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IT FDN 110 A
Assignment 07

Creating Python Scripts – Classes and Objects

Introduction

This Assignment 07 involves creating a Python program that utilizes constants, variables, and print statements to display a message about a student's registration for a Python course. Building upon the knowledge gained in Assignment 06, this task introduces new concepts, including the use of data classes.

Preparation for this assignment

To prepare for this assignment, I reviewed the "Module 07 Notes" (Reference 1), completed the three lab examples, and watched both the Module 07 videos available on Washington University's Canvas platform (Figure 1) and the recommended external video in Reference 2. Through these materials, I learnt how to work with data classes, including their attributes, constructors, properties and methods. I also gained an understanding of about the Inheritance concept, where a child class inherit data value, properties and methods from its parent class, and how to override inherited methods.

Mod07 Videos

Module	Name	Link
7	Mod07 - Classes And Functions	https://youtu.be/tLyWwmfu-Vc  
7	Mod07 - Using Constructors	https://youtu.be/7D7damse9xs  
7	Mod07 - Lab01 Review	https://youtu.be/LAEotZSO-AM  
7	Mod07 - Using Properties	https://youtu.be/JE940GjMySI  
7	Mod07 - Lab02 Review	https://youtu.be/L9nN8nMOqr8  
7	Mod07 - Using Inheritance	https://youtu.be/DkBPVcl5POU  
7	Mod07 - Lab03 Review	https://youtu.be/A6ABtRQ-YXs  
7	Mod07 - Pycharm And Github	https://youtu.be/-S7fuwYqHp8  

Figure 1 – Mod07-Videos

Python Scripting

I started by using my script, *Assignment06.py*, from the previous assignment as the foundation for this project. The objective was to implement a set of data classes and objects. First, I created a Person class, which included private attributes for the first and last names, along with "getter" and "setter" properties and error handling. Next, I developed a child class called Student, which inherited the attributes of the Person class and introduced an additional attribute for the course name, complete with its own "getter" and "setter" properties.

After defining these two classes, I updated the methods in the FileProcessor and IO classes to work with objects instead of dictionaries. Finally, I modified the main body of the script to utilize objects, ensuring seamless integration of the new data class structure.

The functions (methods) are organized into four classes: Person, Student, FileProcessor, and IO. The FileProcessor class contains functions for reading data from and writing data to a .json file. The Person and Student classes define the data objects, including the student's first name, last name, and course name. The IO class manages user interactions, such as presenting menu options, gathering input data, displaying messages, and handling error notifications.

The script retains the two global variables defined in the Assignment 06 script: menu_choice, a string used to store the user's selected option, and students, a list used to hold the information of all registered students. These variables are initialized as an empty string and an empty list, respectively.

The script is structured into key sections: the header, imports, variable and constant definitions, class and function definitions, and the main body. Functions are grouped into classes based on their roles, ensuring alignment with the data processing and presentation layers for better organization and clarity.

```
# Header
# Import
# Global Data
# Data Layer
    Definition of data constants
    Definition of variable
# Class Definition
    Data Class
        Class Person
        Class Student
    Processing data layer
        Class FileProcessor
            Function read_data_from_file created
            Function write_data_to_file created
    Presentation data layer
        Class IO
            Function output_error_messages created
            Function output_menu
            Function input_menu_choice
            Function output_student_courses
            Function input_student_data

# Main body of the script
```

The script is displayed in separated figures, split across Figure 2 to Figure 6 according its correspondent sections.

Header, import, constants and variables script parts are presented in the Figure 2.

```

1  # ----- #
2  # Title: Assignment07
3  # Desc: This assignment demonstrates using data classes
4  # with structured error handling
5  # Change Log: (Who, When, What)
6  # Renato Felicio, 11/16/2024, Created Script
7  # Renato Felicio, 11/23/2024, Modified to work with data classes
8  # <Your Name Here>,<Date>,<Activity>
9  # ----- #
10
11 # Import section
12 import json
13 from typing import TextIO
14
15 # Global Data Layer
16
17 # Define the Data Constants
18 MENU: str = '''
19 ---- Course Registration Program ----
20 Select from the following menu:
21 1. Register a Student for a Course.
22 2. Show current data.
23 3. Save data to a file.
24 4. Exit the program.
25 -----
26 '''
27 # Define the Data Constants
28
29 FILE_NAME: str = "Enrollments.json" # Constant holds the name of the file with students data
30
31 # Define the Data Variables and constants
32 students: list=[] # This variable holds the information of all registered students.
33 menu_choice: str='' # It holds the user choice.
34

