





Lecture 7: Welcome to Java

In Java, Everything is an Object.

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Java Contents

This part of CFS2160 provides:

- > An introduction to object-oriented programming ...
- > ... with a strong software engineering foundation ...
- ... aimed at producing and maintaining large, high quality software systems.

The programming language we will use from now on is Java.

The development environment is IntelliJ IDEA.

Goals



At the end of this module you should:

- > Have a sound knowledge of programming principles.
- > Have a sound knowledge of object-orientation.
- Be able to critically assess the quality of a (small) software system.
- > Be able to implement a small software system in Java.

GitHub



It is usually easiest to keep a GitHub repo to one language ...

Ergo, the code for the Java section of this module is here:

https://github.com/TonyJenkins/cfs2160-2019-java-public.git

It contains programs from lectures, some from practicals, code for the assignments, etc.

Java



Java has been around since 1995.

It is free and open source, but supported by a commercial entity (currently Oracle).

The latest version is Java 13 (September 2019). We are going to use Java 11, which is well established and widely used.

Download links: https://java.com/en/download/ (JDK and JRE).

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Note

This year we are moving from Java 8 to the next LTS Release, Java 11. It is just possible Java 8 code or links may slip through.

Novelty

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public class Hello
  public Hello ()
    sayHello ();
  private void sayHello ()
    System.out.println ("hello, world");
  public static void main (String args[])
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Fundamental Concepts

We have met all of these before.

They are now absolutely fundamental:

- > Class.
- Object.
- > Attribute.
- > Method.
- > Parameter.
- Data Type.



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If you are not confident in what any of these mean, sort it out this week. **Ask** if necessary!

Objects and Classes



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Represent "things" from the real world, or from some problem domain.

Classes:

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So, in a cinema booking system, there are classes "Film", "Customer", "Ticket", "Booking".

Objects and Classes

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Classes:

Represent all objects of a particular

Objects in the class "Film" include Paddington 2, Justice League, Thor: Ragnarok, My Little Pony: The Movie.

\(\left\)

An attribute:

- > is something of interest in an object.
- > has a value and a type.

All objects of a class have the same attributes.

The values of the attributes define an object's *state*.

Objects of a class will generally have different states.

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All Films Have These.





Objects also have operations which can be invoked.

> Java calls them *methods*.

Methods may have parameters to pass additional information.

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A "Bank Account" object has methods such as "Open Account", "Close Account", "Deposit", "Withdraw", "Print Balance", and probably more.



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The "Deposit" method has a parameter: the amount to be deposited.

Return Values



Some methods are simply a behaviour:

> Print the balance, open the account.

Some methods return a value:

Give the balance, indicate whether the balance is sufficient.

Methods that do not return a value are declared with a void return type.

Object Orientation



A class defines the fields (attributes) an object has.

Many instances (objects) can be created from a single class.

Each instance has its own set of values for its attributes, which together define its state.

An object usually represents one "real world" thing.

Why classes?



Correctly, this is called *object-oriented programming*.

It is claimed that classes give a more natural way to program.

We develop classes that represent things in our problem domain, and we can write programs using these.

Ideally, we can reuse the classes in multiple programs.

And we can reuse classes developed by others.

Public and Private



Java classes provide two views: public and private.

The **public** view (correctly called the *interface*) describes how the class can be used by programs, or by other classes.

The **private** view is concerned with how the class itself works, internally.

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This is much the same as using a module in Python.

We need to know how to use the functions in the module. We care not how they work.

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The **private** view is concerned with k internally.

The usual Java convention is:

- Attributes are private.
- Methods are public.

Java Types



Java supports all the expected data types.

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Compare with Python, where variables are *dynamically typed*, and are given their type by their first use.

Source Code



Each class has source code (Java code).

This code:

- Defines its fields (attributes) and their data types.
- Defines its methods, and provides Java code to implement the methods.
- ➢ Is Compiled and can then be Executed.

A class called "SomeName" must be in a file SomeName.java.

A First Java Class



We will create a Java class to store details of some employees, and a simple program to use it.

Employees have an id number, a name, and a rating.

The program needs to manage the rating, by adding or subtracting points.

The class will be called Employee, and therefore *must* be created in a file called Employee.java.

IntelliJ

Java is much more verbose than Python - there is a lot of typing to do.

IntelliJ is *really good* at reducing the typing.

IntelliJ will automatically generate almost all the "boilerplate" code that you find in any Java class.

Learn to use it!





Basic Class Structure

The main wrapper for a class looks like this.

Note the opening and closing curly brackets (or "braces").

```
public class Employee {
```

}

Basic Class Structure

Usually, the first thing to define is the attributes.

These are given a type, and a name. They are *private* to the class.

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Basic Class Structure

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These are given a type, and a name. They are *private* to the class.

```
public class Employee {
  private String name;
  private int id;
  private int rating;
}
```

Conventions



Like Python, Java has conventions for naming things:

- Class names start with a capital letter.
- > Variable and field names start with a lowercase letter.
- If more than one word is needed in the name, lowerCamelCase is used.
- Constant names are all in capitals.

If you ignore these, you will confuse other programmers.

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If you ignore these, we will take marks off you until you stop.

The Constructor



Every class must have a "constructor".

This special method is responsible for creating an instance of the class (an object, if you will).

A constructor may be provided with initial values for the fields.

Or it may set some defaults, or it can even do a mixture.

IntelliJ will write the constructor for you.

Getters and Setters

Attributes are private.

If other programs or classes are to use them, they do so via special methods called *accessors* and *mutators*.

These are more usually called "getters" (to get the value of an attribute) and "setters" (to set the value).

IntelliJ will write these methods for you.

The Main Method



When a program runs, it starts by running a *main* method.

This has a distinctive signature (header):

public static void main (String[] args)

And any code inside it is executed as the program.

IntelliJ will write the signature for you.

IntelliJ Demo Time



