Using Python to Teach Informatics Majors at University of Michigan

Dr. Charles Severance
www.dr-chuck.com

Pycon2008 Lightning Talk
www.sakaiproject.org

- Sakai - Open Source Learning Management System
- Benevolent Dictator for Three Years
- Executive Director for One Year
- Volunteer Developer
- University of Michigan School of Information
Welcome!

Thank you for your interest in Informatics. The new concentration in Informatics is the result of two years of planning and collaboration by three schools within the University of Michigan: the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, the College of Engineering, and the School of Information.

Informatics is expected to be available as an undergraduate concentration in University of Michigan's College of Literature, Science and the Arts beginning with the Fall 2008 term, pending approval of the President's Council of the Arts University of
I don’t like programming.
I am not so good at math.

SI 182

Tech?

CS Degree

Other Degree

We don’t assume that just because you are in a computer class - that you intend to pursue a computer career.
www.si182.com - Cool Bits

- All materials open from the moment of creation
- Course Design Expectation: Gender Friendly and Major Friendly
- Learning community - (aka dev list)
- Group Learning - Practical In-Lab Exams
- Depth-first Sprint - Fill in Gaps - Build Comfort
www.si182.com - Themes

Data Sprint:
- Variables
- Strings
- Loops
- Files
- If
- List
- Dictionary

Objects
- Graphics
- Data
- Games
Engineering / Computer Science

- Exploring using Python as the first programming course for all Engineering Computer Science Majors
- Already approved Python alternative to long-standing first C source
- Python CS1 course will be taught Fall 2008 for the first time