Wrocław University of Science and Technology
Doctoral School

COURSE CARD

1. Basic information

Course name in English:	Introduction to Python for Scientific Calculations	
Course name in Polish:	Wprowadzenie do Pythona do obliczeń naukowych	
Number of hours:	15	
Type of course:	Elective course	
Form of course:	laboratory	
Code of course:		
Course leader:	dr Justyna Rogacka	
Faculty of the course leader:	W3 Faculty of Chemistry	
Email address of the course leader:	justyna.rogacka@pwr.edu.pl	
Scientific discipline(s) assigned to the course (doctoral students representing the marked disciplines can participate in the course):	Architecture and urban planning	☐
	Automation, electronic, electrical engineering and space technologies	☒
	Information and communication technology	☒
	Biomedical engineering	☒
	Chemical engineering	☒
	Civil engineering, geodesy and transport	☒
	Materials engineering	☒
	Mechanical engineering	☒
	Environmental engineering, mining, and energy	☒
	Mathematics	☐
	Chemical sciences	☒
	Physical sciences	☒
	Management and quality studies	☒

2. Objectives

The aim of this course is to equip PhD researchers with the skills to use Python effectively for scientific calculations and data-driven research. By the end of the course, students will be able to use core Python syntax and key scientific libraries to carry out numerical analysis, visualise data, and implement basic numerical methods such as optimisation, regression, and solving differential equations. They will learn to structure reproducible code using functions, scripts, and apply Python to discipline-specific problems in chemistry, physics, engineering, economics, and statistics. Students will also gain experience automating routine research tasks and will complete a small independent computational project relevant to their field.

3. Content

Detailed information about the course content, including topics and form of classes.

No.	Topic	Number of hours	Form of classes
1	Python Foundations	2	laboratory
2	Scientific Programming and Reproducible Workflows	2	laboratory
3	Statistics and Data Analysis	2	laboratory
4	Chemistry Applications	2	laboratory
5	Physics Applications	2	laboratory
6	Engineering Applications	2	laboratory
7	Economics and Finance Applications	2	laboratory
8	Project Presentations	1	laboratory
9			Select form
10			Select form
11			Select form
12			Select form
13			Select form
14			Select form
15			Select form

4. Prerequisites

List of prerequisites relating to knowledge, skills and other competences for course participants.

Participants are expected to have a basic understanding of undergraduate-level mathematics (algebra, calculus, and simple differential equations) and familiarity with scientific problem-solving in their own discipline. No prior programming experience is required, though previous exposure to any programming language will be helpful. Students should be comfortable working with data, interpreting graphs, and engaging with computational approaches relevant to their research area.

5. Learning outcomes

List of learning outcomes at level 8 of the Polish Qualifications Framework assigned to the course (mark the learning outcomes in the last column).

Symbol	**Learning outcome**	
	KNOWLEDGE. Doctoral student knows and understands:	
SzD_W3	the main trends in the development of the scientific or artistic disciplines covered in the curricula;	☒
SzD_W4	research methodology;	☒
SzD_W5	the rules for the dissemination of scientific results, including in open access mode;	☐
SzD_W6	the fundamental dilemmas of modern civilization;	☐
SzD_W7	the legal and ethical conditions of scientific activity;	☐
SzD_W8	the economic and other relevant conditions of scientific activity;	☐
SzD_W9	basic principles of knowledge transfer to the economic and social spheres and commercialisation of results of scientific activity and know-how related to these results.	☐

	SKILLS. Doctoral student is able to:	
SzD_U2	use knowledge from different fields of science or art to creatively identify, formulate and innovatively solve complex problems or perform research tasks, in particular: - define the purpose and subject of scientific research, formulate a research hypothesis, - develop research methods, techniques and tools, and use them creatively, - draw conclusions on the basis of scientific research; critically analyse and evaluate the results of scientific research, expertise and other creative work and their contribution to knowledge development; transfer the results of scientific activities to the economic and social spheres;	☒
SzD_U3	communicate on specialised topics to the extent that they enable an active participation in the international scientific community;	☐
SzD_U4	disseminate research results, including in popular forms;	☐
SzD_U5	initiate debates and participate in a scientific discourse;	☐
SzD_U6	be able to speak a foreign language at B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages to a level that enables them to participate in the international scientific and professional environment;	☐
SzD_U7	plan and implement an individual or collective research or creative activity, including in an international environment;	☐
SzD_U8	independently plan and act for one's own development and inspire and organize the development of others;	☐
SzD_U9	plan classes or groups of classes and implement them using modern methods and tools.	☒
	SOCIAL COMPETENCES. Doctoral student is ready to:	
SzD_K3	fulfilling the social obligations of researchers and creators, initiate public interest activities, thinking and acting in an entrepreneurial way;	☐
SzD_K4	maintaining and developing the ethos of research and creative environments, including: - carrying out scientific activities in an independent manner, - respecting the principle of public ownership of research results, taking into account the principles of intellectual property protection.	☒

6. Evaluation

Short description of the method(s) used to evaluate the learning outcomes assigned to the course, e.g., exam, test, report, presentation, etc.

Project preparation and presentation

7. Teaching methods

Short description of the teaching methods used during the course, e.g., multimedia presentation, discussion, literature studies, developing written documents, own work, etc.

Computer laboratory based on live coding demonstrations

8. Literature

List of primary and secondary literature used to prepare the course and including additional knowledge for participants, e.g., books, textbooks, research papers, standards, web pages, etc.

1. Johansson, Robert. *Numerical Python: Scientific Computing and Data Science Applications with NumPy, SciPy and Matplotlib.* Apress / Springer, 2024.
2.VanderPlas, Jake. *Python Data Science Handbook: Essential Tools for Working with Data.* O'Reilly Media, 2016 (2nd edition: 2023).
3.VanderPlas, Jake. *Python Data Science Handbook — online version* (Jupyter notebooks + web) [online resource]. Available at: https://jakevdp.github.io/PythonDataScienceHandbook/

9. Other remarks

Additional remarks, comments, (e.g., language of the course)

English language