**A My Path MN and BDPATCF Collaboration** 

# Intro to Python

Led by William Munnich Friday 3/22/2025



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## **Variables**

- Variables are like labeled jars where we store information.
- They help us keep track of values like names, numbers, or anything else in our programs.

## **Integers & Floats**

- *Integers* are whole numbers (like 3, -7) and *floats* are decimal numbers (like 4.5, -0.1).
- We use them to do math in Python.

### **Booleans**

- Booleans are either
- True or False.
- They help our programs make decisions by answering yes/no questions.

## **Strings**

- Strings are text like words, sentences, or even emojis!
- They're written with quotes like "Hello" or 'Python & '.

### Lists

- Lists are like boxes that can hold many items – numbers, words, or even other lists.
- They let us group things together in one place.

### **Dictionaries**

- *Dictionaries* store data in pairs, like a word and its meaning.
- You look things up by using keys (like names or labels).

### Basic if

- *If statements* let us make choices in our programs.
- We can say, "If something is true, then do this."

### if $\rightarrow$ elif

- Elif means "else if."
- It lets us check more than one condition in a row to decide what to do.

### if $\rightarrow$ elif $\rightarrow$ else

- Else is what happens when none of the previous conditions were true.
- This makes our programs more complete by covering every possibility.

### for

- For loops let us repeat things a set number of times.
- They're great for going through lists and doing something with each item.

### while

- While loops keep going as long as something is true.
- We use them when we don't know how many times we need to repeat something.

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Rev	iew:	Python E	arror: Sym	ILUXEITO	1
Error Name	Description	Example	Common Causes	Suggested Fixes	

SyntaxError

Occurs when code violates Python's syntax rules, like missing colons or parentheses.

```
if x = 5: print(x) (missing
```

== for comparison)

Typos, missing punctuation, incorrect indentation.

Check error messages for line and caret location.

### python:

```
if True
      print("Hello")
```

**Terminal Output:** 

### python:

```
print("Hello"
```

### **Terminal Output:**

```
File "<stdin>", line 1
   if True
 SyntaxError: expected ':'
```

```
File "<stdin>", line 1
   print("Hello"
```

```
SyntaxError: '(' was never closed
```

### python:

```
if x = 5:
      print("x is 5")
```

### **Terminal Output:**

```
File "<stdin>", line 1
  if x = 5:
SyntaxError: invalid syntax
```

## Review: Python Error: Indentation Error

Error Name	Description	Example	Common Causes	Suggested Fixes
IndentationError	Raised when indentation is inconsistent, critical for Python's block structure.	<pre>if True: print("Hello") else print("World") (missing indent after if).</pre>	Mixing tabs and spaces, incorrect nesting.	Use formatters like Black, ensure consistent 4-space indentation.
<pre>def say_hello(): print("Hello")</pre>		print("Start")  print("Why am I here?")		
Terminal Outpu	ıt:			
File "script.py", line 2		Terminal Output: File "script.py", line 2		
print("Hello")		print("W	hy am I here?")	

IndentationError: expected an indented block after function definition on line 1

IndentationError: unexpected indent

# Review: Python Error: TypeError

Error Name	Description	Example	Common Causes	Suggested Fixes
TypeError	Raised when an operation is applied to an inappropriate type.	"hello" + 5 (trying to add string and integer).	Incorrect type usage, mismatched function arguments.	Ensure correct types, use type conversion, check documentation.
num = 5 text = "he result = r		nun	nber = 123	

#### **Terminal Output:**

File "script.py", line 3, in <module> result = num + text TypeError: unsupported operand type(s) for +: 'int' and 'str'

#### **Terminal Output:**

File "script.py", line 2, in <module> print(number[0]) TypeError: 'int' object is not subscriptable

print(number[0]) # Integers don't support indexing

# Review: What If There is No Error But it Just Doesn't Work? Debugging!

```
When in doubt, use print statements in between.

total = 0
for i in range(5):

total += i
print(f"Final is: {i}")

#prints
Final is: 5
```

