

## Contact

Dr. James Shackelford  
[shack@drexel.edu](mailto:shack@drexel.edu)  
Bossone 211

Office Hours: 3 – 4 pm (Tuesday)  
Course Website: <http://learn.dcollege.net>

## Textbook

*Think Python*  
by Allen Downey  
O'Reilly Press, 2015  
ISBN-13: 978-1449330729  
(Freely available in PDF format, check course website)



## Grading

- 10% In-lab Programming Assignments
- 10% Take-Home Programming Assignments
- 35% Mid-term Exam
- 45% Final Exam

## Basic Exception Handling

## Code:

```
1 my_list = range(5)
2
3 print 'for-loop:'
4 for i in my_list:
5     print i
6
7 print 'raw iter() w/ try-except:'
8 iterator = iter(my_list)
9 while True:
10     try:
11         i = iterator.next()
12     except:
13         break
14     else:
15         print i
16
17 del iterator
```

## Output:

```
for-loop:
0
1
2
3
4
raw iter() w/ try-except:
0
1
2
3
4
```

# Basic Exception Handling

## Code:

```
1 my_list = range(5)
2
3 print 'for-loop:'
4 for i in my_list:
5     print i
6
7 print 'raw iter() w/ try-except:'
8 iterator = iter(my_list)
9 while True:                                try this
10     try:
11         i = iterator.next()
12     except:
13         break
14     else:
15         print i
16
17 del iterator
```

## Output:

```
for-loop:
0
1
2
3
4
raw iter() w/ try-except:
0
1
2
3
4
```

# Basic Exception Handling

## Code:

```
1 my_list = range(5)
2
3 print 'for-loop:'
4 for i in my_list:
5     print i
6
7 print 'raw iter() w/ try-except:'
8 iterator = iter(my_list)
9 while True:
10     try:
11         i = iterator.next()
12     except:
13         break
14     else:
15         print i
16         if i == iterator.next():
17             raises an exception,
18             do this
19 del iterator
```

## Output:

```
for-loop:
0
1
2
3
4
raw iter() w/ try-except:
0
1
2
3
4
```

# Basic Exception Handling

## Code:

```
1 my_list = range(5)
2
3 print 'for-loop:'
4 for i in my_list:
5     print i
6
7 print 'raw iter() w/ try-except:'
8 iterator = iter(my_list)
9 while True:
10     try:
11         i = iterator.next()
12     except:
13         break
14     else:
15         print i
16
17 del iterator
```

if i = iterator.next( )  
DOES NOT raise an  
exception, do this

## Output:

```
for-loop:
0
1
2
3
4
raw iter() w/ try-except:
0
1
2
3
4
```

## Basic File I/O

guests.txt

```
1 Date: August 1st, 2015
2 Guest Registry
3
4 Kiera Facio
5 Ozella Tallarico
6 Bella Hawke
7 Homer Ibanez
8 Regina Kunkel
9 Herb Schoonover
10 Terri Devilbiss
11 Lisbeth Schaner
12 Lori Lague
13 Angela Parkerson
```



read the ENTIRE file into memory as a list

```
>>> f = open('guests.txt')
>>> some_list = f.readlines()
>>> f.close()
>>> some_list
['Date: August 1st, 2015\n', 'Guest Registry\n', '\n', 'Kiera Facio\n', 'Ozella Tallarico\n',
 'Bella Hawke\n', 'Homer Ibanez\n', 'Regina Kunkel\n', 'Herb Schoonover\n', 'Terri Devilbiss\n',
 'Lisbeth Schaner\n', 'Lori Lague\n', 'Angela Parkerson\n']
```

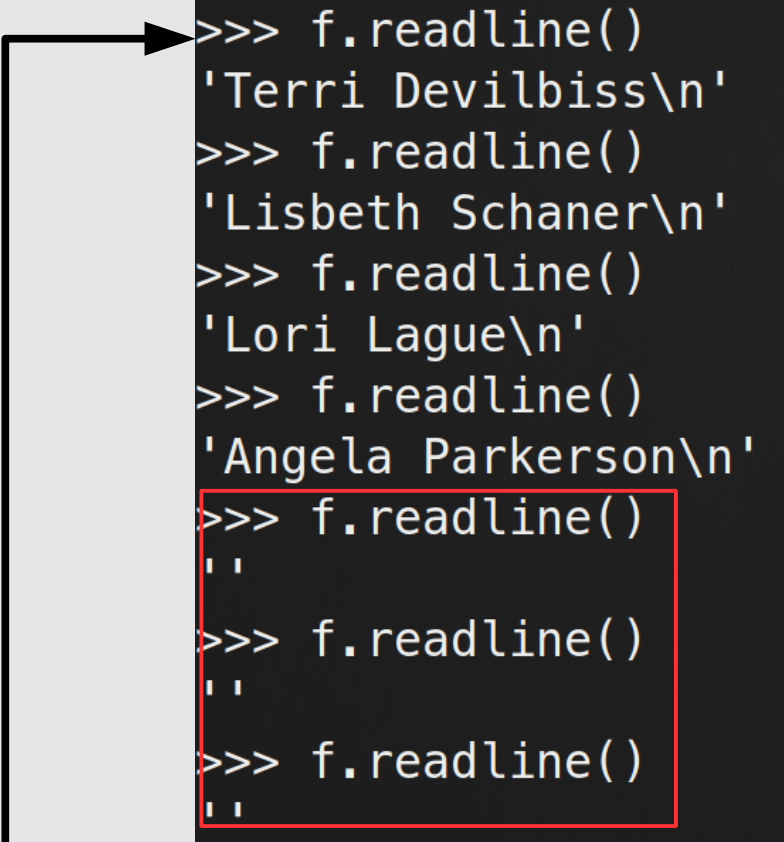
**guests.txt**

```
1 Date: August 1st, 2015
2 Guest Registry
3
4 Kiera Facio
5 Ozella Tallarico
6 Bella Hawke
7 Homer Ibanez
8 Regina Kunkel
9 Herb Schoonover
10 Terri Devilbiss
11 Lisbeth Schaner
12 Lori Lague
13 Angela Parkerson
```

