

CS 102

Introduction to  
Programming Using C++

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Chapter 2

Fundamental Data Types

# Variables

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- A variable is a name for a place in storage
- There are various types of data
- We will start with numeric data
- The two main data types for numeric data are
  - int            for integer data
  - double        for data with decimal points



# Naming Variables

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- C++ has rules for naming variables
  - Variable names must start with a letter
  - Variable names can be made up of letters, numbers, and the underscore character (`_`)
  - Variable names should look like they are just one word
    - If you want a name with more than one word, use underscores between the words
    - For example: `number_of_attendees`
    - For not-an-example: `number of attendees`
      - C++ will think this is three variables!

# More Ideas about Naming Variables

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- Variable names are case-sensitive
  - No surprise here; everything in C++ is
- You cannot use reserved words as variable names
  - For example, you could not use return as a variable name
- You should use a name that describes what the variable contains



# What Can You do with Variables?

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- The subtitle of this slide is
  - Why Do I Care About Variables Anyway?
- Variables in programming are similar to variables in math
- You calculate something and store the result in a variable
- Examples

```
number_of_people = number_of_adults +  
                  number_of_children;
```

# Math Notation vs. C++

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- In math the equation
$$x = x + 1$$
- has no solution
- Think of this for whole numbers
  - No number can equal the next number
- In C++, this is perfectly legal
- It means
  - Calculate the value on the right side
  - Store that value into the variable on the left
- We use this statement (or a variation of it) often
  - It's how we count things



# Creating Your Own Variables

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- Before using a variable, you must create it
  - We also say you define or declare a variable
- Creating a variable is simple
  - You need to decide on its type and its name
  - You choose a name that represents what it is
  - Two examples
    - `int number_of_employees;`
    - `double price_per_gallon;`

# Starting Values

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- In addition to giving a value to a variable in a program, you can give it a starting value
- You can do this when you declare it  

```
int i = 10;
```
- We call this initializing the variable



# Constants

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- A constant is a variable whose value doesn't change
- We use constants so we can remove numbers from inside of programs
- When we name constants, we use capital letters
- For example

```
const double PRICE_OF_COFFEE = 2.35;
```

# Readability

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- Readability means understandability
- A program with high readability is easily understood by other programmers
- Anything you can do to increase the readability of a program is good
- Inserting blank lines in a program is one way to increase readability
- Another way to increase readability is to use comments



# Putting Comments in a Program

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- There are two types of comments
  - Single line comments start with `//`
    - They may be used anywhere in a line
    - The rest of the line is ignored by the compiler
  - Comments that take several lines may be inside `/*` and `*/`
  - For example
    - `/* This code calculates the polynomial that comes closest to going through several points. It uses the Lagrange interpolating polynomial. The input for this function is ... and the output is ... */`

# Comments

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- You should use enough comments to explain what's going on in your programs
- You should explain every function except `main()`
- You should also explain tricky or complex code with comments
- If you think you have enough comments, ask someone else to look at your program
  - Getting a second opinion is good!



# Another Example

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- Let's check volume2.cpp (p. 50)
- Notes:
  1. Notice the comments
  2. Notice the constant
  3. Where should the variable declarations go?
  4. Line 29. `cout << fixed << setprecision(2);`  
    `fixed << setprecision (2)` means to print two digits after the decimal point
  5. Line 2. `#include <iomanip>`  
    The compiler can't find `fixed`, `setprecision` without this
  6. Line 12. `cin >> pack_price;`  
    `cin` is used to read input from the keyboard

# Floating Point Variables

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- C++ has several different types of variables
  - A variable stores something
  - You might want to store a count, your name, or a price
- A type that can hold decimal data is floating point
  - Floating point data comes in float and double
  - float holds only 6-7 digits of accuracy
  - double holds more digits (14-15)
  - double is more common than float
- C++ has several other types of data



# Floating Point Data

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- Floating point data is often imprecise
  - For example, 0.2 as a decimal number is 0.001100110011... as a binary number
    - Binary numbers are numbers with 0s and 1s
    - All computer data is stored as binary numbers
- The stored value will be very close to the actual value, but may not be exactly equal
  - For this reason, we don't usually ask if two floating point numbers are equal

# Arithmetic

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- Here are more examples of using the assignment statement
  - That's the statement: `variable = calculation`
- `total_cost = subtotal + tax;`
- `area_of_rectangle = length * width;`
- `number_of_boxes = number_of_items  
/ box_size; (Hmmm...)`
- `average = (value_1*frequency_1 + value_2*frequency_2)  
/ (frequency_1 + frequency_2);`



# The Operators

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- The standard math operators are
  - + for add
  - - for subtract
  - \* for multiply
  - / for divide
- Special operators
  - ++ increment (add 1)  
     $x++;$  is the same as  $x = x + 1;$
  - -- decrement (subtract 1)  
     $x--;$  is the same as  $x = x - 1;$

# More Operators and Integer Math

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- If you have these statements

```
int number_of_boxes = 19 / 10;  
cout << number_of_boxes;
```
- what prints is 1
- Huh?
- Integer arithmetic gives integer answers
  - Fractions are rounded down, not rounded off
- There is another integer operator
  - It's %
- % indicates the remainder after division
  - What is 11 % 4?