```

Figure 2 – Python Script Header Import and Variables

Data classes are presented in Figure 3.

```

35 # Class definition
36
37 # Data Class (This section includes person and student data classes)
38
39 class Person:
40     """
41     A class representing person data.
42
43     Properties:
44     student_first_name (str): The student's first name.
45     student_last_name (str): The student's last name.
46
47     ChangeLog:
48     ~ Renato Felicio, 11/23/2024: Created the class.
49     """
50     # Constructor for student's first and last name are defined below:
51     def __init__(self, student_first_name: str = '', student_last_name: str = ''): # parameters default to empty
52         self.student_first_name = student_first_name # set the attribute using the property to provide validation
53         self.student_last_name = student_last_name # set the attribute using the property to provide validation
54
55     # Getter and Setter Properties for first name are created below
56     @property
57     def student_first_name(self):
58         return self.__student_first_name.title()
59
60     @student_first_name.setter
61     def student_first_name(self, value: str):
62         if value.isalpha() or value == '': # checks if user input values are alphabetic characters or empty string
63             self.__student_first_name = value
64         else:
65             raise ValueError("The first name should not contain numbers.") # Custom error message
66
67     # Getter and Setter Properties for last name are created below
68     @property
69     def student_last_name(self):
70         return self.__student_last_name.title() # checks if user input values are alphabetic characters or empty string
71
72     @student_last_name.setter
73     def student_last_name(self, value: str):
74         return self.__student_last_name
75
76     # Method to extract the comma separate data is presented below, it overrides the __str__() method
77     def __str__(self):
78         return f'{self.student_first_name},{self.student_last_name}'
79
80
81 # Student class is defined below, and it inherited person class
82
83 class Student(Person):
84     """
85     A class representing student data.
86
87     Properties:
88     course_name (str): The course name for the student registration.
89
90     ChangeLog: (Who, When, What)
91     Renato Felicio, 11/23/2024, Created Class
92     """
93
94     # Constructor for student's course name is defined below:
95     def __init__(self, student_first_name: str = '', student_last_name: str = '', course_name: str = ''):
96         super().__init__(student_first_name=student_first_name, student_last_name=student_last_name)
97         self.course_name = course_name
98
99     # Getter and Setter Properties for course name are created below
100     @property
101     def course_name(self):
102         return self.__course_name
103
104     @course_name.setter
105     def course_name(self, value: str):
106         self.__course_name = value
107
108     # Method to extract the comma separate data is presented below, it overrides the __str__() method
109     def __str__(self):
110         return f'{self.student_first_name},{self.student_last_name},{self.course_name}'

