

Objectives

- Designing our own classes
 - Representing attributes/data
 - What functionality to provide
- Using our defined classes

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Where We Are

- With what you now know (OO programming)
 - Opens up the possibilities for what you kinds of programs you can write
 - Just about anything computational is possible
- Example: Car
 - Data to model for a Car?
 - API for a Car?

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Review: Classes and Objects

- Car class
- Each car has these **attributes**:
 - Make
 - Model
 - Year
 - Transmission
 - Exterior color

Cars all have these attributes, different values for the attributes
- Methods
 - getYear()
 - setGear()
 - ...

Each car is an **instance** of the Car class

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Review: Classes and Objects

```
c1 = Card(14, "spades")
c2 = Card(13, "hearts")
```

Object c1 of type Card

Object c2 of type Card

c1 and c2 are instances of the Card class

```
_rank = 14
_suit = "spades"
```

```
_rank = 13
_suit = "hearts"
```

Instance variables, attributes, or fields

Instance variables: named beginning with `_`

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Card Class (Incomplete)

```
class Card:
    """ A class to represent a standard playing card.
    The ranks are ints: 2-10 for numbered cards, 11=Jack,
    12=Queen, 13=King, 14=Ace.
    The suits are strings: 'clubs', 'spades', 'hearts',
    'diamonds'. """
    def __init__(self, rank, suit):
        """Constructor for class Card takes int rank and
        string suit."""
        self._rank = rank
        self._suit = suit
    def getRank(self):
        """Returns the card's rank."""
        return self._rank
    def getSuit(self):
        """Returns the card's suit."""
        return self._suit
```

Doc String

Methods are like functions defined in a class

Methods

card.py

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Defining the Constructor

- `__init__` method is like the **constructor**
- In constructor, define **instance variables**
 - Data contained in every object
 - Also called **attributes** or **fields**
- Constructor **never returns** anything
First parameter of every method is `self`
- pointer to the object that method acts on

```
def __init__(self, rank, suit):
    """Constructor for class Card takes int rank
    and string suit."""
    self._rank = rank
    self._suit = suit
```

Instance variables

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Using the Constructor

```
def __init__(self, rank, suit):
```

- As defined, constructor is called using **Card(<rank>, <suit>)**
 - Do not *pass* anything for the **self** parameter
 - Python handles for us, passing the parameter automatically
- Example:
 - card = Card(2, "hearts")**
 - Creates a 2 of Hearts card
 - Python passes **card** as **self** for us

```
Object card  
of type Card  
_rank = 2  
_suit = "hearts"
```

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Accessor Methods

- Need to be able to get information about the object

- Have **self** parameter
- Return data/information

```
def getRank(self):  
    "Returns the card's rank."  
    return self._rank  
  
def getSuit(self):  
    "Returns the card's suit."  
    return self._suit
```

- These methods will get called as **card.getRank()** and **card.getSuit()**
 - Python plugs **card** in for **self**

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Another Special Method: `__str__`

- Returns a **string** that describes the object
- Whenever you **print** an object, Python checks if the object's **__str__** method is defined
 - Prints result of calling **__str__** method
- str(<object>)** also calls **__str__** method

```
def __str__(self):  
    """Returns a string  
    describing the card as  
    'rank of suit'."""  
    result = ""  
    if self._rank == 11:  
        result += "Jack"  
    elif self._rank == 12:  
        result += "Queen"  
    elif self._rank == 13:  
        result += "King"  
    elif self._rank == 14:  
        result += "Ace"  
    else:  
        result += str(self._rank)  
    result += " of " + self._suit  
    return result
```

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Using the Card Class

Invokes the **__str__** method

```
def main():  
    c1 = Card(14, "spades")  
    print(c1)  
    c2 = Card(13, "hearts")  
    print(c2)
```

Displays:

Ace of spades
King of hearts

```
Object c1 of  
type Card  
_rank = 14  
_suit = "spades"
```

```
Object c2 of  
type Card  
_rank = 13  
_suit = "hearts"
```

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Creating a Deck Class (Partial)

- List of Card objects

```
from card import *  
  
class Deck:  
    def __init__(self):  
        self._listOfCards = []  
        for suit in ["clubs", "hearts", "diamonds", "spades"]:  
            for rank in range(2,15):  
                self._listOfCards.append(Card(rank, suit))  
  
    def __str__(self):  
        deckRep = ""  
        for c in self._listOfCards:  
            deckRep += str(c) + "\n"  
        return deckRep
```

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Deck Class

- What does the Deck API look like so far?

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Deck API

- Deck() Constructor
- __str__()

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Deck API

- What additional methods should our Deck class provide?
- What do the method headers look like?
 - Deck's API
- What should they return?
- How do we implement them?

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Deck API

- Deck() ← Constructor
- shuffle()
- draw()
- deal(num_cards)
- numRemaining()
- isEmpty()
- __str__()

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Algorithm for Creating Classes

1. Identify need for a class
2. Identify state or attributes of a class/an object in that class
 - Write the constructor (`__init__`) and `__str__` methods
3. Identify methods the class should provide
 - How will a user call those methods (parameters, return values)?
 - Develop API
 - Implement methods

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Review: Object-Oriented Programming

- Why do we want to define classes/new data types?
- What is the keyword to create a new class?
- How do you define a method?
 - What parameter is needed in every method?
- How do you create a new object of a given class?
 - What method does this call?
- How do we access instance variables in other methods?

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Looking Ahead

- Lab 9: Analysis of student names at W&L
- Broader Issue

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