# More Integer Arithmetic: Rounding off Numbers

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- Suppose you have these statements  
    `double price = 2.85;`  
    `int dollars = price;`
- According to integer math, dollars will have the value 2
  - Again, it rounds down, not off
- A roundoff trick is to add 0.5  
    `int dollars = price + 0.5;`
- will work correctly

# More Math: Powers and Roots

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- To calculate  $x^{10}$ , use `pow (x, 10)`
- To calculate  $\sqrt{x}$ , use `sqrt (x)`
- To solve  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  using the quadratic formula, use  
$$x\_1 = (-b + \text{sqrt} (b*b - 4*a*c)) / (2 * a);$$
$$x\_2 = (-b - \text{sqrt} (b*b - 4*a*c)) / (2 * a);$$
  - You could also use `pow (b, 2)` for  $b^2$   
`b * b` is better
  - You could also use `pow (?, 0.5)` for `sqrt (?)`  
`sqrt` is better



# A Common Mistake

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- Consider this program fragment

```
int main ()
{
    int score_1, score_2;
    cout << "Type in your first test score: ";
    cin >> score_1;
    cout << endl << "Type in your second test score: ";
    cin >> score_2;
    double average = ((double) score_1 + score_2) / 2;
    cout << "The average is " << fixed << setprecision (2) << average;
}
```

- There is a logic error; what is it?

# Calculations in C++

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- When C++ calculates, it follows the normal math order of operations
  - So  $2 + 5 * 4 = 22$
- It calculates piece by piece, just like in algebra
- For each calculation within an expression, it promotes all variables to the most precise type
  - double is more precise than float
  - float is more precise than integer
- For example

$10.0 + 4 / 5$   
 $= 10.0 + 0$   
 $= 10.0$



# Casting

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- You are in full control of what your program does
- You can force data to be any type in a calculation
- The way to do this is called casting

- Example

```
unit_price = (double) 10 / 3;
```

- We just forced C++ to treat 10 as if it was of type double
- The calculation worked as we had hoped

# Writing Programs

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- Understanding the problem
  - This often generates test data
- The first step in the programming process is to understand the problem
- One good way to understand the problem is to try cases
- Suppose we want to write a payroll program



# The Task

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- We want to calculate the weekly pay of an employee
- We will be given the number of hours the employee works and the hourly rate of pay
- We have to calculate the pay according to these rules
  - All employees work at least 40 hours
  - All employees must be paid time-and-a-half for the overtime (hours over 40)
    - This means we pay 1.5 times the normal rate, but only for the overtime

# Some Cases-Part 1

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- For this example, we will assume employees earn \$15 per hour
- Case 1
  - The employee works 45 hours
  - Then the regular rate of pay is used for the first 40 hours
    - This is  $\$15 \times 40 = \$600$
  - The employee also earns  $\$15 \times 5 \times 1.5$  for overtime
    - This is \$112.50
  - The total pay is  $\$600 + \$112.50$ , which is \$712.50



## Some Cases-Part 2

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- Case 2
  - The employee works 50 hours
  - Then the regular rate of pay is used for the first 40 hours
    - This is  $\$15 \times 40 = \$600$
  - The employee also earns  $\$15 \times 10 \times 1.5$  for overtime
    - This is \$225
  - The total pay is  $\$600 + \$225$ , which is \$825

# The Value of Studying Cases

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- Since we worked through some cases, we now know how to write the program
  - The total pay is
    - \$600 (for regular hours) and  $\$15 * n * 1.5$ 
      - where  $n$  is the number of hours over 40
    - Or, if  $h$  = total number of hours, the pay is
      - $\$600 + \$15 * (h - 40) * 1.5$
  - We also have some data to test if our program works



# Strings

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- A string is another data type
- To use strings, you need  
`#include <string>`
- To store a value into a string, use quotation marks  
`string name = "Harvey";`
- Concatenation
  - This means appending one string onto the end of another
  - You do this using +  
`full_name = first_name + " " + last_name;`

# More String Ideas

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- You can read a string with cin

```
cin >> street_address;
```

  - This is just like reading anything
- However, this reads only one word
  - You must use multiple cins to read multiple words



# Functions

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- A function is a small program that does a task
  - There are two types
    - One type sends back an answer
    - The other type performs a task
- So far, we know `main()`
- Since its type is `int`, it needs to return an integer answer

# String Functions

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- C++ has several built-in string functions
  - `int name_len = name.length ();`
  - `string new_string = old_string.substr (3, 2);`
    - This creates a new string starting at character 3 in `old_string` and having length 2
    - Character 3 is actually the fourth character in the string
      - We start counting at 0!
- Some string functions are summarized on p. 60



# Homework

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- These problems are from p. 63+
  - Do R2.1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16
  - These problems are due
- 
- Again, in the upper right corner, after your name, add
  - The chapter the problems are from
  - The page number the problems are from
  - A list of the problems themselves

# Our Second Programming Assignment

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- Write a program that solves P2.4, 7, or 8
- All of these programs involve calculations
- Be sure to follow the directions closely
- Again, start your program with these four+ lines

`// Your name`

`// The date you wrote the program`

`// Which lab this is (Lab 2 in this case)`

`// A brief description of the program`



# Another Program

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- For this chapter, you have to write two programs
- The second program should be one of P2.17, 18, and 20
- All of these programs involve manipulating strings
- This program is due

# Academic Honesty

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- This is the academic honesty policy for our class:
  - All programs must be written by you alone
- Exceptions
  - Since this is a class, you may base your programs on programs in the textbook
  - You can get help from me
- Any program not written completely by you will get a score of 0



# Questions?

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- Are there any questions?