```

Figure 3 – Python Script Data Layer

Processing data layer is presented in Figure 4.

```

137 # Processing Data Layer
138 class FileProcessor: 3 usages
139     """
140     A collection of processing layer functions that work with json files
141
142     Changelog: (Who, When, What)
143     Renato Felicio, 11/16/2024, Created Class
144     Renato Felicio, 11/26/2024, Modified Class to work with list of student objects
145     """
146     @staticmethod 1 usage
147     def read_data_from_file(file_name: str, student_data: list): # This function reads data from json file
148         """ This function reads data from a json file into a list of object rows
149
150         Notes:
151         - Data sent to the student_data parameter will be overwritten.
152
153         Changelog: (Who, When, What)
154         Renato Felicio, 11/16/2024, Created function
155         Renato Felicio, 11/23/2024, Modified function to work with student data in objects instead of dictionaries
156
157         :param file_name: string with the name of the file we are reading
158         :param student_data: List of object rows containing student data
159         :return: List of object rows filled with data
160         """
161         try:
162             file = TextIO = open(file_name, "r") # Open the JSON file for reading
163             json_data: List = json.load(file) # File data is loaded into a table of dictionaries
164             # Now 'json_data' contains the parsed JSON data as a Python List of dictionaries
165             for student in json_data: # This for will convert the student data into a table of objects
166                 student_object = Student(student_first_name=student['first_name'],
167                                         student_last_name=student['last_name'],
168                                         course_name=student['course_name'])
169                 student_data.append(student_object)
170
171             file.close()
172         except FileNotFoundError as e: # Handles error in case there is no initial file
173             IO.output_error_messages(message="Data file must exist before running this script!", error=e)
174             file = open(FILE_NAME, "a") # Creates an empty initial file, in case of file not found
175             IO.output_error_messages(message="Empty file was created!\n")
176         except Exception as e:
177             IO.output_error_messages(message="Error: There was a problem with reading the file.", error=e)
178         finally:
179             if file.closed == False:
180                 file.close()
181         return student_data
182
183     @staticmethod 1 usage
184     def write_data_to_file(file_name: str, student_data: list): # This function reads data from json file
185         """ This function writes data to a json file from a list of object rows
186
187         Changelog: (Who, When, What)
188         Renato Felicio, 11/16/2024, Created function
189         Renato Felicio, 11/23/2024, Modified function to work with students objects instead of dictionaries, and
190         added type exception error
191
192         :param file_name: string with the name of the file we are writing to
193         :param student_data: List of object rows containing student data
194         :return: None
195         """
196         try:
197             json_data: list = []
198             for student in student_data: # Converts List of Student objects to list of dictionary rows.
199                 student_json: dict \
200                     = {'first_name': student.student_first_name,
201                       'last_name': student.student_last_name,
202                       'course_name': student.course_name}
203                 json_data.append(student_json)
204
205             file: TextIO = open(file_name, "w")
206             json.dump(json_data, file) # It writes the list of dictionaries into a json file
207             file.close()
208         except TypeError as e:
209             IO.output_error_messages(message="Please check that the data is a valid JSON format.", error=e)
210         except Exception as e: # It handles any exception that could happen when writing the file
211             if file.closed == False:
212                 file.close()
213             IO.output_error_messages(message="There was a problem with writing to the file.", error=e)
214             IO.output_error_messages(message="Please check that the file is not open by another program.", error=e)
215             print()
216         # End of Processing Data Layer

```

Figure 4 – Python Script Processing Data Layer

Presentation data layer and main body are presented in Figure 5 and Figure 6, respectively.

```

137 # Presentation Data Layer
138 class ID: 3 usages
139     """A collection of presentation layer functions that manage user input and output
140
141     Changelog: (Who, When, What)
142     Renato Felicio, 11/16/2024, Created Class
143     """
144     @staticmethod 3 usages
145     def output_error_messages(message: str, error: Exception = None):
146         """ This function displays a custom error messages to the user
147
148         Changelog: (Who, When, What)
149         Renato Felicio, 11/16/2024, Created function
150
151         :return: None
152         """
153         print(message, end="\n\n")
154         if error is not None:
155             print("-- Technical Error Message --")
156             print(error, error.__doc__, type(error), sep='\n')
157
158     @staticmethod 1 usage
159     def output_menu(menu: str):
160         """ This function displays the menu of choices to the user
161
162         Changelog: (Who, When, What)
163         Renato Felicio, 11/16/2024, Created function
164
165         :return: None
166         """
167         print(menu)
168
169     @staticmethod 1 usage
170     def input_menu_choice():
171         """ This function gets a menu choice from the user
172
173         Changelog: (Who, When, What)
174         Renato Felicio, 11/16/2024, Created function
175
176         :return: string with the users choice
177         """
178         choice = "0"
179         try:
180             choice: str = input("What would you like to do: ")
181             if choice not in ("1", "2", "3", "4"): # Note these are strings
182                 raise Exception("Please, choose only 1, 2, 3, or 4")
183         except Exception as e:
184             IO.output_error_messages(e.__str__()) # Not passing e to avoid the technical message
185         return choice
186
187     @staticmethod 3 usages
188     def output_student_courses(student_data: list):
189         """ This function displays the current data to the user
190
191         Changelog: (Who, When, What)
192         Renato Felicio, 11/16/2024, Created function
193         Renato Felicio, 11/23/2024, Modified to work with objects
194
195         :return: None
196         """
197         # Process the data to create and display a custom message
198         print("--" * 50)
199         # student_data=
200         for student in student_data:
201             print(f"Student {student.student_first_name} "
202                   f"{student.student_last_name} is enrolled in {student.course_name}")
203             print("--" * 50)
204
205     @staticmethod 1 usage
206     def input_student_data(student_data: list):
207         """ This function gets data from the user and adds it to a list of object rows
208
209         Changelog: (Who, When, What)
210         Renato Felicio, 11/16/2024, Created function
211         Renato Felicio, 11/23/2024, Modified function to work with objects instead of dictionaries
212
213         :param student_data: List of dictionary rows containing student current data
214         :return: List of object rows filled with a new row of data
215         """
216         try:
217             # Input of data
218             student = Student()
219             student.student_first_name: str = input("Enter the student's first name: ") # Holds student first name input
220             student.student_last_name: str = input("Enter the student's last name: ") # Holds student last name input
221             student.course_name: str = input("Please enter the name of the course: ") # Holds course name input
222             student_data.append(student)
223
224             except ValueError as e:
225                 IO.output_error_messages(message="", error=e)
226             except Exception as e:
227                 IO.output_error_messages(message="Error: There was a problem with your entered data.", error=e)
228             return student_data
229         # End of Presentation Data Layer
230         # End of class Definition

