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Research

Teaching



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Python 语 言 程 序 设 计

Python Programming

2025/26



Session 07

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Content

Brain Activation + Review

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Brain Activation

Greeting Function



- Write a simple function that prints a greeting.

```
def greet_user(name):  
    print(f"Hello, {name}!")
```



Dictionary Review

- Make a small dictionary representing a car.
- Print the make and model in one line.

```
car = {"make": "Toyota", "model": "Corolla", "year": 2020}
```



Looping Through a Dictionary

- Loop through all key-value pairs in your car dictionary.

```
for key, value in car.items():
    print(key, value)
```

Modify a Dictionary

- Add a new key and value.

```
car["color"] = "blue"  
print(car)
```



Review

What Is a Function?

- A function is a named block of code that performs one task.
- We use it to:
 - Reuse code instead of writing the same thing many times.
 - Keep programs organized and readable.
- Example idea: a machine that does one job when you press its button.

machine()



Defining a Function



- Basic syntax:

```
def greet_user():  
    print("Hello!")
```

- **def** introduces a function.
- The name (**greet_user**) describes its job.
- The colon starts an indented block (function body).
- To run it: you must call it. Before that, nothing happens.

```
greet_user()
```

Adding a Parameter



- Functions can accept input values.

```
def greet_user(name):  
    print("Hello, ", name)  
  
greet_user("Lina")  
greet_user("Maxi")
```

Arguments vs Parameters



- Parameter: variable name inside the function definition.
- Argument: actual value passed when calling the function.
- Example:

```
def greet_user(name): #name = Parameter
    print("Hello, ", name)

greet_user("Lina")      # "Lina" = Argument
```

Functions with Multiple Parameters



- You can pass more than one piece of information. Functions can be designed with any number of parameters.

```
def describe_pet(animal, name):  
    print("I have a ", animal, " named ", name)  
  
describe_pet("dog", "Max")
```

Order matters!



- The arguments must be provided in the same order as the function definition expects them.

```
describe_pet("dog", "Max")
describe_pet("Max", "dog")
```

```
I have a dog named Max
I have a Max named dog
```

Positional Arguments



- The arguments we have used so far are called positional arguments.

```
def describe_pet(animal, name):  
    print("I have a ", animal, " named ", name)  
  
describe_pet("dog", "Max")
```

- The order is absolute!

Keyword Arguments



- The alternative is to use keywords (argument names) when calling the function.

```
def describe_pet(animal, name):  
    print("I have a ", animal, " named ",name)
```

```
describe_pet(animal="dog", name="Max")  
describe_pet(name="Max", animal="dog")
```

```
I have a dog named Max
```

```
I have a dog named Max
```

Default Values



- You can provide default values to parameters.
 - In the definition, default parameters come after required parameters.

```
def describe_pet(name, animal = "dog" ):  
    print("I have a ", animal, " named ",name)  
  
describe_pet(name="Max", animal="dog")  
describe_pet(name="Max")  
describe_pet(name="Max", animal="cat")
```

```
I have a dog named Max  
I have a dog named Max  
I have a cat named Max
```

Optional Values



- We can use an empty string “” or **None** to make an argument optional.

```
def print_full_name(first, last, middle=""):  
    if middle:  
        print(first, middle, ", ", last)  
    else:  
        print(first, ", ", last)  
  
print_full_name("John", "Doe") # John , Doe  
print_full_name("John", "Doe", "Lee") # John Lee , Doe
```

Capturing Return Values

- We can capture the return value of a function with an assignment.

```
def add(a, b):  
    return a + b  
  
c = add(1, 2)  
  
print(c)
```



Returning from Conditional Logic



- Functions can decide what value to return based on conditions.

```
def pos_or_neg(number):  
    if number < 0:  
        return "Negative"  
    elif number > 0:  
        return "Positive"  
  
r = pos_or_neg(3)  
print(r) # Positive
```

Modeling the Real World

From Code to Models

- Programming is not just writing instructions; it's building **models of reality**. We use variables and lists for data, but when data and behavior belong together, we need something more structured.
- Example:
 - A student has a name, major, and GPA.
 - A bank account has an owner, balance, and actions (deposit, withdraw).
 - This combination of data + actions is what a **class** represents.

Why Not Just Use Dictionaries?

- Dictionaries can store information, but they cannot do anything by themselves.
- If we want to update credits or calculate GPA, we need separate functions.

```
student = {"name": "Ali", "major": "Software Engineering", "credits": 30}
```

The Core Idea of Object-Oriented Programming (OOP)

- In OOP, we describe things – not just actions. Each object in code mirrors an object in the real world.
- Concepts:
 - **Class**: the blueprint (defines what all objects of that kind know and do)
 - **Object** (instance): one specific example of that class
 - **Attributes**: data values inside each object
 - **Methods**: actions that object can perform

Thinking Like a Designer

- When designing a class:
 - Identify the entity (noun) you want to represent.
 - Decide which details are important (attributes).
 - Define the actions (methods) that belong to it.
- Example: Modeling a book. What do we need?

