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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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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(): 1  
    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")
```

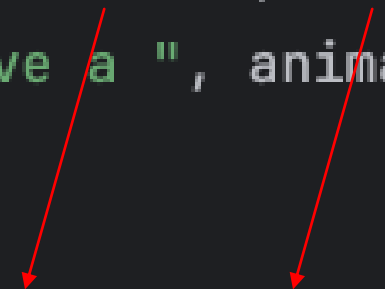
```
I have a dog named Max  
I have a Max named dog
```



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")
```

A diagram with two red arrows pointing from the function call to the function definition. One arrow points from the string "dog" in the function call to the parameter "animal" in the function definition. The other arrow points from the string "Max" in the function call to the parameter "name" in the function definition.

- 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!