

LEC 01

**CSE 123**

# Comparable; Inheritance

Questions during Class?  
Raise hand or send here

sli.do #cse123



BEFORE WE START

*Talk to your neighbors:*

*What is your favorite winter activity?*




Respond on [sli.do](#)!

**Instructor:** Brett Wortzman

<b>TAs:</b>	Arohan	Jonah	Kavya	Eeshani	Trien
	Ashar	Brice	Misha	Aidan	Evan
	Sean	Chris	Kieran	Cora	Rena
	Chloe	Elden	Sahana	Dixon	Katharine
	Jenny	Ishita	Anirudh	Nhan	Anyia
	Nate	Kuhu	Crystal		

Now playing: 🎵 [CSE 123 26wi Lecture Tunes](#) 🎵

# Coming up...

-  Complete the [Introductory Survey](#)
  - This helps us gather data about the students taking our classes and their backgrounds, to inform future offerings.
-  The IPL opens Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Schedule posted soon
-  Creative Project 0: Search Engine out now
  - Due Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 11:59pm

# Lecture Outline

- Comparable ◀
- Inheritance
- Assignments and Grading

# Comparable

- `Comparable<E>` is an interface that allows implementers to define an ordering between two objects
  - Used by `TreeSet`, `TreeMap`, `Collections.sort`, etc.
- One required method:  

```
public int compareTo (E other);
```
- Returned integer falls into 1 of 3 categories
  - < 0: this is “less than” other
  - = 0: this is “equal to” other
  - > 0: this is “greater than” other

`a.compareTo(b);`

The diagram illustrates the parameters of the `compareTo` method. A blue arrow points from the variable `a` in the expression `a.compareTo(b)` down to the word `this`. Another blue arrow points from the variable `b` in the same expression down to the word `other`.

# Subtraction Trick

- `compareTo` implementation when comparing two integers (a) ascending:

```
if (this.a < other.a)      -> negative number
else if (this.a > other.a) -> positive number
else                      -> 0
```

- This is just subtraction!

`this.a - other.a`

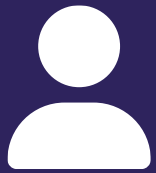
- What if we wanted to sort descending?

`other.a - this.a`

- **Warning**: this only works for integers! Doubles have issues with truncation.

# Lecture Outline

- Comparable
- **Inheritance** ◀
- Assignments and Grading



# Practice : Think

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## Which of the following are true? (Select all that apply.)

- A. If ClassA extends ClassB, then ClassA is the superclass
- B. Classes can extend multiple classes (e.g. "ClassA extends ClassB, ClassC")
- C. Java will prevent you from writing "ClassA extends ClassB" unless ClassA "is-a" ClassB
- D. You can call a method from the superclass on an instance of the subclass



# Practice : Pair

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## Which of the following are true? (Select all that apply.)

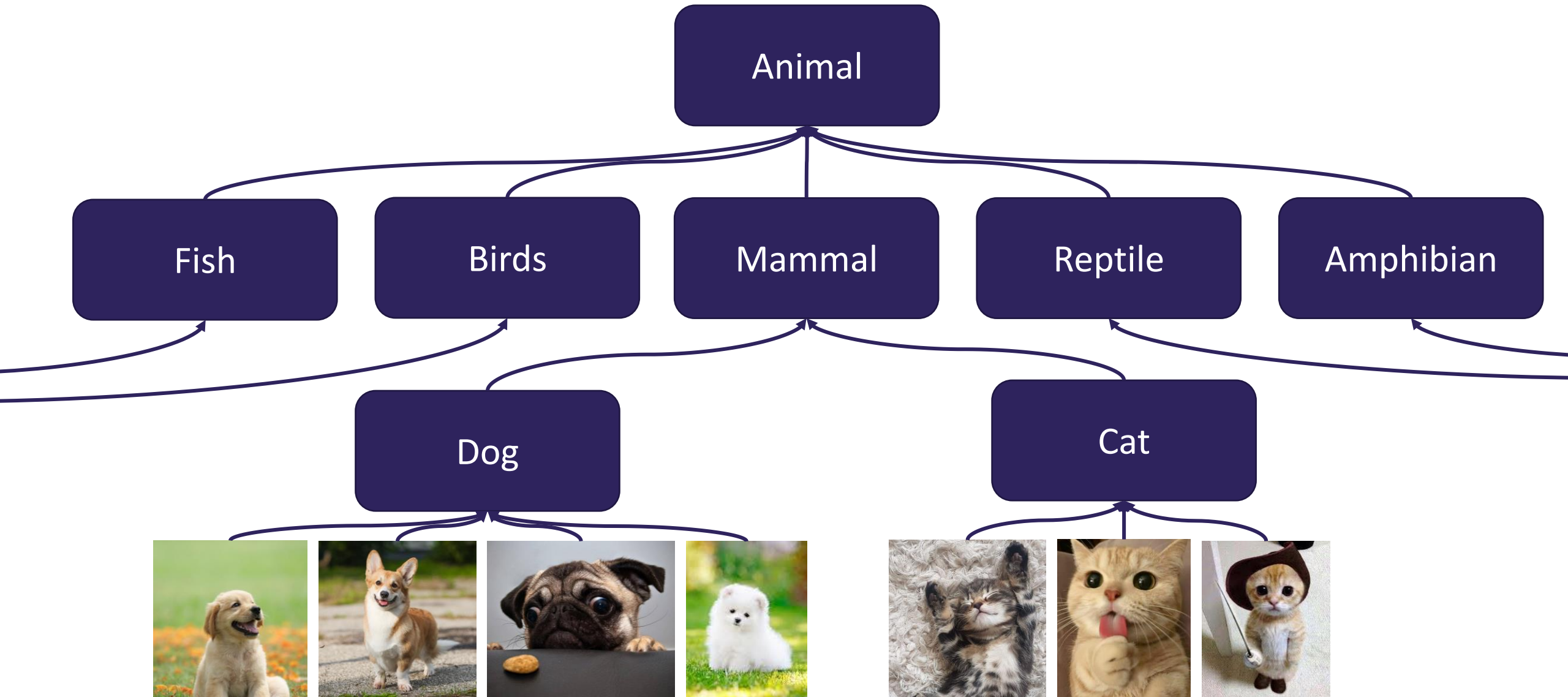
- A. If ClassA extends ClassB, then ClassA is the superclass
- B. Classes can extend multiple classes (e.g. "ClassA extends ClassB, ClassC")
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- D. You can call a method from the superclass on an instance of the subclass