Abstraction: Simplifying the Real World

- A class is not the real object; it's a simplified version of it. You choose only the details that matter for your program.
- Example: If modeling a car, you might include speed, fuel, and drive(), but not color_of_seatbelt().
- Abstraction = ignore unnecessary details, focus on purpose.

Mini Task 0

- Pick something familiar (phone, pet, course, or device). Write down:
 - 2-3 attributes (what it has)
 - 2-3 actions (what it does)



Introduction to Classes and Objects

What Is a Class?

- A class is a blueprint for creating objects.
 - It defines what data (attributes) and actions (methods) the objects have.
 - Objects are called instances of that class.
- Example analogy:
 - Class = recipe  → Instance = actual cake 

Defining a Class

- `class` keyword starts a class definition.
- `__init__()` initializes new objects.
- `self` refers to this particular instance.

```
class Dog:  
    def __init__(self, name, age):  
        self.name = name  
        self.age = age
```

Mini Task 1

- Create your own class Student with:
 - Attributes: name, major.



Creating an Object

- We can create instances of the Dog class by calling it.

```
my_dog = Dog('Willie', 6)
```

- Python calls `__init__()` automatically.
- `my_dog` is now an object with data inside.

Accessing attributes

- We can access the attributes of our instance:

```
print(my_dog.name) # Willie  
print(my_dog.age) # 6
```

Adding Behavior (Methods)

- We can add methods to a class.

```
class Dog:  
    def __init__(self, name, age):  
        self.name = name  
        self.age = age  
  
    def sit(self):  
        print(f"{self.name} is now sitting.")  
  
    def roll_over(self):  
        print(f"{self.name} rolled over!")
```

- Each method must include self.

Using Methods

- The methods of the instance are called in this way:

```
my_dog = Dog('Willie', 6)
my_dog.sit() # Willie is now sitting.
my_dog.roll_over() # Willie rolled over!
```

Mini Task 2

- Modify your class Student to contain:
 - Attributes: name, major.
 - Method: introduce() → prints a short intro.
 - Example:
 - "Hi, I'm Lina, and I study Software Engineering."



Multiple Instances

- Once a class has been defined, we can create as many instances as we want.

```
my_dog = Dog('Willie', 6)
your_dog = Dog('Lucy', 3)

my_dog.sit() # Willie is now sitting.
your_dog.roll_over() # Lucy rolled over!
```

Mini Task 3

- Create several instances of your student class and call their introduction method.



Wrap-up

- Define a class using `class`.
- Initialize data in `__init__()`.
- Access data and methods via `dot` notation.
-
- Each instance is unique but shares behavior.

Working with Attributes and Methods

Adding Default Attributes

- Every student starts with 0 credits

```
class Student:  
    def __init__(self, name, major):  
        self.name = name  
        self.major = major  
        self.credits = 0 # default value
```

Mini Task 4



- Add a default credits value to your class and add a method to print all information.

```
class Student:  
    def __init__(self, name, major):  
        self.name = name  
        self.major = major  
        self.credits = 0 # default value  
  
    def show_info(self):  
        print(f"{self.name} studies {self.major} and has {self.credits} credits.")
```

Modifying Attributes Directly

- We can change values manually:

```
student1 = Student('James', 2)
student1.credits = 20
student1.show_info() # James studies 2 and has 20 credits.
```

Modifying Attributes Directly

- We can change values manually:

```
student1 = Student('James', 2)
student1.credits = 20
student1.show_info() # James studies 2 and has 20 credits.
```

- This works, but there is no control over the data added for the attribute (negative values, strings, ...).

Updating Attributes Safely

- Better to add a method that updates credits but protects against invalid data.

```
def update_credits(self, new_value):  
    if new_value >= 0:  
        self.credits = new_value  
    else:  
        print("Credits cannot be negative!")
```

```
student1.update_credits(-20)
```

Updating Attributes Safely

- Better to add a method that updates credits but protects against invalid data.

```
def update_credits(self, new_value):  
    if new_value >= 0:  
        self.credits = new_value  
    else:  
        print("Credits cannot be negative!")
```

```
student1.update_credits(-20)
```

Mini Task 5

- Add `update_credits()` and test it with positive and negative numbers.

```
def update_credits(self, new_value):  
    if new_value >= 0:  
        self.credits = new_value  
    else:  
        print("Credits cannot be negative!")
```



Incrementing Attribute Values

- Instead of replacing the value, we can increase it gradually.

```
def add_credits(self, amount):  
    if amount > 0:  
        self.credits += amount # same as self.credits = self.credits + amount  
    else:  
        print("Amount must be positive!")
```

```
student1.add_credits(5)
```

Mini Task 6



- Add a method called `change_credits()`, that allows positive AND negative values. Meanwhile, if `self.credits` is ever below 0 after an update, set it to 0.
- Reminder:

```
def update_credits(self, new_value):  
    if new_value >= 0:  
        self.credits = new_value  
    else:  
        print("Credits cannot be negative!")
```

Wrap-up

- We can change attributes directly, but that can be risky.
- Better to add a method to change attributes with a security check.

Exercises

Bank Account

- Build the class `BankAccount` that grows with each task.
- You can find the task list in the `CheatSheet_07.py` file on the server.
- Try to finish as many tasks as possible!