Implements vs. Extends When Defining a Class

- **implements:**
  - Keyword followed by the name of an INTERFACE
  - Interfaces only have method PROTOTYPES
  - You CANNOT create an object of an interface type

- **extends:**
  - Keyword followed by the name of a BASE CLASS
  - Base class contains method IMPLEMENTATIONS
  - Allows INHERITANCE!!
  - You CAN create objects of that base class type
Example: People at University

- Base class: person
- Derived classes: student, faculty, administrator
- Derived from those: undergrad, grad, instructor, professor,…
### University Person Example

#### class: Person

**instance variables:**
- String name
- String idNum

**methods:**
- Person( ... ) [various]
- String getName( )
- String getIdNum( )
- void setName( String )
- void setIdNum( String )
- String toString( )
- boolean equals( Person )

#### class: Student

**instance variables:**
- int admitYear
- double gpa

**methods:**
- Student( ... ) [various]
- int getAdmitYear( )
- double getGpa( )
- void setAdmitYear( int )
- void setGpa( double )
- String toString( )
- boolean equals( Student )

#### class: Faculty

**instance variables:**
- int hireYear

**methods:**
- Faculty( ... ) [various]
- int hireYear( )
- void setHireYear( int )
- String toString( int )
- boolean equals( Faculty )

#### extends Person
Person class…

Lets inspect the (simple) code.
Student class?

Memory diagram?

“this” vs. “super”

Consider:

Person q = new Student();
Implementing a subclass

Lets implement the Student class…

Constructors:
- Typical (with parameters)
- No arg Constructor
- Copy Constructor

Overridden methods:
- toString
- equals
Overriding vs. Overloading

- **Overriding**: a derived class defines a method with same name, parameters as base class
- **Overloading**: two or more methods have the same name, but different parameters
- **Example**

  ```java
  public class Person {
      public void setName( String n ) { name = n; }
      ...
  }

  public class Faculty extends Person {
      public void setName( String n ) {
          super.setName( "The Evil Professor " + n );
      }

      public void setName( String first, String last ) {
          super.setName( first + " " + last );
      }
  }
  ```

Base class `setName()`

Overriding

Overloading
Early vs. Late Binding

- Consider:
  ```java
  Person p = new Student();
  System.out.println( p.toString() );
  ```
- **Which version of **toString** – Person or Student** – is called?
  - **Early (static) binding**
    - *p* is declared to be of type *Person*
    - Therefore, the *Person* version of *toString* is used
  - **Late (dynamic) binding**
    - The object to which *p* refers was created as *Student* object
    - Therefore, the *Student* version of *toString* is used
- **Java uses late binding** (C++ by default uses early binding)
  - Early binding is more runtime efficient (decisions about method versions can be made at compile time)
  - Late binding respects encapsulation (object defines its operations when it is created)
Polymorphism

- Java’s **late binding** makes it possible for a single reference variable to refer to objects of many different types. Such a variable is said to be **polymorphic** (meaning having many forms).
- **Example**: Create an array of various university people and print.

```java
Person[ ] list = new Person[3];
list[0] = new Person( "Col. Mustard", "000-00-0000" );
list[1] = new Student ( "Ms. Scarlet", "111-11-1111", 1998, 3.2 );
list[2] = new Faculty ( "Prof. Plum", "222-22-2222", 1981 );
for ( int i = 0; i < list.length; i++ )
    System.out.println( list[i].toString( ) )
```

- **What type is list[i]'?** It can be a reference to any object that is derived from Person. The appropriate toString will be called.

Output:

- [Col. Mustard] 000-00-0000
- [Ms. Scarlet] 111-11-1111 1998 3.2
- [Prof. Plum] 222-22-2222 1981
Public, Protected, Package(default) and Private

- Select which level of visibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access Level/Group</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Package</th>
<th>SubClass</th>
<th>World</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>public</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
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<tr>
<td>protected (avoid)</td>
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<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>package (default)</td>
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<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>private</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>N</td>
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</table>
Shadowing

- Can we override instance variables just like methods?
- Yes, but be careful!
  - Overriding instance variable is called **shadowing**
  - Shadowing hides instance variables of base class (can still access them using `super.varName` in subclass, but not in “outside world”)

```java
public class Person {
    String name;
    ...
}
```

```java
public class Administrator extends Person {
    String name; // name refers to Administrator’s name
}
```

- Confusing! Better to pick a new variable name
Example of Overloading/Overriding

```java
public class Base {
    public void m (int x) { ... }
}

public class Derived extends Base {
    public void m (int x) { ... }
    public int m (int x) { ... }
    public void m (double d) { ... }
}

// The following appears in the same package as above
Base b = new Base( );
Base d = new Derived( );
Derived e = new Derived( );
b.m (5);
d.m (6);
d.m (7.0);
e.m (8.0);
```

- **Overriding**
- **Overloading**
- **Error! duplicate method declaration**
- **Error! Since d is declared Base, the compiler looks for Base:m(double) Doesn't exist! So this does not make it past the compiler, even though Derived:m(double) is defined!**
Object

- Recall: inheritance induces “is-a” hierarchy on classes
  - Undergrad “is-a” Student
  - Student “is-a” Person
  - etc.
- Person “is-a” ….?
- Person “is-a”(n) Object
- Student “is-a”(n) Object

```
Object
  ↓
Person
  ↓
Student
  ↓
Undergrad
GradStudent
  ↓
Faculty
  ↓
Instructor
Professor
  ↓
Administrator
  ↓
... ...
```
More on Object

