Inherited Members

Open main.cpp and look at the main() function, which creates a Student object (steve), and then call some of its member functions. Run the project by typing make run in the terminal. You'll see something like this:

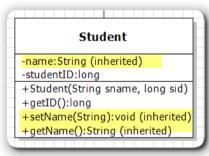
```
./inherit
getName()->Stephen
getID()->1007
```

Of course the **Student** object named **steve** can call the **getID()** member function, which was defined in the **Student** class. No surprises there!

However, it can also call the setName() and getName() member functions, which were not defined in Student, but in Person. More importantly, those member functions can read and change the name data member in the Person class as if name were declared inside the Student class. Why?

When you create **Student** objects, each derived class object contains **all of the data members and member functions of its base class**. If you were to look at a "logical" diagram of the Student class, it would look something like that shown here.

However, (very important), the data members will not be directly accessible to the derived class object, because they were declared private in the base class.





his course content is offered under a <u>CC Attribution Non-Commercial</u> license. Content in this course can be considered under this license unless otherwise noted.