Inheritance is one of the four pillars of OOP (Object Oriented Programming) and is used to a great extend in programming languages such as Java.

The concept essentially functions in the way that a class with a set of attributes, a constructor, and an array of methods, can be extended to another class, therein passing down the traits and functionality of the “parent/super class” to the “child/sub class”.

This ability removes redundancy in code, as it no longer has to be written twice, if two classes are similar. Despite this functionality, methods in sub classes can be overwritten, and new ones added. This functionality also applies to the adding of additional attributes, not native to the super class.