



# Reading and Writing in Python

Data Boot Camp

Lesson 3.2



# Class Objectives

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By the end of today's class, you will be able to:



Read data into Python from CSV files.



Write data from Python to CSV files.



Zip two lists together and know when this is helpful.



Create and use Python functions.



# Activity: Python Check-Up

Let's start with a quick warm-up activity to get the Python juices flowing!

Suggested Time:

10 minutes

# Activity: Python Check-Up

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Create a simple Python command line application that does the following:



Prints "Hello User!"



Then asks "What is your name?"



Then responds "Hello <user's name>"



Then asks "What's your favorite number?"



Then responds: "Your favorite number is lower than mine.", "Your favorite number is higher than mine.", or "Your favorite number is the same as mine!" depending on your favorite number.



Time's Up! Let's Review.



# Instructor Demonstration

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## Loop Recap

# What Is a for Loop?

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Loops through a range of numbers, the letters in a string, or the elements within a list one by one.

```
jacob@DESKTOP-0ICJMMD MINGW64 ~/OneDrive/Documents/WorkAndSchool/TeachingAssistant/DataViz/DataViz-Lesson-Plans/01-Lesson-Plans/03-Python/2/Activities/02-Ins_Simple Loops (Scramble-Branch)
$ python SimpleLoops.py
```

# What Is a `while` Loop?

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Loops through the code contained inside of it until some condition is met.

```
jacob@DESKTOP-0ICJMM MINGW64 ~/OneDrive/Documents/WorkAndSchool/TeachingAssistant/DataViz/DataViz-Lesson-Plans/01-Lesson-Plans/03-Python/2/Activities/02-Ins_SimpleLoops (Scramble-Branch)
$ python SimpleLoops.py
```





Time to <code>



# Activity: Kid in a Candy Store

In this activity, you will create the code that a candy store will use in their state-of-the-art candy vending machine.

Suggested Time:

15 minutes

# Activity: Kid in a Candy Store

## Instructions

Create a loop that prints all of the candies in the store to the terminal, with their index stored in brackets beside them.

**For example:** `"[0] Snickers"`

Create a second loop that runs for a number of times determined by the variable `allowance`.

**For example:** If `allowance` is equal to five, the loop should run five times.

Each time this second loop runs, take in a user's input, preferably a number, and then add the candy with a matching index to the variable `candy_cart`.

**For example:** If the user enters `"0"` as their input, `"Snickers"` should be added into the `candy_cart` list.

Use another loop to print all of the selected candies to the terminal.

## Bonus

Create a version of the code that allows a user to select as much candy as they want, up until they say they do not want any more.



Time's Up! Let's Review.



# Activity: House of Pies

In this activity, you will build an order form that displays a list of pies and then prompts users to make a selection. It will continue to prompt for selections until the user decides to end the process.

Suggested Time:

20 minutes

# Activity: House of Pies

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## Part 1 instructions:



Create an order form that displays a list of pies to the user in the following way:

Welcome to the House of Pies Here are our pies:

-----  
(1) Pecan, (2) Apple Crisp, (3) Bean, (4) Banoffee, (5) Black Bun, (6) Blueberry, (7) Buko, (8) Burek



Then, prompt the user to enter the number for the pie they'd like to order.



Immediately follow up their order with **Great! We'll have that <PIE NAME> right out for you,** and then ask if they would like to make another order. If so, repeat the process



Once the user is done purchasing pies, print the total number of pies ordered.

# Activity: House of Pies

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Bonus: Modify the application so that at the conclusion of the transaction, the user's purchases are listed out, with the total pie count broken by each pie.

For example:

You purchased:

0 Pecan

0 Apple Crisp

0 Bean

2 Banoffee

0 Black Bun

0 Blueberry

0 Buko

0 Berek

0 Tamale

1 Steak



Time's Up! Let's Review.





# Instructor Demonstration

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## Reading Text Files



**Python can read in data from  
external text files and then  
perform tasks on that data.**

# Reading Text Files

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We all need directions to go from point A to point B, and Python is no different when dealing with external files. It requires very precise directions about what path to follow to reach the desired file.

In this case, the desired file is located within a subfolder called “Resources,” so the path we need to provide Python would be “Resources/FileName.txt”.


**Note:** Different operating systems set their paths in different ways.

```
# Store the file path associated with the file  
(note the backlash may be OS specific)  
file = 'Resources/input.txt'
```

# Reading Text Files



`with` is a special syntax block that allows us to perform operations that require a safety clean-up after the code block is completed.