# Inheritance

- Connect together a “subclass” and “superclass”
  - Borrow / “inherit” code to reduce redundancy
  - `super()` keyword can be used just like `this()` (in a constructor)
- Syntax: `public class Subclass extends Superclass`
- *Should* Represent “is-a” relationships
  - `public class Chef extends Employee`
  - `public class Server extends Employee`
- In Java, all objects implicitly inherit from the Object class
  - `toString()`, `equals(Object)`, etc.

# Is-a Relationships



# The “is-a” Rule of Thumb

- class A should only extend class B if an A “is-a” B in the real world
- Java will *not* force you to follow this rule! That’s your job!

# Inheritance Design

## Typical Problem

- We give you:

Description of several classes, methods, and their behavior

- Your job:

Design an inheritance hierarchy that

- minimizes redundancy
- follows best practices (“is-a” test)

# Inheritance Design

## Solution Technique

- Use the “is-a” test to decide which classes should extend each other
- Keep an eye out for redundant code and consider whether you can reduce it even further using inheritance
  - Sometimes you can't, and that's ok!
  - The “is-a” test is more important than getting rid of all redundancy
- Often more than one reasonable answer!

# Lecture Outline

- Comparable
- Inheritance
- **Assignments and Grading** ◀

# Assignments and Grading

- Our goal in the course is for you to **gain proficiency the concepts and skills** we teach
- We assess your proficiency by asking you to apply the concepts and skills on tasks or problems
- By necessity, we are assessing your *work* as a proxy for your proficiency

# Assignments

- Your learning in this course will be assessed in four ways:
  - Programming Assignments (~biweekly, 4 total)
    - Structured programming assignments to assess your proficiency of programming concepts
  - Creative Projects (~biweekly, 4 total)
    - Smaller, more open-ended assignments to give you space to explore
  - Quizzes (3 total, in section)
    - Series of problems covering all material up to that point
  - Final Exam (Tuesday, March 17, 12:30-2:20)
    - Final, culminating assessment of all your skills and knowledge



# Grading

*Grades should reflect your proficiency in the course objectives*

- All assignments will be graded **E (Excellent)**, **S (Satisfactory)**, or **N (Not yet)**
  - Under certain circumstances, a grade of U (Unassessable) may be assigned
- Final grades will be assigned based on the **amount of work at each level**
- See the [syllabus](#) for more details

# Resubmission and Ignored Quiz Problems

*Learning takes time, and doesn't always happen on the first try*

- One previous Programming Assignment or Creative Project can be **resubmitted** each week
  - Must be accompanied by a write-up describing changes (via Google Form)
  - Grade on resubmission will replace original grade
  - An assignment can be resubmitted in the 3 cycles after feedback has been published
  - *Tip: Resubmit as early as possible!*
- We will ignore your **two lowest quiz/exam problem grades**
  - No special action required– we'll do this automatically
- See the [syllabus](#) for more details

# Academic Honesty Policy

- When we assess your work in this class, we need to know that it's *yours*.
- Unless otherwise specified, **all graded work must be completed individually and without touching AI tools.**

Some specific rules to highlight:

- do not share your own solution code or view solution code from any source – including but not limited to other students, tutors, or the internet
- do not use AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Claude) to create or modify graded work

See the [syllabus](#) for more details (this is *very* important to understand).

# AI and CSE 123: Our Philosophy

Computing applications enabled by **artificial intelligence (AI)** are increasingly common and more widely used for a variety of tasks.

It is becoming more difficult to teach an introductory computing course without acknowledging the **existence of AI tools**.

But as relatively new programmers, **you still need to learn and practice effectively using core programming ‘building blocks’**.

# CSE 123 AI Policy

*No part of any graded work may touch an AI tool.*

*You may not copy and paste any work generated by AI into any graded submission, nor may you copy and paste any work from or for a graded assignment into an AI tool. All other uses of AI on graded work must be cited.*

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## ALLOWED

- Asking AI to **explain an error message**
- Asking AI to **explain the functionality of non-graded code** snippets
- Asking AI to **suggest additional information** or resources

## PROHIBITED

- **Generating code, comments, reflections**
- Using AI to **'solve' an assignment**
- Using AI to **write, modify, or extend** reflections, code, comments, etc.