Activity 2 - Introduction to IntelliJ: Coding the palindrome

In this activity we will walk through the basic steps for creating a new project in IntelliJ.

Starting up

- Create a directory for your CS321 work.

- Start the IntelliJ application (under Development).

- The license server is http://alpha.hanover.edu.

- Follow through the startup process.

- Select *File -> New -> Project*; follow the Next buttons until you can choose a project name and location. Navigate to the CS321 directory you created. Call the project "WordPalindrome".

- Click Finish.

You are now looking at the main IntelliJ window. The left side has what we call the **project structure**.

Creating your first class file

- Expand the arrow next to WordPalindrome in the project structure. You should see a blue source folder (src). You'll also see two other items there, the WordPalindrome.iml file and the .idea folder. Both of these hold IntelliJ's information about your project.

- Right-click on the src folder to bring up the **context menu**. Choose *New -> Java Class* and name your class PalindromeChecker. A new tab will open with the newly-created class file, PalindromeChecker.java, containing a basic class definition.

- Starting with the import java.util.Scanner; line, type in the code from the handout we discussed earlier. One person can be reading out while the other one is typing. Switch halfway through.

Testing it out

- Save your file if it is not saved already.

- Right-click the class name and choose "Run". This will bring up a "Run" window at the bottom.

- If there were errors during compilation, you will instead see them under a Messages tab. Fix your errors and run again.

- Click in the "Run" window to shift your focus there.

- You should now be able to type in a phrase and press Enter, and the program will tell you if it is a word palindrome or not.

- To end, click the red Stop button on the left.