Object Oriented Programming

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chapter 9

Initializing objects with constructors

- Initializing objects with constructors
- Placing a class in a separate file for reusability

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- Exercise

Initializing objects with constructors

Object Oriented Programming

Definition. A constructor is a special member function that must be defined with the same name as the class.

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Object Oriented Programming

Definition. A constructor is a special member function that must be defined with the same name as the class.

—— Constructors can not return values, so they can not specify a return type (not even <u>void</u>).

Fact.

- C++ requires a constructor call (implicitly) for each object is created.
- If a class does not explicitly include a constructor, the compiler provides a default constructor (with no parameters).

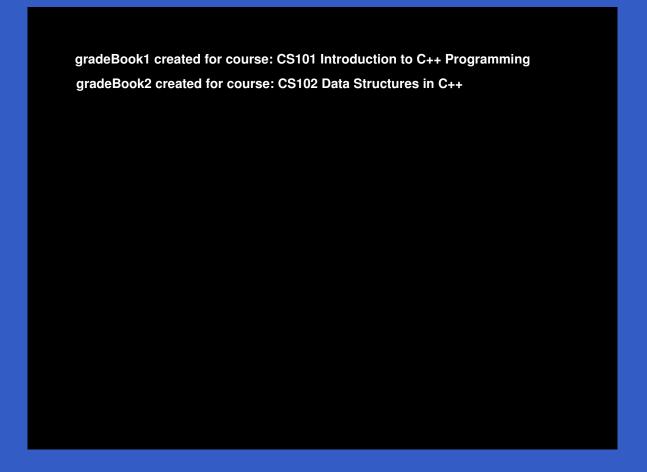
Example: class GradeBook

```
GradeBook class
              # include <iostream>
             # include <string>
              using namespace std;
              class GradeBook
              public:
                   GradeBook (string name)
Constructor
                       setCourseName ( name );
                                                       //courseName = name?
                   void setCourseName( string name )
                      courseName = name;
get function
                   string getCourseName()
                      return courseName;
set function
                   void displayMessage( )
                        cout << "Welcome to the grade book for \n"
 general
                           << getCourseName () << "!" << endl;
              private:
                   string courseName;
```

Example: class GradeBook

```
main function
int main()
   GradeBook gradeBook1( "CS101 Introduction to C++ Programming");
   GradeBook gradeBook2( "CS102 Data Structures in C++");
   cout << "gradebook1 created for course: "</pre>
      << gradeBook1.getCourseName( );
   cout << endl;
   cout << "gradebook2 created for course: "</pre>
      << gradeBook2.getCourseName( );
    return 0;
```

Output: class GradeBook



Default constructor

Definition. Any constructor that takes no arguments is called a default constructor.

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Fact. There are two ways to provide a default constructor

- The compiler implicitly creates a default constructor in a class that does not define a constructor.
- We explicitly define a constructor that takes no argument.

Example: class Cat

```
Cat class
               # include <iostream>
               using namespace std;
               class Cat
               public:
                     Cat (int initialAge)
Constructor
                                                        //itsAge = initialAge?
                        setItsAge ( initialAge );
                     void setItsAge (int age)
                         itsAge = age;
get function
                     int getItsAge()
set function
                         return itsAge;
                     void Meow( )
                         cout << "Meow.\n";
 general
                private:
                     int itsAge;
```

Output: class Cat

```
main function
int main()
   Cat Frisky (5);
   Frisky.Meow();
    cout << "Frisky is a cat who is ";</pre>
    cout << Frisky.getItsAge( ) << " years old.\n";</pre>
    Frisky.Meow();
    Frisky.setItsAge (5);
    cout << "Now Frisky is ";</pre>
    cout << Frisky.getItsAge( ) << " years old.\n";</pre>
    return 0;
```

Separating Interface from Implementation

Separating file for reusability

Fact. One of the benefits of creating class definitions is that, when packaged properly, our classes can be reused by programmers - potentially worldwide.

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Example. We can reuse C++ Standard Library type string in any C++ program just by including the header file <string>.

Example: class GradeBook II

```
GradeBook.h file
# include <iostream>
# include <string>
using namespace std;
class GradeBook
public:
     GradeBook (string name)
        setCourseName ( name );
     void setCourseName( string name )
        courseName = name;
     string getCourseName( )
        return courseName;
     void displayMessage( )
          cout << "Welcome to the grade book for \n"
             << getCourseName () << "!" << endl;
private:
     string courseName;
```

Example: class GradeBook II

```
.cpp Test Program
#include <iostream>
#include "GradeBook.h"
                           //why not "#include <GradeBook.h>"?
using namespace std;
int main ()
  GradeBook gradeBook1( "CS101 Introduction to C++ Programming");
  GradeBook gradeBook2( "CS102 Data Structures in C++");
  cout << "gradebook1 created for course:"</pre>
     << gradeBook1.getCourseName( );
   cout << endl;
  cout << "gradebook2 created for course: "
     << gradeBook2.getCourseName( );
   return 0;
```

How header files are located?

- When the preprocessor encounters a header file name in quotes (" "), it attempts to locate the header file in the same directory as the file in which the #include directive appears. If the preprocessor cannot find the header file in that directory, it searches for it in the same location(s) as the C++ Standard Library header files.

How header files are located?

- When the preprocessor encounters a header file name in quotes (" "), it attempts to locate the header file in the same directory as the file in which the #include directive appears. If the preprocessor cannot find the header file in that directory, it searches for it in the same location(s) as the C++ Standard Library header files.
- When the preprocessor encounters a header file name in angle brackets(< >), it assumes that the header file is part of the C++ Standard Library and does not look in the directory of the program that is being processed.

Example: class GradeBook III

```
GradeBook.h file
           # include <iostream>
          # include <string>
           using namespace std;

⋆class GradeBook

           public:
                                             //constructor initializes course name
               GradeBook ( string name );
               void setCourseName( string name ); //function to set the course name
Interface
                                              //function to get the course name
                string getCourseName();
                void displayMessage( );
                                              //display a welcome message
           private:
                string courseName;
          \};
           GradeBook::GradeBook ( string name )
              setCourseName ( name );
                                                                     implementation
```

Example: class GradeBook III

```
GradeBook.h file
void GradeBook::setCourseName( string name )
      courseName = name;
string GradeBook::getCourseName()
                                                    implementation
      return courseName;
void GradeBook::displayMessage( )
    cout << "Welcome to the grade book for \n"
       << getCourseName () << "!" << endl;
```

Exercise

Exercise

Exercise 1. Create a class called *Employee* that includes three pieces of information as data members — a first name (type string), a last name (type string) and monthly salary (type int). Your class should have a constructor that initializes the three data members. Provide a set function and *get* function for each data member. If the monthly salary is not positive, set it to 0. Write a test program that demonstrates class Employee's capabilities. Create two Employee objects and display each object's yearly salary. Then give each *Employee* a 10 percent raise and display each Employee's yearly salary again.

Homework:

- Read Sec. 9.5 9.6
- Exercise 1 in this slide