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# CSE 142

## Class Implementation in Java

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F-1

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## Outline for Today

- Implementing classes in Java
- Instance variables – properties
- Value-returning methods for queries
- Void methods for commands
- Return statement
- Assignment statement and arithmetic expressions
- Method parameters
- Constructors

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## Specification vs Implementation - Review

- **Specification** – external view of an object/class
  - View of the class as seen by *client* code (i.e., other code that creates or uses instances – objects – of this class)
  - Class name and method names, parameters, and descriptions
- **Implementation** – internal details private to the class
  - Instance variables – properties
  - Methods – collections of statements (code) that define how an object carries out its responsibilities (queries and commands)

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F-3

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## Instance Variables

- **Example in class HuskyCard**

```
private String name;           // student name
private int ID;                // student ID number
private int balance;          // current balance in pennies
```

- These are instance variable declarations

```
private <type> <identifier>
```

- **private** – part of the implementation, not visible outside
- **<type>** - the type of the variable
- **<identifier>** - a (hopefully meaningful) name for the variable
- Each object of class HuskyCard will have its own set of instance variables

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## Constructors

- Whenever an object (instance of a class) is created, a *constructor* is executed
  - Idea: The constructor implementation should initialize the state of the object to some appropriate value(s)
- Like a command but named the same as the class
- Specification for HuskyCard

```
/** Construct a new HuskyCard with an initial balance of 0
 * @param studentName the student's name
 * @param IDNumber the student's ID Number */
public HuskyCard(String studentName, int IDNumber) { ... }
```

  - This constructor has two *parameters* – *studentName* and *IDNumber*

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## Constructor Implementation

- Idea: use parameter values as initial values for new object's state

```
/** Construct a new HuskyCard with an initial balance of 0
 * @param studentName the student's name
 * @param IDNumber the student's ID Number */
public HuskyCard(String studentName, int IDNumber) {
    name = studentName;
    ID = IDNumber;
    balance = 0;
}
```

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## Assignment Statement

- First example of a *statement*
- Syntax

```
variable = expression ;
```
- Meaning
  - First, evaluate the *expression* (formula) to get a value
  - Second, bind that value to the *variable* whose name appears on the left
  - These two steps are done in that order, not simultaneously
  - Question: what does this mean (or do)?

```
count = count + 1;
```

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## Arithmetic Expressions

- Basic components
  - Literals – 17, 3.0, 1.023e23
  - Variable names – value is the current value of the variable
- Operators (see book for all the details)
  - +, -, \*, /, % (remainder)
    - Gotchas: for ints,  $x/y$  yields integer part, dropping any fraction;  $x\%y$  gives the remainder
  - Operators have the usual *precedence*
    - For example,  $a + b * c$  is understood to mean  $a + (b * c)$
  - Binary operators (ones that have two components) are *left associative*:  
 $a * b / c$  means  $(a * b) / c$ 
    - Use parentheses where needed to override or clarify:  $a * (b / c)$
  - Mixing ints and doubles is normally ok – the int is converted to a double and the calculation is done as a double

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## Implementing Methods for Simple Queries

- Example in class HuskyCard

```
/** return the name associated with this HuskyCard
 * @return this HuskyCard owner's name */
public String getName() {
    return name;
}
```

- When this method is executed, it replies with the value of the instance variable name

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## Test

- Let's try it out!
- Step 1: click the "compile" button to translate the code from text to something the Java machine can execute
- Step 2: enter commands in DrJava's interactions window to create an object and call one of its methods

```
HuskyCard card = new HuskyCard("E. Fudd", 1020304);
card.getName()
```

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## More About Value-Returning (Query) Methods

- Form

```
/** Comment specifying the method */
public <result type> <identifier> () {
    list of statements
}
```

- Details

- **public** – this method is part of the public specification of the class (methods can also be private; we'll see examples eventually)
- **<result type>** – the type of the value returned by this query
- **<identifier>** – the (hopefully meaningful) name of this method  
This is the name of the query that the method implements
- **list of statements** – the *body* of the method  
These make up the algorithm that the method executes when it is called

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F-11

## Return Statement

- Second example of a statement

```
return expression;
```

- Meaning

- Evaluate the expression to get a value  
In getName, the expression is just the name of the instance variable name  
For a variable, evaluation means get its current value
- Then, finish execution of this method, replying with the value of the expression
- A value-returning method must execute a return statement to finish execution and specify the returned value

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## Exercise – Another Query

- Complete the query in class HuskyCard

```
/** Return the current balance in this HuskyCard
 * @return the current balance in pennies. */
public int getBalance() {
```

```
}
```

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F-13

## Implementing Methods for Simple Commands

- Example in class HuskyCard

```
/** Set this HuskyCard's name to newName */
public void setName(String newName) {
    name = newName;
}
```

- When this method is executed, it changes the name instance variable; it does not return a value

- Executed only for its effect

- Try it out!

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F-14

## More About Command Methods

- Form

```
/** Comment specifying the method */
public void <identifier> (parameters) {
    list of statements
}
```

- Details

- public, <identifier>, and list of statements – same as for queries
- void – Indicates that this is a command that doesn't return a value (as opposed to the result type of a query)  
(We can also have commands that return a result – in that case replace void with the type of the result)
- parameters – information supplied with command message  
(We can also have commands with no parameters if that makes sense)

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F-15

## Exercise – Another Simple Command

- Complete the command in class HuskyCard

```
/** Set this HuskyCard's balance to newBalance */
public void setBalance(int newBalance) {
```

```
}
```

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F-16

## Deposit – Another Command

- In class HuskyCard

```
/** Deposit given amount in this HuskyCard */
public void deposit(double amount) {
    balance = balance + amount;
}
```

- Meaning is clear since expression in assignment statement is evaluated before balance is changed

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F-17

## Transfer – Objects as Parameters

- From class HuskyCard

```
/** Transfer the given amount from otherCard to this HuskyCard */
public void transfer(int amount, HuskyCard otherCard) {
    balance = balance + amount;
    otherAccount.withdraw(amount);
}
```

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F-18

## toString()

- Most classes should have a toString() function that returns a string with whatever state information about the object seems helpful

- Useful in debugging, other contexts

```
/** Return a string representation of this HuskyCard
 * @return a string identifying this as a HuskyCard with name, id, balance */
public String toString() {
    return "HuskyCard[name = " + name + ", id = " + id + ", balance = " +
        balance + "];"
```

- + applied to strings returns a string that has copies of the original strings pasted together

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F-19

## Summary

- Implementation of classes

- Instance variables – type plus name
- Methods – statements that make up the body of each method

- Statements

- return
- Assignment & arithmetic expressions

- Creating objects and calling methods

- Coming attractions

- More details about objects, method calls, and variables
- More complex statements – conditionals and loops

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F-20