# Basic File I/O

read the file into memory one line at a time

```
>>> f = open('guests.txt')
>>> f.readline()
'Date: August 1st, 2015\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Guest Registry\n'
>>> f.readline()
'\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Kiera Facio\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Ozella Tallarico\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Bella Hawke\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Homer Ibanez\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Regina Kunkel\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Herb Schoonover\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Terri Devilbiss\n'
>>> 
```



```
>>> f.readline()
'Terri Devilbiss\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Lisbeth Schaner\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Lori Lague\n'
>>> f.readline()
'Angela Parkerson\n'
>>> f.readline()
''
>>> f.readline()
''
>>> f.readline()
''
```

Alternative, line by line access:

```
>>> f = open('guests.txt')
>>> for line in f:
...     print line,
...
Date: August 1st, 2015
Guest Registry

Kiera Facio
Ozella Tallarico
Bella Hawke
Homer Ibanez
Regina Kunkel
Herb Schoonover
Terri Devilbiss
Lisbeth Schaner
Lori Lague
Angela Parkerson
>>> f.close()
```

## Note:

Our current position in the file is maintained by the OS.

When we read a byte, the file position is incremented by a byte.

When we write a byte, the file position is incremented by a byte.

We can also manually move the file position...

Reading one byte at a time:

```
>>> f = open('guests.txt')
>>> f.readline()
'Date: August 1st, 2015\n'
>>> f.read(5)
'Guest'
```



**Read 5 bytes**

**(each character is a byte)**

Using `seek()` to move around:

```
>>> f = open('guests.txt')
>>> f.readline()
'Date: August 1st, 2015\n'
>>> f.read(5)
'Guest'
>>> f.read(5)
'Regi'
>>> f.seek(0)
>>> f.read(5)
'Date:'
```

**Move to byte zero**

**starting from the  
beginning of the file**

Using `seek()` to move around (better):

```
>>> import os
>>> f.seek(0, os.SEEK_SET)
>>> f.seek(0, 0)
>>> f.seek(-10, os.SEEK_END)
>>> f.seek(-10, 2)
>>> f.seek(5, os.SEEK_CUR)
>>> f.seek(5, 1)
```

**Move to byte zero**

**starting from the  
beginning of the file**

Using `seek()` to move around (better):

```
>>> import os
>>> f.seek(0, os.SEEK_SET)
>>> f.seek(0, 0)
>>> f.seek(-10, os.SEEK_END)
>>> f.seek(-10, 2)
>>> f.seek(5, os.SEEK_CUR)
>>> f.seek(5, 1)
```

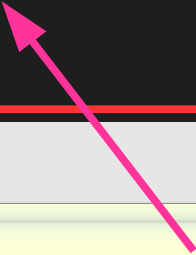


**Move BACKWARD 10 bytes**

**starting from the  
END of the file**

Using `seek()` to move around (better):

```
>>> import os
>>> f.seek(0, os.SEEK_SET)
>>> f.seek(0, 0)
>>> f.seek(-10, os.SEEK_END)
>>> f.seek(-10, 2)
>>> f.seek(5, os.SEEK_CUR)
>>> f.seek(5, 1)
```



**Move FORWARD 5 bytes**

**starting from the**  
**CURRENT FILE POSITION**



Using `seek()` to move around (better):

The diagram illustrates the equivalence between Python's `os` module constants and their integer counterparts for the `seek()` function. It features a dark background with white text for the code snippets. A red rectangular box encloses the code lines. Pink arrows point from the text 'SAME' to the second argument of each `seek()` call, indicating that the integer values are equivalent to the `os` constants.

```
>>> import os
>>> f.seek(0, os.SEEK_SET)
>>> f.seek(0, 0)
>>> f.seek(-10, os.SEEK_END)
>>> f.seek(-10, 2)
>>> f.seek(5, os.SEEK_CUR)
>>> f.seek(5, 1)
```

