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IT FDN 110 A Wi 25: Foundations Of Programming: Python

Assignment 6

GitHub Link: <a href="https://github.com/giozoar/IntrotoProg-Python-Mod06">https://github.com/giozoar/IntrotoProg-Python-Mod06</a>

# **Functions**

#### Introduction

This week as a part of my Foundations of Programming course, I learned how to work with functions and classes, which allow me to organize my script in a logical, modular fashion and increase maintainability. I also learned about the Separation of Concerns pattern to know where to immediately find certain script functions by grouping them in logical containers of my script's functionality.

## Creating the Script

After reading the acceptance criteria described in the Mod06-Assignment file, I began to work on my script using the PyCharm Community Edition IDE. I reused the header from the Assignment06-Starter.py file included in the module materials to display the necessary information.

Figure 1 - Script Header

Afterwards, I added the 'import json' statement to my code, and copied the variables from the starter file, and verified the variables were consistent with components of the script body required to complete the assignment acceptance criteria.

Figure 2 - Declaring constants and variables

I then got to work on adding specific components called out in the acceptance criteria, such as creating two classes called 'IO' and 'FileProcessor' with descriptive document strings, and moving

script functions from the previous module underneath each class to act as methods for that class grouping.

```
Assignment_06.py ×
                     Mod06-Lab03-WorkingWithClassAndSoC.py
                                                                Assignment06-Starter.py
                                                                                            Enrollments.json
                                                                                                                 Assign
               return student_data
       class FileProcessor: 2 usages
           Ostaticmethod lusage
           def read_data_from_file(file_name: str, student_data: list):
                   file = open(file_name, "r")
                   student_data = json.load(file)
                   IO.output_error_messages( message: "Text file must exist before running this script!", e)
                   IO.output_error_messages( message: "There was a non-specific error!", e)
                   if file.closed == False:
               return student_data
            def write_data_to_file(file_name: str, student_data: list)
```

Figure 3 – Classes and methods

Per the acceptance criteria, I made sure to change my function code to include the output\_error\_messages function defined in the IO class to display my relevant error messages as a result of the try-except handling in the functions.

I then created a while loop to run my program infinitely until the user decides to break, and ask the user to enter student first name, last name, and registration course to register a student using the functions defined in the class layers at the beginning of the script. The user then prompts the program to display or save the data to an existing 'Enrollments.json' file, then exit out of the loop.

Much of this script reused existing statements from Module 5, so the behavior had been defined. The work required was mostly inserting the class methods in the right locations within the loop, as shown in the image below. This condensed the main body down quite a bit thanks to the previously defined functions.

```
⊕ Enrollr
🗬 Assignment_06.py 🗡
                      Mod06-Lab03-WorkingWithClassAndSoC.py
                                                                 Assignment06-Starter.py
       class FileProcessor: 2 usages
                        file.close()
       students = FileProcessor.read_data_from_file(file_name=FILE_NAME, student_data=students)
           IO.output_menu(menu=MENU)
           menu_choice=I0.input_menu_choice()
           if menu_choice == "1": # This will not work if it is an integer!
               students=I0.input_student_data(student_data=students)
           elif menu_choice == "2":
               IO.output_student_courses(student_data=students)
           elif menu_choice == "3":
               FileProcessor.write_data_to_file(file_name=FILE_NAME, student_data=students)
           elif menu_choice == "4":
               break # out of the loop
       print("Program Ended")
```

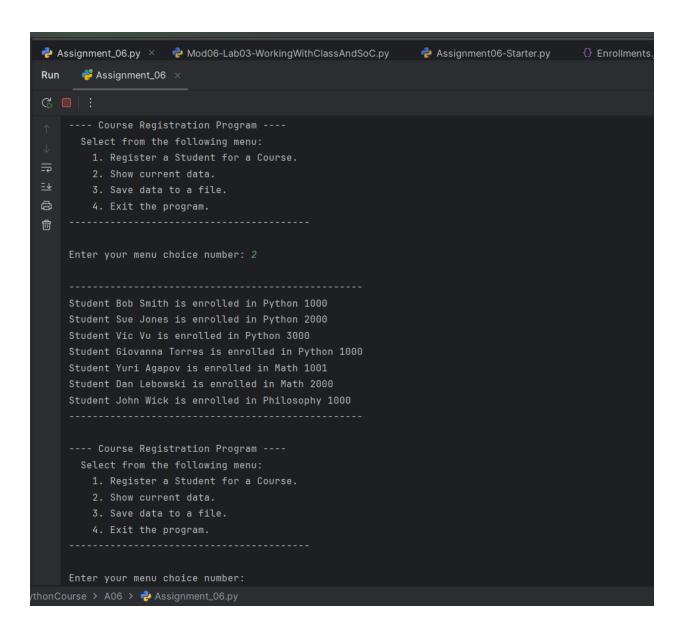
Figure 4 – Main body of script using class functions.