```

Figure 5 – Python Script Presentation Data Layer

```

3291
3292     # Start of the main body of the script
3293
3294     # Read data from a file
3295     students:list = FileProcessor.read_data_from_file(file_name=FILE_NAME, student_data=students)
3296
3297     while (True): # Loops through the menu of options
3298         # Present the menu of choices
3299         IO.output_menu(MENU)
3300         menu_choice=IO.input_menu_choice()
3301
3302         # Input user data
3303         if menu_choice == "1": # This will not work if it is an integer!
3304             students=IO.input_student_data(students)
3305             continue
3306
3307         # Present the current data
3308         elif menu_choice == "2":
3309             # Process the data to create and display a custom message
3310             IO.output_student_courses(student_data=students)
3311             continue
3312
3313         # Save the data to a file and present to user
3314         elif menu_choice == "3":
3315             FileProcessor.write_data_to_file( file_name: FILE_NAME, student_data: students)
3316             IO.output_student_courses(students)
3317             continue
3318
3319         # Stop the loop
3320         elif menu_choice == "4":
3321             break # out of the loop
3322         else:
3323             print("Please only choose option 1, 2, or 3")
3324
3325     print("Program Ended")
3326
3327

```

Figure 6 – Python Script Main Body

Python Script Testing

I executed the Python script using PyCharm (see Figure 8) and also tested it in the Windows Command Prompt (see Figure 9), verifying that the script performed as expected in both environments. Additionally, I confirmed that the Enrollments.json file was updated correctly and contained the expected output (see Figure 10). Following the assignment instructions, I used a initial Enrollments.json. The original content of this file is shown in Figure 7.

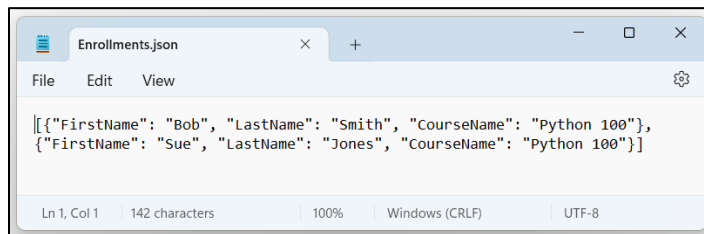


Figure 7 – Initial Enrollment File Python



Figure 8 – Python Script PyCharm Run

```
Command Prompt
D:\UW\IT FDN 110 A\Module07-1\Module07\Assignment\Assignment07>python Assignment07.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.
-----

What would you like to do: 1
Enter the student's first name: Michael
Enter the student's last name: Scott
Please enter the name of the course: Python 100

---- 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.
-----

What would you like to do: 1
Enter the student's first name: Dwight
Enter the student's last name: Schrute
Please enter the name of the course: Python 100

---- 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.
-----

What would you like to do: 2
-----
Student Bob Smith is enrolled in Python 100
Student Sue Jones is enrolled in Python 100
Student Michael Scott is enrolled in Python 100
Student Dwight Schrute is enrolled in Python 100
-----

---- 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.
-----

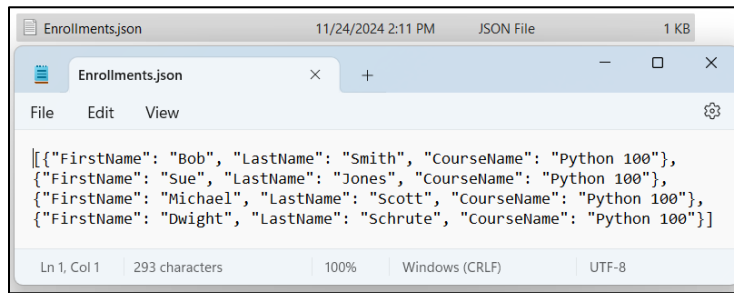
What would you like to do: 3
-----
Student Bob Smith is enrolled in Python 100
Student Sue Jones is enrolled in Python 100
Student Michael Scott is enrolled in Python 100
Student Dwight Schrute is enrolled in Python 100
-----

---- 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.
-----

What would you like to do: 4
Program Ended
```

