Installing Anaconda (To use Jupyter Notebooks)
BEGINNER CODERS START HERE!!
Python is a coding language. The simplest installation of Python would be a compiler program, which takes code you have written and translates it into 1's and 0's, the language of your computer.

Python is a high-level computing language. This means it is more like human language than the binary code (1's and 0's) a computer reads. The low-level languages are closer to binary digits prior to compiling the code. The lowest level language is just the 1's and 0's. You will soon see how un-compiled Python code is more like the words we use to order coffee than the binary code our computers need.

Before we get ahead of ourselves, let's install a program used by Python programmers everywhere: Anaconda! You can download it at https://www.anaconda.com/products/individual

Choose a 64-bit installation for your operating system (OS). Then run the downloaded file! The default install options will work well if this is your first Python installation. Once the installation is complete, use your search bar to open Anaconda Navigator. This gives you access to all the programs included in your installation of Anaconda.

Anaconda provides multiple Integrated Development Environments (IDEs) for coding. IDEs make it easier to write code! The two Python IDEs included in Anaconda which are particularly useful are Jupyter Notebook and Spyder. This tutorial uses Jupyter notebooks, because they can be passed around and edited like a Word or Excel document. I hope this format provides you with familiarity and comfort.

To open a Jupyter notebook, first put the .ipynb file (iPython Notebook) somewhere in your computer's files. Then launch the Jupyter Notebook program from the Anaconda Navigator. This will open an internet browser and allow you to navigate through your files. Find the .ipynb file in that browser window and open it! Instead of downloading files one by one from this site, you can download the entire python tutorial here.

However, everything we do in this tutorial can be done in Spyder or any other Python IDE. You just need to copy the code from the Jupyter Notebooks into a file ending in .py and run it in that IDE! If you are interested in working just in .py files, see the

installation folder on my Github for Mac and Windows
installation instructions.