**SAME**

**SAME**

**SAME**

Writing to a file:

```
>>> list = ['Bob\n', 'Mary\n', 'Sam', 'Bill']

>>> f = open('output.txt', 'w+') read/write mode
>>> f.writelines(list) write data to file
>>> f.seek(0) rewind to start of file
>>> for line in f:
...     print line,
...
Bob
Mary
SamBill
```

## Valid File Modes:

- r** Open text file for reading. The stream is positioned at the beginning of the file. **[Default]**
- r+** Open for reading and writing. The stream is positioned at the beginning of the file.
- w** Truncate file to zero length or create text file for writing. The stream is positioned at the beginning of the file.
- w+** Open for reading and writing. The file is created if it does not exist, otherwise it is truncated. The stream is positioned at the beginning of the file.
- a** Open for writing. The file is created if it does not exist. The stream is positioned at the end of the file. Subsequent writes to the file will always end up at the then current end of file, irrespective of any intervening seek() or similar.
- a+** Open for reading and writing. The file is created if it does not exist. The stream is positioned at the end of the file. Subsequent writes to the file will always end up at the then current end of file, irrespective of any intervening seek() or similar.

		<u>File Mode</u>					
<u>Features</u>		r	r+	w	w+	a	a+
	read	X	X		X		X
	write		X	X	X	X	X
	create			X	X	X	X
	truncate			X	X		
	position at start	X	X	X	X		
	position at end					X	X

Writing to a file a few bytes at a time:

```
>>> f = open('foo.txt', 'w+')
>>> f.write('test')
>>> f.write('123')
>>> f.close()
>>> f = open('foo.txt', 'r')
>>> f.readline()
'test123'
```

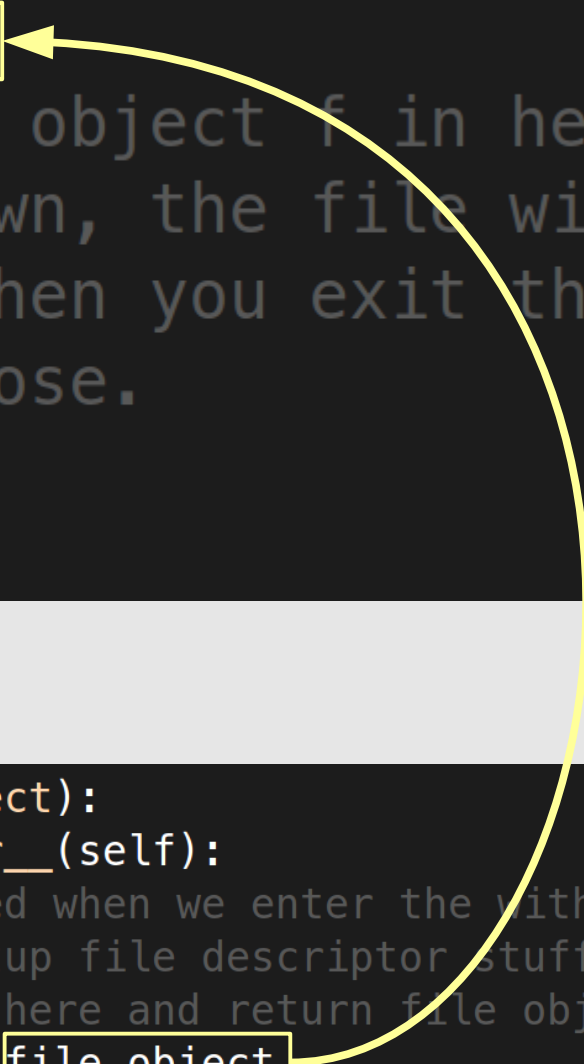
**Better file handling by using exceptions:**

```
1 f = open('output.txt')
2 try:
3     f.writelines('test\n')
4     # Maybe do other stuff in here that could
5     # cause the program to throw an exception
6 finally:
7     # this will happen even if the code inside
8     # of the try block fails, so our file will
9     # safely close no matter what!
10    f.close()
```

**Python has a built-in construct for this sorta thing that you will see far more often.**

File I/O block with an unconditional built-in `f.close()`

```
1 with open('guests.txt') as f:
2     # do stuff with your file object f in here.
3     # If an exception is thrown, the file will
4     # automatically close. When you exit this
5     # block, the file will close.
6     for line in f:
7         print line,
```



This works because the file object returned by `open()` has the magic methods: `__enter__()` and `__exit__()`

Pseudo-Code:

```
class file(object):
    def __enter__(self):
        # called when we enter the with block
        # setup file descriptor stuff
        # in here and return file object
        return file_object
    def __exit__(self):
        # called when we exit the with block
        # close the file
        file_object.close()
```