

CMSC 132:

OBJECT-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING II



Callbacks

Department of Computer Science
University of Maryland, College Park

Course Evaluations

- Please complete the course evaluations
- The web site is:
 - <https://www.courseevalum.umd.edu/portal>

Callback

- **Definition**

- Executable code passed as argument to other code

- **Approach**

- Higher-level code passes function as argument to lower-level code
 - In Java, pass object implementing interface
 - In C/C++, pass pointer to function
 - Lower-level code invokes callback function to perform desired task

Callback

- **Motivation**

- Keeps code separate
 - Clean division between higher & lower-level code
- Promotes code reuse
 - Lower-level code supports different callbacks
- Supports event-driven programming
 - Lower-level code registers function as handler

- **Examples**

- Timer
- Observer pattern → `Observer.update( )`
- Visitor pattern → `Visitor.visit( )`