

# CSC108H Lecture 8

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# What is True and False?

- ▶ We know that `True` is true and `False` is false
- ▶ The integer `0`, the float `0.0`, the empty string, the `None` object, and other empty data structures are considered `False`; everything else is `True`

```
if 0:  
    print("hi")  
if 4:  
    print("bye")
```

# Short-circuit Evaluation

- ▶ When an expression contains `and` or `or`, Python evaluates from left to right
- ▶ It stops evaluating once the truth value of the expression is known
- ▶ For `x and y`, if `x` is `False`, there is no reason to evaluate `y`
- ▶ For `x or y`, if `x` is `True`, there is no reason to evaluate `y`
- ▶ The value of the expression ends up being the last condition actually evaluated by Python

`0 and 3 # examples`

`3 and 0`

`3 and 5`

`1 or 0`

`0 or 1`

`True or 1 / 0`

# ConceptTest

In the following expression, which parts are evaluated?

$(7 > 2)$  or  $((9 < 2) \text{ and } (8 > 3))$

- ▶ A. Only the red code
- ▶ B. Only the purple code
- ▶ C. Only the blue code
- ▶ D. The red code and the blue code
- ▶ E. All of the code is evaluated

# ConceptTest

In the following expression, which parts are evaluated?

( (7 > 2) and (9 < 2) ) or (8 > 3)

- ▶ A. Only the red code
- ▶ B. Only the purple code
- ▶ C. Only the blue code
- ▶ D. The red code and the blue code
- ▶ E. All of the code is evaluated

# ConcepTest

```
def is_odd(x):  
    if x % 2 == 1:  
        return True  
    else:  
        return False
```

Which of the following does exactly the same thing?

► A.

```
def is_odd(x):  
    return x % 2
```

► B.

```
def is_odd(x):  
    return x % 2 == 1
```

► C.

```
def is_odd(x):  
    return x % 2 == 0
```

► D. None of the above

# Tips for Writing Code with Booleans

- ▶ If you are unsure of precedence, use parentheses
  - ▶ This can help you avoid mistakes and make code more clear
- ▶ Use the simplest expression possible
  - ▶ e.g. Avoid double negatives like `not not a`, avoid `== True` or `== False`
- ▶ Assume `below_zero` is a `Bool`. How can we simplify the following?

```
if below_zero == True:  
    print("Brrrrr!")
```

# ConcepTest

```
age = int(input("Enter your age: "))  
if age < 18:  
    print("minor")  
elif age >= 18 and age < 30:  
    print("adult")  
elif age >= 30:  
    print("older than Dan")  
else:  
    print("ageless")
```

What code can be removed without changing what the code does?

- ▶ A. The red can be removed
- ▶ B. The blue can be removed
- ▶ C. Both red and blue can be removed
- ▶ D. Nothing can be removed



# Docstrings: Good Descriptions

- ▶ We haven't talked much about step 4 of the design recipe
- ▶ In the description, you are to describe precisely what the function does
- ▶ Do **not** reveal how the function does it
- ▶ Make the purpose of every parameter clear
- ▶ Refer to every parameter by name
- ▶ Be clear about whether the function returns a value, and if so, what it returns
- ▶ Explain any conditions that the function assumes are true (e.g. `n` is an `int`)
- ▶ Write the description as a command (e.g. `Return the first ...`) rather than a statement (e.g. `Returns the first ...`)

# ConcepTest

```
def speed(distance, time):  
    '''(float, float) -> float  
    xxx description xxx  
  
>>> speed(20.0, 10.0)  
2.0  
'''
```

What is a good description for this docstring?

- ▶ A. Return a car's speed.
- ▶ B. Given an object's distance and time of travel, return its speed.
- ▶ C. Calculate the speed given the distance and time.
- ▶ D. Divide distance by time to return the speed.

# Boolean-Returning Functions

- ▶ “A iff B” means “(A if B) and (A only if B)”
- ▶ We assume that if a boolean function does not return `True`, it returns `False`

Here's a description for the `is_odd` function from earlier:

```
def is_odd(x):  
    '''...  
  
    Return true iff x is odd.  
    ...  
    '''
```