# HOMEWORK #0

**Due 5:00 pm Tuesday September 3.**

**Credit: 1 pt.**

We will be using Python as our programming environment this semester. We will use Python to perform numerical experiments in order to gain experience in the behavior of various numerical methods. To this end we need to have access to a Python programming environment to develop in. Homework #0 is designed to encourage you to familiarize yourself with a Python programming environment in preparation for the rest of the semester. Your task is to run a simple Python program we provide for you upon a Python interpreter of your choice.

1. Install Python: The first part of this homework is to either install a Python distribution on your computer or to utilize python on one of the EWS computers. Python distributions exist for all major operating systems. Links to a collection of distributions are located on the main class web page: http://courses.engr.illinois.edu/cs357
2. Run the homework0.py program. Print out the results and turn in your work to the TA homework boxes in the basement of SC. The python program, homework0.py will be available on the piazza web site along with these instructions.

The purpose of this homework is to familiarize you with the Python environment of your choice. There are Python plugins for Eclipse, Python shells for Linux, and Python IDEs for mac and windows. It does not matter which you use. However, if you choose to install one yourself choose one that comes with Scipy, numpy, and matplotlib all rolled in. Many distros do. We will be using these extensions throughout the course.