Figure 9 – Python Script Windows Command Prompt Run

Figure 10 shows that the Enrollments.json file was updated correctly with the two new student data.



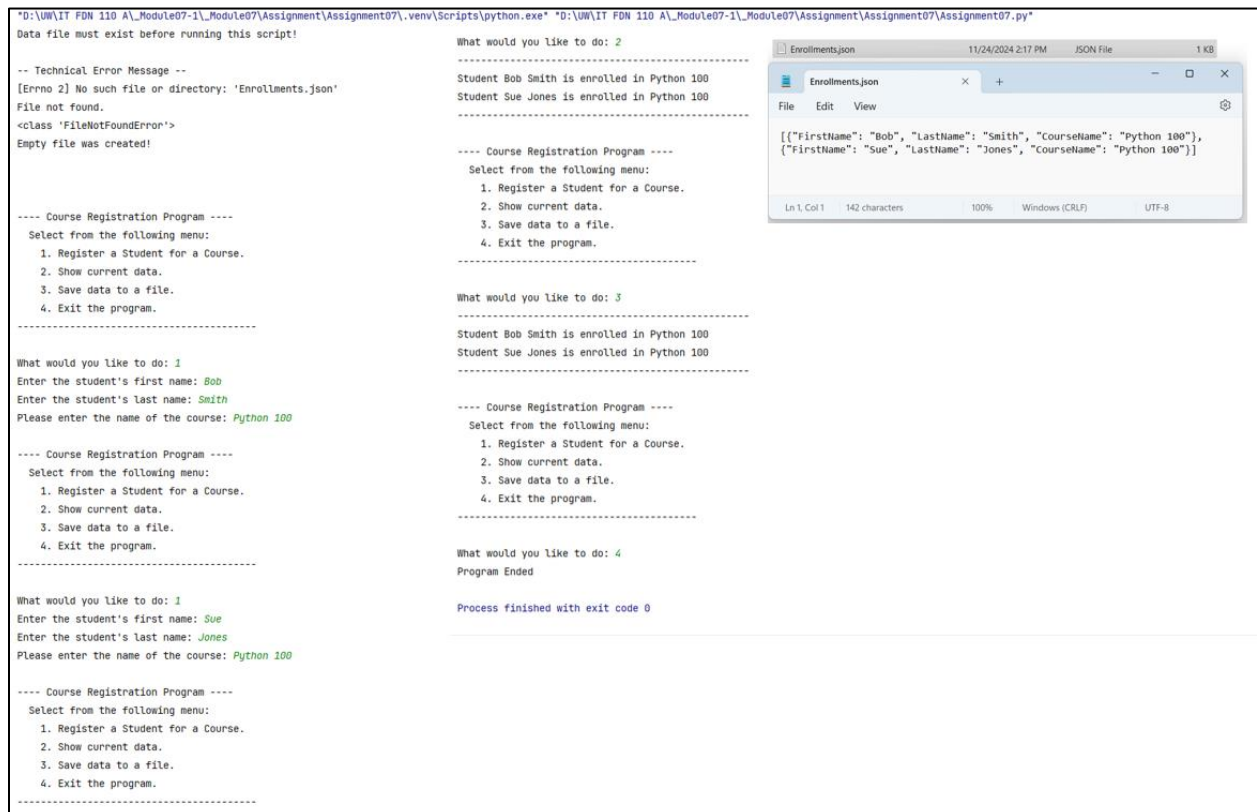
```
Enrollments.json 11/24/2024 2:11 PM JSON File 1 KB
Enrollments.json
File Edit View
[{"FirstName": "Bob", "LastName": "Smith", "CourseName": "Python 100"},
{"FirstName": "Sue", "LastName": "Jones", "CourseName": "Python 100"},
{"FirstName": "Michael", "LastName": "Scott", "CourseName": "Python 100"},
{"FirstName": "Dwight", "LastName": "Schrute", "CourseName": "Python 100"}]
Ln 1, Col 1 293 characters 100% Windows (CRLF) UTF-8
```

