

**B8154 - 002: Python for MBAs  
Fall 2023 (B-Term)****JASON PRESTINARIO**

Email: jp4036@columbia.edu

Office Hours: Available upon request

**Course Description**

From the ads that track us to the maps that guide us, the twenty-first century runs on code. The business world is no different. Programming has become one of the fastest-growing topics at business schools around the world. This course is an introduction to business uses of Python for MBA students.

In this course, we'll be learning how to write Python code that automates tedious tasks, parses and analyzes large data sets, interact with APIs, and scrapes websites. This might be one of the most useful classes you ever take.

**Required Prerequisites**

Enrollment in this course requires completion of a Python qualification exam.

**Required Course Material**

- Students must have a laptop that they can bring to class – Mac or PC is fine, as long as your operating system is up to date (at least Windows 10 and Mac OS 11).
- This course does not require a textbook. (Optional Reading: *Python for MBAs*, Griffel and Guetta)
- Any required readings will be provided via Canvas.
- Slides and files will be uploaded to Canvas after each class.

**Course Roadmap/Schedule**

Session	Topic	Assignments
<b>Class 1</b> Wednesday, Oct 25	<b>Data Analysis, part 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dig Case</li></ul>	Assignment 1 Due at the start of Class 2
<b>Class 2</b> Wednesday, Nov 1	<b>Data Analysis, part 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dig Case</li></ul>	Assignment 2 Due at the start of Class 3
<b>Class 3</b> Wednesday, Nov 8	<b>Data Analysis, part 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dig Case</li></ul>	Assignment 3 Due at the start of Class 4
<b>Class 4</b> Wednesday, Nov 15	<b>APIs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Twilio Case</li></ul>	Assignment 4 Due at the start of Class 5

<b>Class 5</b> Wednesday, Nov 29	<b>Web Scraping</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>BuiltWith Case</li></ul>	Final Project Proposal Due at the start of Class 6
<b>Class 6</b> Wednesday, Dec 6	<b>Automation with Python</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bail Fund Case</li></ul>	Final Project Due midnight Wednesday, Dec 13

## Grading

Final grades in the class will be calculated as follows:

### *Participation (30%)*

- Students are expected to actively participate in class by responding to challenges via PollEV.

### *Assignments (40%)*

- There will be four homework assignments due the *before the start of the next* class.
- Each assignment should be completed individually.
- Late assignments will be accepted with a 20% penalty until the final class. No late assignments will be accepted after the final class.

### *Final Project (30%)*

- There will be a take-home final project.
- The final project must be completed individually.

**Note:** You will not be able to receive a passing grade in the course unless you have submitted the final project and at least three out of the four assignments.