

## Assignment: Card class

### Introduction to Software Engineering CSCI 2360

## Objective

Learn how to implement conditional logic and boolean methods in a Python class by adding trump card functionality to the existing `Card` class.

## Overview

You will modify the `Card` class in `card.py` to implement two methods that determine whether a card is a trump card or not. This assignment will help you understand:

- Method implementation with optional parameters
- Boolean logic and conditional statements
- Understanding game rules and translating them into code
- Working with class attributes and instance variables

## Background: Understanding Trump Cards

In many card games (like Pitch), one suit is designated as the "trump suit" for a particular hand. Trump cards have special properties:

- Cards of the trump suit beat cards of any other suit
- Jokers are always considered trump cards
- Certain Jacks become "off Jacks" (trump cards from a different suit)
- The trump suit can change between hands

## Task Description

The `Card` class already exists in `card.py` with basic functionality. Your task is to implement two methods that work together to determine trump status:

### Method 1: `is_trump(self, suit=None)`

Implement a method that checks if the card is a trump card.

#### Method Signature:

```
def is_trump(self, suit=None):  
    """  
    Checks if the card is a trump card.  
  
    Args:  
        suit (str, optional): The suit to check against.
```

If not provided, the trump suit of the card is used.

Returns:

bool: True if the card is a trump card, False otherwise.  
 """

### Logic Requirements:

1. If no suit parameter is provided, use the card's `trump_suit` attribute
2. If neither parameter nor attribute is set, return `False`
3. Cards of the trump suit are trump cards
4. Jokers are always trump cards (suit is 'Joker')
5. Handle "off Jacks" - Jacks of certain suits become trump when other suits are trump:
  - Jack of Clubs is trump when Spades is trump
  - Jack of Spades is trump when Clubs is trump
  - Jack of Diamonds is trump when Hearts is trump
  - Jack of Hearts is trump when Diamonds is trump

### Method 2: `is_nontrump(self, suit=None)`

Implement a method that checks if the card is a non-trump card.

### Method Signature:

```
def is_nontrump(self, suit=None):
    """
    Checks if the card is a non-trump card.

    Args:
        suit (str, optional): The suit to check against.
                               If not provided, the trump suit of the card is used.

    Returns:
        bool: True if the card is a non-trump card, False otherwise.
    """
```

### Logic Requirements:

- This method should return the opposite of `is_trump()`
- Use the same parameter handling as `is_trump()`

### Implementation Hints

For `is_trump()`:

1. Start by handling the case where `suit` is `None`
2. Check if the card is a Joker first (simplest case)
3. Check if the card's suit matches the trump suit
4. Handle the off Jack cases using the card's `base_symbol()` method
5. Use tuple comparisons for off Jack logic

For `is_nontrump()`:

1. This can be implemented very simply using the `is_trump()` method
2. Consider the DRY (Don't Repeat Yourself) principle

Available Class Attributes and Methods:

- `self.suit`: The card's suit ('Spades', 'Hearts', 'Diamonds', 'Clubs', 'Joker')
- `self.trump_suit`: The currently set trump suit (or None)
- `self.base_symbol(name)`: Returns the base symbol for a card name
- `self.name`: The full name of the card
- `self.symbol`: The current symbol of the card

## Test Cases to Consider

Your implementation should handle these scenarios:

1. **Regular trump cards**: Ace of Spades when Spades is trump → True
2. **Non-trump cards**: King of Hearts when Spades is trump → False
3. **Jokers**: Any joker with any trump suit → True
4. **Off Jacks**: Jack of Clubs when Spades is trump → True
5. **Regular Jacks**: Jack of Spades when Spades is trump → True
6. **No trump suit set**: Any card with no trump suit → False

## Example Usage

```
# Create some cards
ace_spades = Card('Ace', 'Spades')
jack_clubs = Card('Jack', 'Clubs')
big_joker = Card('Big', 'Joker')

# Test with Spades as trump
print(ace_spades.is_trump('Spades'))    # Should print True
print(jack_clubs.is_trump('Spades'))    # Should print True (off Jack)
print(big_joker.is_trump('Spades'))     # Should print True (Joker)

print(ace_spades.is_nontrump('Hearts')) # Should print True
print(jack_clubs.is_nontrump('Hearts')) # Should print True
```

## Grading Rubric

See Autograder results for distribution of points.

## Submission Requirements

1. Complete the implementation of both methods in `card.py`.
2. Test your implementation with the provided test cases (use `python -m`).
3. Ensure your code follows Python style conventions (consider using `pylint`).
4. Push your modified `card.py` file to GitHub.

### Due Dates

The due date is specified on Blackboard.

**Good luck! Remember to test your code thoroughly and ask questions if you need clarification on the trump card rules.**

© Copyright 2025 by Michelle Talley

You may not publish this document on any website or share it with anyone without explicit permission of the author.

---