# Scope in Python

You will hear the term **scope** mentioned in most beginning computer science classes. It's a pretty important topic that can cause some pretty confusing errors if you don't understand how it works. A scope basically tells the interpreter when a name (or variable) is visible. In other words, the scope defines when and where you can use your variables, functions, etc. When you try to use something that isn't in your current scope, you will usually get a **NameError**.

Python has three different types of scope:

- local scope
- global scope
- nonlocal scope (which was added in Python 3)

Let's learn how each of these scopes work.