- Special class at top of class inheritance hierarchy
- Defined in java.lang
- Every class is derived (either directly or indirectly) from Object
  - e.g.
    ```java
    public class Foo { ...}
    ```
    is equivalent to
    ```java
    public class Foo extends Object {...}
    ```

- Structure of Object
  - No instance variables
  - A number of methods, including:
    - `toString()`
    - `equals (Object o)`

Let’s look at the Javadoc…
Class vs. Type Information

- In Java
  - Every object is in one class (the one it was created from using `new`)
  - Objects may have many types (all those that class is based on)
    - Interfaces
    - Superclasses
- E.g. consider
  
  ```java
  Student bob = new Student();
  Person p = bob;
  ```

  - Class of object pointed to by `bob` and `p` is `Student`
  - Type of object can be `Student`, `Person`, `Object`, etc.
Accessing Type Information

- `instanceof`
  - Java boolean operator (not a method)
  - Returns true if given object “is-a”(n) object of given type
  - E.g.
    ```java
    Student carol = new Student ( ... );
    if (carol instanceof Person) // true, because carol “is-a” Person
    ```
Object Casting

- Recall **casting** in primitive types
  - Casting: conversion of elements from one type to another
  - Widening Conversion (always OK)
    
    ```java
    double x = 3;  // 3 (int) widening conversion to double
    ```
  - Narrowing Conversion
    - Must use explicit type conversions to perform this casting
    ```java
    int x = (int)3.0; // 3.0 explicitly cast to int
    ```

- Similar notions can be found with object types also
  - Upcasting
    - Casting a reference to a **superclass** (casting up the inheritance tree)
    - Always OK
    - Just ignore the parts that were added by the subclass
  - Downcasting
    - Casting a reference to a **derived** class
    - Requires explicit casting operator
    - Can cause runtime error
Object Casting

Person p = new Person();
Student s = new Student();
Person tricky = new Student();

Student y = p;
Student y = (Student)p;
Student y = tricky;
Student y = (Student)tricky;
(Faculty)s
(Faculty)tricky

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Downcast – Does not compile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compiles, but throws exception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downcast – Does not compile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Works fine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does not compile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compiles, but throws Exception</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Safe Downcasting

- Illegal downcasting results in a thrown `ClassCastException` at run-time
- **Q:** Can we check for the legality of a cast before trying it?
- **A:** Yes, using `instanceof`

**Example**
- **Given:** `ArrayList` of university people
- **Want:** Print the GPAs of the students
- **Solution approach**
  - Iterate through list
  - Print GPAs only of Students
equals() Reconsidered

- Recall definition of equals()
  - ... in Person
    ```java
    public boolean equals(Person p) {
      if (p == null){
        return false;
      }
      return name.equals(p.getName()) &&
             idNum.equals(p.getIdNum());
    }
    ```
  - ... in Student
    ```java
    public boolean equals(Student s) {
      if (s == null){
        return false;
      }
      return super.equals(s) &&
             admitYear == s.admitYear &&
             gpa == s.gpa;
    }
    ```
- What does following do?
  ```java
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    Student bob = new Student("R. Goode", "234-56-7890", 1998, 3.89);
    Faculty bob2 = new Faculty("R. Goode", "234-56-7890", 2005);
    System.out.println(bob.equals(bob2));
  }
  ```
- true is printed!
A Better equals()

- Take Object as parameter
- Check for non-null-ness of parameter
- Check that class type is correct
- Then do other checks
- For example in Person:
  ```java
  public boolean equals (Object o) { 
      if ( ! (o instanceof Person)) { 
          return false;
      }
      Person p = (Person)o;
      return name.equals(p.getName()) && idNum.equals(p.getIdNum());
  }
  ```
- Similar improvements can be made to Student, Faculty
- Now bob.equals(bob2) returns false
“Multiple Inheritance”? 

- Intuitively useful to be able to inherit from multiple classes (multiple inheritance)

- But Java does not allow this
Why Does Java Disallow Multiple Inheritance?

- Semantic difficulties!
- Consider `StudentAthlete`
  - Objects would get name field from `Student`
  - Objects would also get name field from `Athlete`
  - Duplicate fields: what to do?
- Some languages (e.g. C++) do allow multiple inheritance
Can We Achieve Some of Benefits of Multiple Inheritance in Java?

- Yes, using interfaces + inheritance
  - Idea: use inheritance for one of inherited classes, interfaces for others
  - Interfaces ensure that relevant methods are implemented
- Example

```java
public class Person { ... }

public class Student extends Person { ... }

public interface Athlete {
    public String getSport();
    public void setSport(String sport);
}

public class StudentAthlete extends Student implements Athlete {
    ...
}
```

- Objects of type `StudentAthlete` are `Students`
- They also can be wherever objects matching `Athlete` are required
Interfaces and Constants

- Interfaces can also contain public final static variables
- Sometimes interfaces are used to provide consistent definitions for constants throughout an application
- Example

```java
public interface Months {
    public final static int JANUARY = 1;
    public final static int FEBRUARY = 2;
    public final static int MARCH = 3;
    ...
    public final static int DECEMBER = 12;
}

public class MonthDemo implements Months {
    public static void main( String[] args ) {
        System.out.println( "March is month number " + MARCH );
    }
}
```

Because `MonthDemo implements Months`, it has access to the constants