CMSC201
Computer Science I for Majors
Lecture 18 – Classes and Modules
(Continued, Part 3)

Prof. Katherine Gibson
Last Class We Covered

• Constructors
• Difference between
  – Data attributes
  – Class attributes
• Special built-in methods and attributes
• Creating and using a class
Any Questions from Last Time?
Today’s Objectives

• To harness the power of inheritance
  – To learn about subclasses and superclasses
  – To be able to redefine a method
  – To be able to extend a method
    • (Including `__init__`)
• To correctly use public and private in classes
• To understand name mangling and its purpose
Find the Errors in the Code Below

def student:
    def init(self, n, a, g):
        name = n
        age = a
        gpa = g
    def updateGPA(newGPA):
        gpa = newGPA

def main():
    val = new student("Alex", 21, 4.0)
    test = new student("Test", 18, 0)
    updateGPA(test, 3.26)

main()
Find the Errors in the Code Below

def student:
    def init(self, n, a, g):
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def main():
    val = new student("Alex", 21, 4.0)
    test = new student("Test", 18, 0)
    updateGPA(test, 3.26)

main()
Find the Errors in the Code Below

class student:
    def __init__(self, name, age, gpa):
        self.name = name
        self.age = age
        self.gpa = gpa
    def updateGPA(self, newGPA):
        self.gpa = newGPA

def main():
    val = student("Alex", 21, 4.0)
    test = student("Test", 18, 0)
    test.updateGPA(3.26)

main()
Inheritance
Inheritance

• *Inheritance* is when one class (the “child” class) is based upon another class (the “parent” class)

• The child class *inherits* most or all of its features from the parent class it is based on

• It is a very powerful tool available to you with Object-Oriented Programming
Inheritance Example

• For example: computer science students are a specific type of student
• They share attributes with every other student
• We can use inheritance to use those already defined attributes and methods of students for our computer science students
Inheritance Vocabulary

• The class that is inherited from is called the
  — Parent class
  — Ancestor
  — Superclass
• The class that does the inheriting is called a
  — Child class
  — Descendant
  — Subclass
Inheritance Code

• To create a child class, put the name of the parent class in parentheses when you initially define the class

    class cmuscStudent(student):

• Now the child class cmuscStudent has the properties and functions available to the parent class student
Extending a Class

• We may also say that the child class is extending the functionality of the parent class

• Child class inherits all of the methods and data attributes of the parent class
  – Also has its own methods and data attributes
  – We can even redefine parent methods!
Redefining Methods
Redefining Methods

• **Redefining** a method is when a child class implements its own version of that method

• To redefine a method, include a new method definition — **with the same name** as the parent class’s method — in the child class
  — Now child objects will use the new method
Redefining Example

• Here, we have an animal class as the parent and a dog class as the child

class animal:
    # rest of class definition
    def speak(self):
        print("\"" + self.species + " noise\""")

class dog(animal):
    def speak(self):
        print("Woof woof bark!")
Extending Methods

• Instead of completely overwriting a method, we can instead extend it for the child class

• When might we want to do this?
  – Constructor (__init__)
  – Print function (__repr__)
  – When else?
Extending a Method

• Want to execute both the original method in the parent class and some new code in the child class
  – To do this, explicitly call the parent’s version

• One major thing: you must pass in the self variable when you call a parent method
  – This is the only time you should do this!
Extending Example

• Now we have a cat class as the child, with an additional data attribute `sleepsAllDay`

class animal:
    def __init__(self, name, species):
        self.name = name
        self.species = species

class cat(animal):
    def __init__(self, name, sleepsAllDay):
        animal.__init__(self, name, "cat")
        self.sleepsAllDay = sleepsAllDay
Student Inheritance Example

class student:
    """A class representing a student."""

def __init__(self, name, age):
    self.full_name = name
    self.age = age

def getAge(self):
    return self.age

class cmscStudent (student):
    """A class extending student class to CMSC students."""

def __init__(self, name, age, section):
    # call __init__ for student
    student.__init__(self, name, age)
    self.section_num = section

def getAge(self):
    # redefines getAge method entirely
    print("Age: " + str(self.age))
LIVECODING!!!
Any Other Questions?
Announcements

• Lab has been cancelled this week!
  – Work on your project instead

• Project 1 is out
  – Due by Tuesday, November 17th at 8:59:59 PM
  – Do NOT procrastinate!

• Next Class: Recursion