Figure 10 – Output JSON File Content

Python Script Error Handling Test

After testing the script with valid user inputs using a pre-existing Enrollments.json file, I evaluated its error-handling capabilities for scenarios such as a "file not found" exception and invalid first and last name inputs. All tests were conducted using PyCharm.

The Figure 11 below shows the FileNotFoundError handling and the Enrolments.json being updated correctly after menu choice 3 is selected.



```
"D:\UW\IT_FDN_110_A\Module07-1\Module07\Assignment\Assignment07\.venv\Scripts\python.exe" "D:\UW\IT_FDN_110_A\Module07-1\Module07\Assignment\Assignment07\Assignment07.py"
Data file must exist before running this script!

-- Technical Error Message --
[Errno 2] No such file or directory: 'Enrollments.json'
File not found.
<class 'FileNotFoundError'>
Empty file was created!

---- 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.

What would you like to do: 1
Enter the student's first name: Bob
Enter the student's last name: Smith
Please enter the name of the course: Python 100

---- 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.

What would you like to do: 1
Enter the student's first name: Sue
Enter the student's last name: Jones
Please enter the name of the course: Python 100

---- 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.

What would you like to do: 2
Student Bob Smith is enrolled in Python 100
Student Sue Jones is enrolled in Python 100

---- 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.

What would you like to do: 3
Program Ended

Process finished with exit code 0

Enrollments.json 11/24/2024 2:17 PM JSON File 1 KB
Enrollments.json
File Edit View
[{"FirstName": "Bob", "LastName": "Smith", "CourseName": "Python 100"},
{"FirstName": "Sue", "LastName": "Jones", "CourseName": "Python 100"}]
Ln 1, Col 1 142 characters 100% Windows (CRLF) UTF-8
```

Figure 11 – FileNotFoundError Handling

```
"D:\UWAIT FDN 110 A\Module07-1\Module07\Assignment07\envScripts\python.exe" "D:\UWAIT FDN 110 A\Module07-1\Module07\Assignment07\Assignment07.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.

-----

What would you like to do: 1
Enter the student's first name: 1

-- 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.

-----

What would you like to do: 1
Enter the student's first name: Michael
Enter the student's last name: Scott
Please enter the name of the course: Python 100

---- 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.

-----

What would you like to do: 1
Enter the student's first name: Dwight
Enter the student's last name: 2

-- Technical Error Message --
The last 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.

-----

What would you like to do: 1
Enter the student's first name: Dwight
Enter the student's last name: Schrute
Please enter the name of the course: Python 100

---- 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.

-----

What would you like to do: 2
Student Bob Smith is enrolled in Python 100
Student Sue Jones is enrolled in Python 100
Student Michael Scott is enrolled in Python 100
Student Dwight Schrute is enrolled in Python 100

-----

---- 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.

-----

What would you like to do: 3
Student Bob Smith is enrolled in Python 100
Student Sue Jones is enrolled in Python 100
Student Michael Scott is enrolled in Python 100
Student Dwight Schrute is enrolled in Python 100

-----

---- 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.

-----

What would you like to do: 4
Program Ended

Process finished with exit code 0
```

GitHub

<https://github.com/rfnaval/IntroToProg-Python-Mod07.git>

Summary

This assignment built upon the previous one, providing an opportunity to learn and practice key Python concepts such as data classes, their private attributes, constructors, “self” keyword, “getter” and “setter” properties, the inheritance concept, and overriding methods. It was very interesting to work with tables (list of lists) containing objects instead of dictionaries, and to modify the FileProcessor and IO classes, along with the script main body to work with objects as well.

References

1. Module 07 - Classes and Objects, Randal Root, January 02, 2024.
2. External site: [Python OOP Tutorial 1: Classes and Instances](#), Corey Schafer.