



# How to Take a Class with Me

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COMPUTER SCIENCE, ISCHOOL, LANGUAGE SCIENCE, UMIACS

## Course Webpage!

`http://boydgraber.org`

## Administrivia

- Sign up on Piazza (use a photo)
  - Another way to earn participation
- Keep track of course webpage
- Homeworks
- Fixed number of late days
- Let me know about special needs (holidays, accommodations)

## Communicating with Piazza

We will use Piazza to manage all communication (link on course webpage)

- Questions answered within 1 day (hopefully sooner)
- Hosts discussions among yourselves
- Use for any kind of technical question
- Use for **most** administrative questions
- Can use to send us private questions too
- Don't send e-mail (generally)!

## How to ask for help

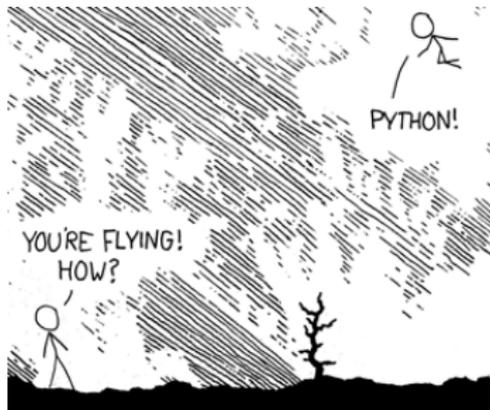
- Explain what you're trying to do
- Give a minimal example
  - Someone else should be able to replicate the problem easily
  - Shouldn't require any data / information that only you have
- Explain what you **think** should happen
- Explain what you get instead (copy / paste or screenshot if you can)
- Explain what else you've tried

## Me

- Associate professor
  - Office: 3155 AVW
- Was formerly a professor at University of Colorado
- Research: topic models, question answering, machine translation
- Fourth time teaching the class (or something similar)
- Born in Colorado (where my family live)
- Grew up in Iowa (hometown: Keokuk, Iowa)
- Went to high school in Arkansas
- Undergrad in California
- Grad school in New Jersey
- Brief jobs in between:
  - Working on electronic dictionary in Berlin
  - Worked on Google Books in New York
- ying / jbg / jordan / boyd-graber

## Why Python?

- Easy to learn
- Widespread
- Can be fast if you need it (cython)



## Flipped Classroom

- Hands-on practice
- My responsibility: record lectures before class
- In class: you help each other, and we work through examples
- Your responsibility: come to class with questions from lecture

## Help Me Get to Know You!

- Pinyin: Tones
- First name
- Correct me if I screw up!

