

Intro to Programming II
Scope and Parameters

Chris Brooks

Department of Computer Science
University of San Francisco

3-2: Scope

- Scope refers to the area of a program where a variable can be accessed.
- Java has three types of scope:
 - Local scope - the variable exists only within a method
 - Object scope - the variable can be accessed from any method belonging to an object.
 - Class scope - the variable can be accessed by all instances of a class.

3-3: Local scope

- Exists only when a method is executing
- The garbage collector reclaims a local variable when the method ends.
- Local variables are useful for temporary variables and counters.