CIS 110 Recitation Objects

Class Members: Static vs. Instance Variables

- Each instance of a class (i.e. each object you create) has a distinct copy of its instance variables (non-static).
 - ex: Each Car object created using its constructor has its own values for make, model, and speed and its own places in memory to store these values.
- Each class has one single copy of its static variables.
 - ex: The Car class has a static field called numCars that is equal to the number of Car objects that have been created.

Class Members: Static vs. Instance Methods

- Each instance of an object can use instance methods that have access to that object's fields and to its other instance methods.
 - o ex: String s = "hello";
 - int length = s.length();
- Each class has static methods that only have access to the class's static fields.
 - ex: Car.getNumCars();
 - Notice the invocation begins with the class name and not the name of an instance of the class (i.e. the name of an object).

Exercise: Ball Class

- Let's say we want to simulate a ball subject to gravity that bounces off the sides of the PennDraw canvas window.
- What properties or fields should each ball object have?
 - How about properties that the class as a whole should have?
- What will our constructor look like?
- What instance methods do we need?
- Let's code it!