

Aspie Bootcamp: Python Syllabus

Instructor: Myranda Uselton Shirk

Class Coordinator: Jess Stasik

Course Information:

This is a programming class designed for and by neurodivergent learners, hosted by the [Frist Center for Autism and Innovation](#) at Vanderbilt University. This class is aimed at neurodivergent adults who would like to spend a summer learning the basics of programming in Python. *All assignments are optional. There are no grades for this course.* Participants are expected to treat other classmates with kindness and be prepared to learn.

Course Goals:

1. Teach fundamentals of programming through Python
2. Gain confidence in self and abilities in a professional setting
3. Introduce resources to learn more about programming

Course Materials:

The slides for each class session will be linked to the calendar invite at the start of each class, as well as made available in the class Google Drive folder. Each class will be recorded and posted to the Google Drive, as well as the [Frist Center YouTube channel](#) by the following day.

We will use the following free online resources for the course:

- [Online Python](#) (or this one: <https://www.onlineide.pro/playground/python>) and [Google Colab](#): for programming in Python
- Discord (optional): for asking questions and connecting with classmates outside class
- [freeCodeCamp.org](#) (optional): for extra help/tutorials

Class Meeting Times:

Tues/Thurs 5:00pm-6:00pm CDT via Zoom (Zoom link TBA)

Do not share this link with anyone outside the course

Approximate Schedule:

Note that this schedule may change

6/3 - Week 1: Command-line interface, intro to programming, and Python basics

6/10 - Week 2: Programming Logic, Getting used to Python

6/24 - Week 3: Intro Control Structures

6/18 - Week 4: Loops

7/1 - Week 5: Lists

7/8 - Week 6: Strings

7/15 - Week 7: Functions

7/22 - Week 8: File Handling

7/29 - Week 9: Libraries

8/5 - Week 10: Libraries

FAQ

1. What if I need to miss a class?

Missing a class is completely fine. All class sessions are uploaded to the Frist Center's Youtube channel, so you can catch up on anything you missed.

2. How much time should I spend on assignments outside of class?

The recommended time for studying/assignments is one hour per week. However, this depends on individual study preferences and previous experience with programming. There will be approximately one assignment per week.

3. What if I cannot attend the live Zoom classes?

All classes will be uploaded to Youtube. If you prefer to watch the recordings instead of attending the Zoom session, you are welcome to.

4. Who should I contact for other questions?

You can contact the TAs or instructor for coding-related questions via email or Discord (Discord will have a faster response from TAs). For administrative or logistics questions, please contact class coordinator Jess Stasik.