

CLASSES (OF THE PROGRAMMING KIND)



CS 0007
Introduction to
Computer Programming

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- Different style of programming
 - We have been using procedural
 - **Procedural programming**: A program is split into multiple procedures that are executed in succession to perform a task.
 - Data is modified by each function and passed to the next.
- Object-Oriented Programming
 - Focused on Objects (O.o)
 - **Object**: Entity that contains both data (attributes) and procedures (methods).
 - **Methods**: Functions (this is where it you may call them methods)
 - **Encapsulation**: Combine data and code in self-contained units
 - **Data Hiding**: Objects can hide data. Expose methods to access the attributes.
 - **Abstraction**: Objects expose an interface, not the implementation details.

- **Classes are the blueprint of an object!**
 - Like building a house
 - Specifies what the object is describing
 - Used as a template to allocate memory
 - Defines the data and procedures that are associated with the object
- **Analogies:**
 - Cookie cutter: The class cuts the dough into the object
 - House: The class is the blueprint, the object is the house
- **In both:**
 - One class can be used to instantiate multiple objects 😊

Example

- **Alarm clock**
 - What are the attributes and methods for the clock?

Example

- **Alarm clock**
 - What are the attributes and methods for the clock?
- **Attributes:**
 - Hour (0-23)
 - Minute (0-59)
 - Second (0-59)
 - Alarm hour (0-23)
 - Alarm minute (0-59)
 - Alarm on? (false-true)

Example

- **Alarm clock**
 - What are the attributes and methods for the clock?
- **Public methods → Can be accessed by the user**
 - Set time
 - Set alarm time
 - Set alarm
 - Reset alarm
- **Private methods → Used internally**
 - Increment second
 - Increment minute
 - Increment hour
 - Sound alarm

Anatomy of a Class

- **Access specifier**
 - Should be public to be used in other files
 - In this course they will all be public
- **Naming convention says class name should start with a capital letter!**
- **Attributes and methods**
 - Also have access specifiers:
 - private → Cannot be accessed from the outside
 - public → Can be accessed from the outside
 - protected → Ignoring for now 😊
 - No static here:
 - static → Belong to the blueprint
 - Non static → Belong to the instance

Access
specifier

Keyword
class

Name of
the class

```
public class Fraction {  
    private int x;  
    public int getX(){  
        return x;  
    }  
}
```