Classes

CS 401 (an excerpt)

Object-Oriented Programming

- Object-oriented programming
 - Real-world objects represented inside "digital" objects
 - Methods interact with and modify objects

Classes

- Blueprints for data
- Describe how to interact with data

Encapsulation

- All data and operations for an *object* are together
 - Everything related to that *object* is encapsulated inside the class

• Data Abstraction

• Hide details of how data is stored/represented

• What data should be stored in the Person class?

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 - Age
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- What actions should the Person class allow?
 - Get the name, set the name
 - Get the age, increment the age
 - Get the address, update the address

Designing a Class

• What data should be stored in the class?

Depend on how class will be used

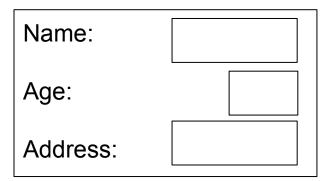
• What actions should the class allow?

- Classes: Blueprints for data
 - Define/declare a class
 - List data and actions for the class

• Classes: Blueprints for data

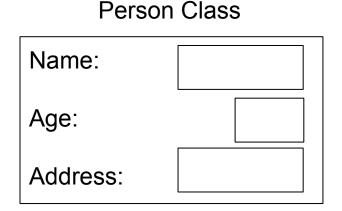
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Person Class



• Classes: Blueprints for data

- Define/declare a class
 - List data and actions for the class
- Objects: Instances of a class
 - Holds values for the data in the blueprint



	Person	
Name:	Zeus	
Age:	4000	
Address:	Mt. Olympus	

- Classes: Blueprints for data
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- Reference Variables: Refer to objects

Name:	
Age:	
Address:	

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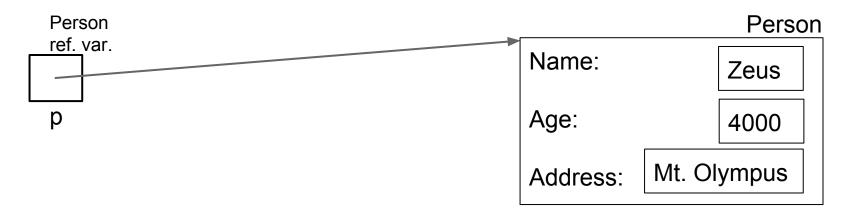
Person ref. var.

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We'll need to create the Person constructor ... more on this later.

 Classes: Blueprints for data Define/declare a class List data and actions for the class Objects: Instances of a class Holds values for the data in the blueprint • Reference Variables: Refer to objects p = Person("Zeus", 4000, "Mt. Olympus") Person Person ref. var. Name: Zeus р Age: 4000 Mt. Olympus Address:

Object Independence

Objects are independent of each other

zeus = Person("Zeus", 4000, "Mt. Olympus")
hades = Person("Hades", 3900, "Underworld")