`open<File Path>, <Read/Write>` is the function that Python uses to open a file. By specifying either `'r'`, `'w'`, or `'rw'`, we can read from a text file, write to a text file, or perform both operations.



`text.read()` reads the entire file and converts it to a string type.

```
# Open the file in "read" mode ('r') and store the contents in the variable "text"
with open(file, 'r' as text:

    # Store all of the text inside a variable called "lines"
    lines = text.read()

    # Print the contents of the text file
    print(lines)
```



# Instructor Demonstration

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## Introduction to Modules



**No built-in function for my specific task?  
Don't worry! We can bring in external  
modules to perform the specific task.**

# Introduction to Modules

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## Import Modules

The `string` module contains many helpful constants and methods that pertain to strings. For example, we can use `string.ascii_letters`, and Python will instantly grab a reference to every ASCII character.

```
jacob@DESKTOP-0ICJMMD MINGW64 ~/OneDrive/Documents/WorkAndSchool/TeachingAssistant/DataViz/DataViz-Lesson-Plans/01-Lesson-Plans/03-Python/2/Activities/06-Ins_Module  
s (Scramble-Branch)  
$ python imports.py
```

```
# Import the String Module  
import string  
  
# Utilize the string module's custom method: ".ascii_letters"  
print(string.ascii_letters)
```

# Introduction to Modules

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## Import Modules

The `random` module does exactly what we might expect: it allows Python to randomly select values from set ranges, lists, or even strings.

```
jacob@DESKTOP-0ICJMM MINGW64 ~/OneDrive/Documents/WorkAndSchool/TeachingAssistant/DataViz/DataViz-Lesson-Plans/01-Lesson-Plans/03-Python/2/Activities/06-Ins_Module  
s (Scramble-Branch)  
$ python imports.py
```





Time to <code>



# Activity: Module Playground

In this activity, you will explore some Python modules.

Suggested Time:

5 minutes

# Activity: Module Playground

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## Instructions

There are tons of built-in modules for Python, and there is no possible way that a single class could cover all of them.

Take a moment to explore a built-in Python module, then share what you uncovered.

## Hint

Use your expert Google skills!



Time's Up! Let's Review.



Break

Countdown timer

15:00

(with alarm)



# Instructor Demonstration

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## Reading in CSV Files



**In the data industry, you'll  
encounter files known as CSV files.**

# Reading in CSV Files

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## Comma Separated Values

- **CSV** stands for **comma separated values**. This file type is essentially a table that has been converted into text format with each row and column separated by specified symbols.
- More often than not, each row is located on a new line, and each column is separated by a comma, as indicated in the name “CSV.”

```
First Name,Last Name,Phone
Janetta,Bolduc,499-820-0212
Bent,Hanburry,125-890-6291
Kath,Beeres,807-511-9864
Clarisse,Surgeon,499-224-5982
Hae-Won,Park,727-224-1623
Rodd,Camier,199-541-8033
Javier,Martinez,543-206-4422
Patty,De'Ath,950-579-4341
Charlie,Clewlow,874-246-8418
Izel,Xiu,362-965-1637
Zechariah,Spikings,570-486-2219
Stephie,Tootal,326-912-0003
```





Python has a module called `csv` that pulls in data from external CSV files and allows users to perform operations on the data.

# Reading in CSV Files

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## os module

This module allows Python programmers to easily create dynamic paths to external files that will function across different operating systems.

```
# First we'll import os module
# This will allow us to create file path across operating systems
import os

# Module for reading CSV files
import csv

csvpath = os.path.join('..', 'Resources', 'contacts.csv')
```

# Reading in CSV Files

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## csv reader

Instead of `text.read()`, this new code instead utilizes `csv.reader()` to translate the object being opened by Python. Note the `delimiter=','` parameter, which tells Python that each comma within the CSV should be seen as moving into a new column for a row.

```
with open(csvpath) as csvfile:

    # CSV reader specifies delimiter and variable that holds contents
    csvreader = csv.reader(csvfile, delimiter=',')

    print(csvreader)

    # Read the header row first (skip this step if there is now header)
    csv_header = next(csvreader)
    print(f"CSV Header: {csv_header}")

    # Read each row of data after the header
    for row in csvreader:
        print(row)
```



Time to <code>



# Activity: Reading Comic Book Data

In this activity, you will create an application that searches the provided CSV file for a specific graphic novel title and then returns the title, publisher's name, and the year it was published.

Suggested Time:

15 minutes

# Activity: Reading Comic Book Data

## Instructions

Prompt the user for the book title they'd like to search.

Search through the `comic_books.csv` to find the user's book.

