithm.
- 2. Distinguish between the way the stack is used in a recursive function and the way it is used in an iterative function.
- 3. Distinguish between the base case for a recursive function and a deferred action.

# How to define and use your own classes

#### **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Code the constructor for a class that has attributes and methods.
- 2. Import a class, create objects from it, access the attributes of the objects, and call the methods of the objects.
- 3. Use object composition to combine simple objects into more complex data structures.
- 4. Use encapsulation to hide the data attributes of an object.

- 1. Describe a UML class diagram.
- 2. Describe the relationship between a class and an object.
- 3. In general terms, describe the identity, state, and behavior of an object.
- 4. In general terms, describe the way Python code is used to define a constructor, its attributes, and its methods.
- 5. In general terms, describe the way Python code is used to create an object from a class.
- 6. Describe the concept of object composition.
- 7. Describe the concept of encapsulation.
- 8. Distinguish between public and private attributes.
- 9. Describe the use of getter and setter methods.

## How to work with inheritance

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Define and use a subclass that inherits a superclass and overrides one or more of the methods of the superclass.
- 2. Define and use a class that overrides one or more methods of the object class.

- 1. Describe the way inheritance works.
- 2. In general terms, explain how to override a method in the superclass when you're defining a subclass.
- 3. Describe the concept of polymorphism.
- 4. Describe the use of the isinstance() method when working with objects.
- 5. Describe the use of the object class and these methods of the object class: \_\_str\_\_(), \_\_iter\_\_(), and \_\_next\_\_().
- 6. Describe three factors that help determine when it is appropriate to use inheritance

# How to design an object-oriented program

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Design an object-oriented program and create a UML diagram for it.
- 2. Given the UML diagram for a program, develop the program with a three-tier architecture.

#### Knowledge

1. Describe each of these steps for designing the model for an object-oriented program:

Identify the data attributes
Subdivide each attribute into its smallest components
Identify the classes
Identify the methods

Refine the classes, attributes, and methods

- 2. Describe the relationship between a class in an object-oriented program and an entity in the real world.
- 3. Distinguish between the presentation tier, the database tier, and the business tier in a three-tier architecture.

## How to work with a database

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

- 1. Use SQLite Manager to test SQL statements against a SQLite database.
- 2. Develop Python programs that use SQLite databases to store the data of the programs.

- 1. Describe the organization of a relational database in terms of tables, rows, columns, primary keys, and foreign keys.
- 2. Describe a one-to-many relationship between two tables.
- 3. Describe the way the columns in a table are defined in terms of data types, null values, default values, primary keys, and foreign keys.
- 4. Describe the use of these SQL statements: SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, and DELETE.
- 5. Describe the use of these clauses in SQL statements: FROM, WHERE, ORDER BY, and JOIN.
- 6. Describe a result set.
- 7. Describe the use of these methods of a cursor object: execute(), fetchone(), and fetchall().
- 8. Describe the use of the commit() method of a connection object.
- 9. In general terms, explain how to handle database exceptions.

# How to build a GUI program

## **Objectives**

#### **Applied**

1. Develop a GUI program that has a user interface that consists of frames, buttons, labels, and text entry fields in a grid format.

- 1. Describe the need for the mainloop() method of a tkinter root window in terms of the event processing loop.
- 2. Describe the way an event handler works with a GUI component like a button.
- 3. Describe how the grid() method is used to lay out the components in a frame.
- 4. Describe the reason for creating a subclass of the ttk.Frame class when you're building a GUI.