

## CSCI 2170

### C type String

**C type string: a sequence of characters (in an array) terminated by a null character '\0'**

```
const int SIZE=20;
char  lastname[SIZE], firstname[SIZE];

lastname = "Brown";
firstname= "Amy";
```

What will be the output of the following?

1. `cout << "The person's name is :"` << `firstname` << " " << `lastname` << `endl`;
2. `cout << "The person's last and first initial is: "` << `lastname[0]` << " " << `firstname[0]` << `endl`;

(1) Enter string interactively

(1a) read from keyboard character by character

```
int index;
char ch;

cout << "Please enter the last name"
<< endl;
cin.get(ch);
index=0;

while (ch != '\n')
{
    lastname[index]=ch;
    cin.get(ch);
    index++;
}
lastname[index] = '\0';
```

(1b) read characters from the keyboard up to the first white space

```
cout << "Please enter the lastname" << endl;
cin >> lastname;
```

(1c) read from keyboard the entire line of characters

```
cout << "please enter the last name" << endl;
gets(lastname);
```

(2) more examples

(2a) count the number of blank spaces entered on one line of text

(2b) count the number of lines of text entered through keyboard

(3) Output the string

```
cout << text << endl;    or    puts(text);    // need to #include <stdio>
```

- **Library functions associated with C type string**

(1) **strlen()** -- returns the number characters in a string before the first NULL character

usage: `length = strlen(string1);`

```
cout << strlen("How now brown cow");
```

(2) **strcpy()** – creates a copy of a string

usage: `strcpy(string1, string2);`  
copy-to copy-from

```
const int SIZE=20;
char lastname[SIZE], newlastname[SIZE];

lastname = "Johnson";
strcpy(newlastname, lastname); or strcpy(newlastname, "Johnson");
```

- (3) **strcat()** – string concatenation, appending one string at the end of another string  
usage strcat(string1, string2);

```
char part1[size] = "one two ";
char part2[size] = "buckle my shoe";
strcat(part1, part2);
```

- (4) **strcmp()** – compares two strings by comparing the position of their characters in the underlying character set  
usage: result = strcmp(string1, string2);  
if string 1 and string 2 are identical, strcmp returns 0  
if string1 lexicographically less than string 2, strcmp returns a negative value  
if string 1 lexicographically greater than string 2, strcmp returns a positive value

```
strcmp("Tomato", "Apple")    → returns positive value
strcmp("one", "one");        → returns 0
strcmp("now", "She");        → returns positive value
strcmp("one", "two");        → returns negative value
```

- (5) What is the output of the following program?

```
const int SIZE = 512;
int main()
{
    char workingStr[size];
    char str1[size]="I know an old lady";
    char str2[size]="who swallowed a fly";

    strcpy(workingStr, str1);
    if (!strcmp(workingStr, str1))
        cout << "Copy successful" << endl;
    else
        cout << "Error in copy" << endl;

    strcat(workingStr, " ");
    strcat(workingStr, str2);

    cout << "The current string is " << workingStr << endl;
    cout << "It has " << strlen(workingStr) << "characters" << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

- (6) how to write your own versions of the string functions which can have the same effects as the ones provided by the C++ library? For example: Mystrlen()