If the CSV contains the user's book, then print out the title, the publisher's name, and the year it was published.

**For example:** `'Alien was published by DC Comics in 2015'`

If the CSV does not contain the user's title, then print out a message telling them that their book could not be found.

- Set a variable to `False` to check if we found the comic book.
- In the `for` loop, change the variable to confirm that the comic book is found.



Time's Up! Let's Review.



# Instructor Demonstration

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## Writing CSV Files





**We all know Python can read in data from CSVs. Next, we'll write data to a CSV!**

# Writing CSV Files

## Lost in Translation?

- `os.path.join("..", "output", "new.csv")` tells Python the file to write to while assigning it to the variable `output_path`.
- `with open(output_path, 'w') as csvfile:` tells Python to open the file by using write mode, while holding the contents in `output_path`.
- `csv.writer()` tells Python that this application will write code into an external CSV file.
- `csv.writerow()` is the code to write a new row into a CSV file.

```
# Dependencies
import os
import csv

# Specify the file to write to
output_path = os.path.join("..", "output", "new.csv")

# Open the file using "write" mode. Specify the variable to hold the contents
with open(output_path, 'w') as csvfile:

    # Initialize csv.writer
    csvwriter = csv.writer(csvfile, delimiter=',')

    # Write the first row (column headers)
    csvwriter.writerow(['First Name', 'Last Name', 'SSN'])

    # Write the second row
    csvwriter.writerow(['Caleb', 'Frost', '505-80-2901'])
```



# Instructor Demonstration

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## Zipping Lists



Python users can write data into  
a new CSV file more efficiently  
by using the `zip()` function.

# Zippping Lists

`zip()` takes in a series of lists as its parameters and joins them together in a stack.

By zipping these lists together, there is now a single, joined list whose indexes reference all three of the lists inside.

Each zipped object can be used only once. For example, you can write the zipped object to a CSV or print to the terminal, but not both.

```
$ python zipper.py
(1, 'Micheal', 'Boss')
(2, 'Dwight', 'Sales')
(4, 'Meredith', 'Sales')
(4, 'Kelly', 'HR')
```

```
# Three Lists
indexes = [1, 2, 3, 4]
employees = ["Micheal", "Dwight", "Meredith", "Kelly"]
department = ["Boss", "Sales", "Sales", "HR"]

# Zip all three lists together into tuples
roster = zip(indexes, employees, department)

# Print the contents of each row
for employees in roster:
    print(employee)
```



Time to <code>



# Activity: U.S. Census Zip

In this activity, you will be provided with a large dataset from the 2019 U.S. Census. Your task is to clean up this dataset and create a new CSV file that is easier to comprehend.

Suggested Time:

20 minutes

# Activity: U.S. Census Zip

## Instructions

- Create a Python application that reads in the data from the 2019 U.S. Census.
- Then, store the contents of Place, Population, Per Capita Income, Number of Reviews, and Poverty Count into Python Lists.
- Then, zip these lists together into a single tuple.
- Finally, write the contents of your extracted data into a CSV. Make sure to include the titles of these columns in your CSV.

## Hints

- Windows users may get a `UnicodeDecodeError`. To avoid this, pass in `encoding='utf8'` as an additional parameter when reading in the file.
- As with many datasets, the file does not include the header line. Use the following list as a guide to the columns:  
`"Place, Population, Median Age, Household Income, Per Capita Income, Employed Civilians, Unemployed Civilians, People in the Military, Poverty Count"`

## Bonus

- Find the poverty rate (percentage of the population living in poverty). Include this in your final output, converting the rate to a string and including a `'%'` at the end of the string.
- Parse the string associated with `Place`, separating it into `County` and `State`, so we can store both in separate columns.





Time's Up! Let's Review.



# Instructor Demonstration

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## Introduction to Functions



**DRY stands for Don't Repeat Yourself, which is a popular acronym that many coders live by.**

# Introduction to Functions

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Prevent repetition with frequent use of Python functions.

- A function is a block of organized, reusable code that is used to perform a single, related action. In other words, functions are placeable blocks of code that perform a specific action.
- To create a new function, simply use `def` **<FUNCTION NAME>():**, and then place the code that you would like to run within the block underneath it.
- To run the code stored within a function, the function itself must be called within the program. Functions will not run unless called upon.
- Functions that take in parameters can also be created by simply adding a variable into the parentheses of the function's definition. This allows specific data to be passed into the function.

```
def print_hello():  
    print(f"Hello!")
```

```
print_hello()
```

```
def print_name(name):  
    print("Hello " + name + "!")
```

```
print_name("Bob Smith")
```

# Questions?

