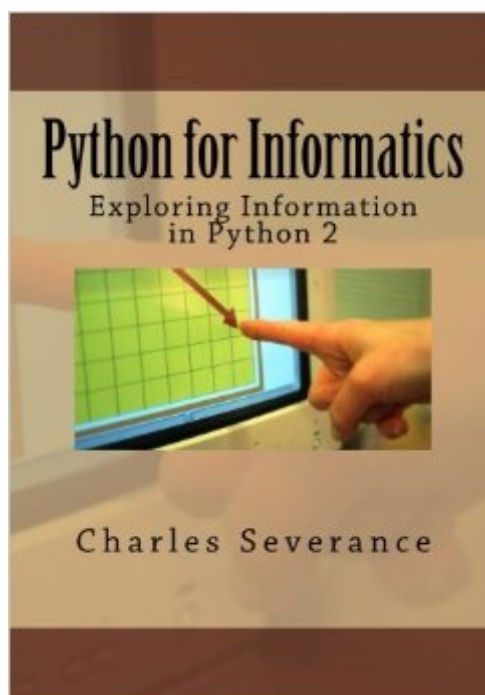


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# Python For Informatics: Exploring Information



## Synopsis

This book is designed to introduce students to programming and computational thinking through the lens of exploring data. You can think of Python as your tool to solve problems that are far beyond the capability of a spreadsheet. It is an easy-to-use and easy-to learn programming language that is freely available on Windows, Macintosh, and Linux computers. There are free downloadable copies of this book in various electronic formats and a self-paced free online course where you can explore the course materials. All the supporting materials for the book are available under open and remixable licenses at the [www.py4inf.com](http://www.py4inf.com) web site. This book is designed to teach people to program even if they have no prior experience. This book covers Python 2. An updated version of this book that covers Python 3 is available and is titled, "Python for Everybody: Exploring Data in Python 3".

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (210 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

My 13 year old daughter wanted to learn programming, so I choose a coursera MOOC called "Programming for Everyone". The course is taught by Dr. Severance (Dr Chuck) and this is the book that is used. We are only one week and one chapter into the book, and I'm writing a review now because I just cannot believe how well he teaches by injecting humor into what would be considered dry concepts. For example, he teaches the concept of reserved words by explaining that a dog hears the word "walk" as a reserved word. In a sentence containing the word "walk", the dog hears everything else as blah blah blah... The dog only hears the word "walk". I'm taking the course

with her and am actually looking forward to doing so. I -- a middle aged Mom who has a messaging phone and still uses a paper planner! Update: My daughter did not last long in going through the coursera book, but she is 13 after all and on to a different project of building a dollhouse. I had to delay taking the course until I had more time, and I am finding it both challenging and helpful. There are worked exercises for each week that follow the chapters in the book. I am finding that it takes me multiple attempts to get the exercises correct, so the process reminds me of how I learned math as a child. Nothing is better at getting information solidly learned than to work problems over and over. I would highly recommend the coursera course. It can be taken at no cost, or you can pay to get a certificate. I paid to get a certificate so that I would stay on track in taking the course. I added a picture of the instructor as Snape. He succeeds in making this course fun! Update 10/21/15: I completed the first of five coursera courses based on the book.

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