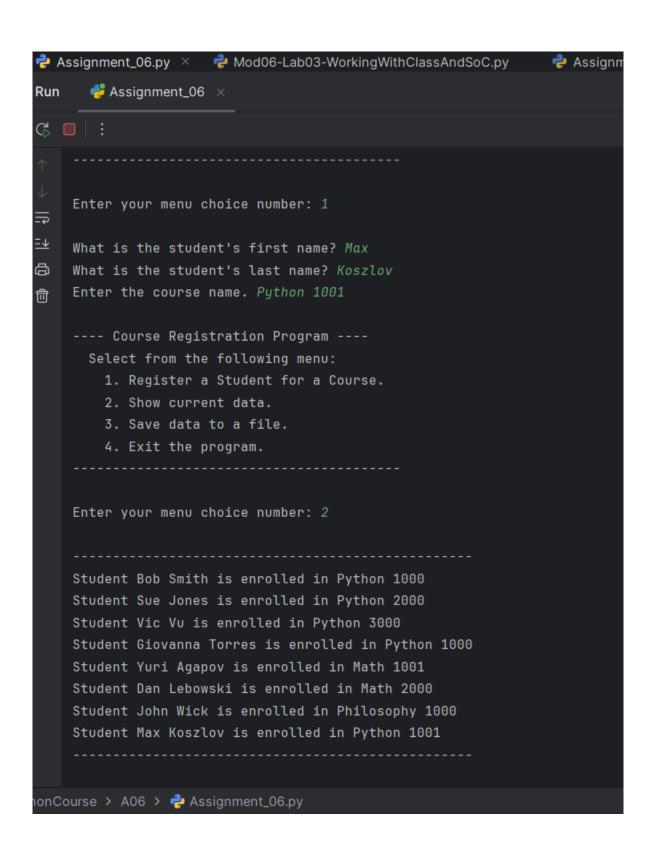
I then proceeded to test my code, discussed in the next section.