## Review: Pseudocode

- -Not required but it's good practice and has benifits
- -Written in pure comments if in a program file or HOWEVER is clear to you
- -For clarity
- -Planning things out
- -Maybe you don't know how to program it yet but you know how conceptually it will work

## **Review: Functions**

A block of code that can be reused over and over again.

```
def greet():
    print("Hello!")
greet()
```

```
greet(name):
    print("Hello", name)

greet("James")
```

```
def greet user(name, hour):
   if hour < 12:
      time of day = "morning"
   elif hour < 18:
      time of day = "afternoon"
   else:
      time of day = "evening"
   print(f"Good {time of day}, {name}!")
greet user("Ava", 9) # → Good morning, Ava!
greet user("Liam", 15) # → Good afternoon, Liam!
```

# Review:Referencing Functions

You can **reuse functions from another Python file** by importing them, like this:

from my\_file import my\_function

It's just like referencing a function someone else wrote — which is exactly what happens when you import a **library** like math, csv, or random.

You're using **pre-written code** to save time and avoid writing everything yourself!

## **Review: File Types & File Extensions**

Scripting	.py, .ps1, .sh
Simple Data Storage	.csv and .json
Audio	.mp3 and .mp4
Word Doc	.doc and .docx
Database	.db
Querying a Database	.sql
Markup	.html, .md

## Review: What Is a Database?

### **Key Features of a Database:**

- Stores lots of data (names, links, numbers, etc.)
- **Keeps it organized** (tables, rows, columns)
- Makes it easy to search and filter
- Can be used by apps, websites, and games

### **Real-world Examples:**

- Instagram uses databases to store user posts, comments, and likes.
- A video game stores player stats and scores in a database.
- Schools use databases to keep track of students and grades.

## What is Web Scraping?

## Definition:

 Web Scraping is automatically gathering information from websites using code.

## Simple Analogy:

 "Imagine copying and pasting information, but faster, automatic, and smarter!"

## Ethical and Legal Rules 🛝

- Always respect website rules (robots.txt file).
- Only scrape publicly available information (e.g., Wikipedia, NASA, public APIs).
- Never scrape sensitive personal data, copyrighted materials, or private content.

## Tools for Today's Lesson X

## requests

Downloads webpages directly into your Python program.

## **BeautifulSoup**

Extracts and organizes exactly the parts of the webpage you want.

## Installing the Tools (Quick Demo)

Run this command in your Terminal or Command Prompt:

```
pip install requests beautifulsoup4
```

## In-Class Project 1 (Fully Completed):

**Title:** "Scrape and Save Simple Wikipedia Information" (Plug-and-Play)

### Steps:

- Fetch a Wikipedia page about "Python (programming language)."
- Use BeautifulSoup to grab the text from the page.
- Save text into a .txt file.
- Convert it into .csv.
- Delete the original .txt file.

## In-Class Project 2 (Partially Completed - Simple Fix):

Title: "Scraping Current Weather Info" (Weather website)

Hint/comment: "Uncomment the lines and run. If errors appear, use ChatGPT or Stack Overflow to troubleshoot."

## In-Class Project 3 (Intermediate Difficulty):

**Title:** "Extracting Audio or Video Links"

Scrape links to freely available video/audio files (e.g., a podcast homepage)

### You will:

- Uncomment selection code
- Write loop to print or save these links to a file.

## Class Discussion & Troubleshooting Practice (10 mins):

- Encourage students to use AI to debug problems.
- Demonstrate asking a simple question to ChatGPT, example:
  - "My BeautifulSoup select isn't working, what did I do wrong?"

## Take-Home Project (Low Barrier, Higher Autonomy):

Title: "Create Your Own Web Scraper!"

## **Choose one:**

- Scrape headlines from a favorite free news/blogging site.
- Scrape free stock price info from a financial site.
- Scrape open, free podcast episodes.