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Intermediate Python

Class Duration

35 hours of live training delivered over 5 days.

Student Prerequisites

- Working knowledge of Python fundamentals (syntax, data types, control flow, functions)
- Ability to write simple Python scripts
- General programming experience in some language

Target Audience

- Experienced programmers familiar with Python basics
- Ability to write simple Python scripts
- Basic understanding of data types and program structures
- New to Python? Start with [Introduction to Python](#); ready for more? Continue to [Advanced Python Programming](#)

Description

The Intermediate Python Programming training course is for experienced programmers who want to expand and deepen their Python programming skills. The class starts with a focus on configuring a proper development environment, including editor configuration, code formatters/linters, static type checking, virtual environments, and package management. Then, the class goes deeper into Python concepts such as iteration, specialized data structures, advanced functions, and classes. Next, the focus transitions to the many concurrent programming options within Python. Topics like the GIL, variable locks, and such are covered.

Learning Outcomes

- Learn to set up a modern Python development environment with Visual Studio Code.
- Explore how to create virtual environments and manage packages.
- Apply static typing to Python scripts through Type Hints.



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- Go deeper into iteration through built-in data types, generators, and comprehensions.
- Leverage specialized data structures and classes provided by the Python standard library.
- Improve script execution with concurrent programming techniques, including multiprocessing and asynchronous programming.
- Learn how better to leverage the file system and networking in Python scripts.

Training Materials

All students receive comprehensive courseware covering all topics in the course. Courseware is distributed via GitHub in the form of documentation and extensive code samples. Students practice the topics covered through challenging hands-on lab exercises.

Software Requirements

Students will need a free, personal GitHub account to access the courseware. Students will need permission to install Python and Visual Studio Code on their computers. Also, students will need permission to install Python Packages and Visual Studio Code extensions. If students are unable to configure a local environment, a cloud-based environment can be provided.

Training Topics

Development Environment

- Visual Studio Code with Python and Pylance extensions
- Code formatting and linting with **ruff** (the modern default; replaces Black + isort + flake8)
- Type checking with mypy or Pyright
- Debugging Python scripts with VS Code

Package Management

- **uv** for Python version management, virtual environments, and dependency resolution (the modern standard in 2026)
- `pyproject.toml` and PEP 621 metadata
- `uv pip install` and lockfiles
- When to still reach for pip, conda/mamba, or poetry

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Type Hints

- Built-In Types
- Generic Types
- Optional, Union, Any
- Function Types
- Generator Types

Iterators

- For-In vs. While Loops
- Iterating over Lists and Dictionaries
- Iterating over Generators
- Range, Enumerate
- Itertools Module
- Slicing Lists

Strings

- String Encoding
- Formatting Strings
- Multiline Strings

Logging

- Using the built-in logger
- Handlers
- Formatters
- Filters

Comprehensions

- List
- Dictionary
- Set
- Generator
- Conditional Comprehensions

Data Structures

- List
- Dictionary
- Sets
- Collections

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- Named Tuple
- Counters
- Default Dict
- Deque
- Ordered Dict

Functions

- Unpacking Parameters
- Packing Arguments
- Nested Functions
- Function Decorators
- Generators
- Multi-Dispatch

Classes

- Setter and Getters vs. Properties
- Class Data and Class Methods
- Static Methods
- Inheritance
- Multiple Inheritance
- Mixin Pattern
- Abstract Classes
- Protocols
- Special / Magic / dunder methods
- Monkey Patching

Packages and Modules

- Namespaces and Scoping
- Creating Modules
- Import Modules
- Dynamic Importing of Modules
- Executing Modules as Scripts
- Using the **init** File Effectively

Concurrent Execution

- What is Concurrent Execution?
- Concurrent Execution Models
 - Threads

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- Async/Await
- Multiprocessing
- Subprocesses
- The GIL: what it does, what it doesn't, and what changed
- **Free-threaded Python (PEP 703/779)** in Python 3.14: the no-GIL build, when to use it, and the performance/compat tradeoffs
- CPU bound vs. IO bound
- Process Pools and `concurrent.futures`
- Async programming with `asyncio`
- Async file systems and HTTP requests (`httpx`, `aiohttp`)
- Using threads with `asyncio` (`asyncio.to_thread`)
- Sub-interpreters (PEP 684/734) - a third concurrency story

Files, Folders, and Operating System

- Current Working Directory
- File / Folder Paths
- Asynchronous Reading and Writing Files
- Create, Remove, & List Directories

Text Data Formats

- Reading/Writing XML Files
- Reading/Writing CSV Files
- Reading/Writing JSON Files
- Reading/Writing YAML Files
- Reading/Writing Excel Files

Networking

- HTTP Requests
- Sending Email
- Sending/Receiving Files over FTP
- Sending SMS Messages with Twilio
- Connecting via SSH to Servers