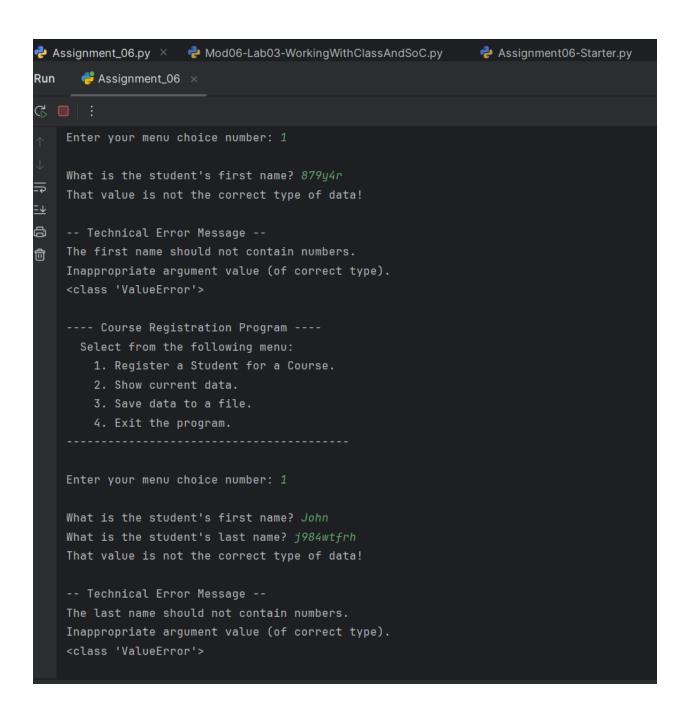
### **Testing the Script**

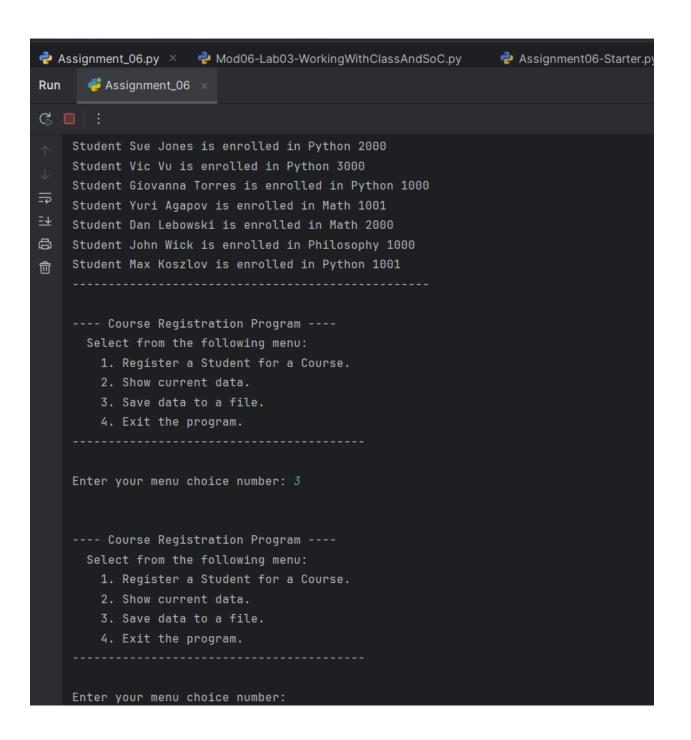
After setting up my initial 'Enrollments.json' data file with data from module 4 and running the script in the IDE to ensure that the correct outputs were being displayed and created in the directory, I proceeded to run the script in the Command Prompt terminal window. I changed the directory over to my 'A06' file within my PythonCourse directory and ran the script.

I tested multiple cases, including adding multiple names, and adding characters that weren't the numerical in the student name fields, and 1-4 menu option values. As I expected, the script would prompt the user to select another option if the input was invalid. It would also display multiple entries of student registrations and write them to the file as expected. The outputs were the same in either window, as seen below.









```
Enter your menu choice number: 0

Please, choose only 1, 2, 3, or 4

---- Course Registration Program ----
Select from the following menu:

1. Register a Student for a Course.

2. Show current data.

3. Save data to a file.

4. Exit the program.

Enter your menu choice number: 4

Program Ended

PythonCourse > A06 > ♣ Assignment_06.py
```



Figure 5 - Testing inputs in PyCharm IDE.

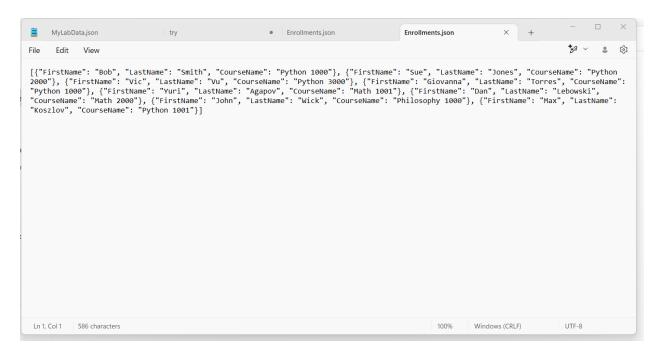


Figure 6 - Outputs in JSON file.

```
lacktriangle Command Prompt - python F	imes
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.26100.3194]
(c) Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\Users\giova>cd C:\Users\giova\OneDrive\Documents\Python\PythonCourse\A06
C:\Users\giova\OneDrive\Documents\Python\PythonCourse\A06>python              Assignment_06.py
 --- Course Registration Program ----
  Select from the following menu:
    1. Register a Student for a Course.
    2. Show current data.
    3. Save data to a file.
    4. Exit the program.
Enter your menu choice number: 1
What is the student's first name? nf937r
That value is not the correct type of data!
-- Technical Error Message --
The first name should not contain numbers.
Inappropriate argument value (of correct type).
<class 'ValueError'>
 --- Course Registration Program ----
 Select from the following menu:
    1. Register a Student for a Course.
    2. Show current data.
    3. Save data to a file.
    4. Exit the program.
Enter your menu choice number: 1
What is the student's first name? nivsdncw
What is the student's last name? cnfc934i7
That value is not the correct type of data!
-- Technical Error Message --
The last name should not contain numbers.
```

---- Course Registration Program ----

Figure 7 - Testing in Command Prompt window.

#### Summary

During this assignment, I learned about using classes and functions to organize my data per a Separation of Concerns pattern. The biggest learning curve I've found is in calling the class and function with the **correct parameter arguments.** Understanding the relationship between parameters and variables used throughout the script was difficult to wrap my head around, but once I realized that a parameter is local to the function and you can pass your global variables to them as necessary, it made it easier to grasp the concept. I still have gaps in understanding the @staticmethod decorator and the 'self' parameter, which I'm hoping to be able to understand a bit more in the coming modules.