Objective: To modify all the pixels in a picture and introduce students to interfaces, abstract methods, constants, and inheritance.

Background:

Even though digital pictures have millions of pixels, modern computers are so fast that they can process all of them quickly. You will write methods in the Picture class that modify digital pictures. The **Picture** class inherits from the **SimplePicture** class and the **SimplePicture** class implements the **DigitalPicture** interface as shown in the Unified Modeling Language (UML) class diagram below.

A UML class diagram shows classes and the relationships between the classes. Each class is shown in a box with the class name at the top. The middle area shows attributes (instance or class variables) and the bottom area shows methods. The open triangle points to the class that the connected class inherits from. The straight line links show associations between classes. Association is also called a "has-a" relationship. The numbers at the end of the association links give the number of objects associated with an object at the other end. For example, in the figure below it shows that one **Pixel** object has one Color object associated with it and that a Color object can have zero to many **Pixel** objects associated with it. You may notice that the UML class diagram doesn't look exactly like Java code. UML is not language specific.



Activity:

A1) Open SimplePicture.java and look for the method getPixels2D(). Notice how it creates a 2D array of Pixel objects and returns the array.

A2) Open Picture.java and look for the method getPixels2D(). Notice how it uses the method getPixels2D().

Questions:

Assume you are writing code using the Picture Lab classes.

Q1) You write the following line of code. Does it compile?

```
DigitalPicture p = new DigitalPicture();
```

Q2) Assuming that a no-argument constructor exists for SimplePicture, would the following code compile?

DigitalPicture p = new SimplePicture();

Q3) Assuming that a no-argument constructor exists for Picture, does the following code compile?

DigitalPicture p = new Picture();

Q4) Assuming that a no-argument constructor exists for Picture, does the following code compile?

SimplePicture p = new Picture();

Q5) Assuming that a no-argument constructor exists for SimplePicture, does the following code compile?

```
Picture p = new SimplePicture();
```

Interfaces and Pictures

DigitalPicture is an interface. An interface most often only has public abstract methods. An abstract method is not allowed to have a body. Notice that none of the methods declared in **DigitalPicture** have a body. If a method can't have a body, what good is it?

Interfaces are useful for separating **what** from **how**. An interface specifies **what** an object of that type needs to be able to do but not **how** it does it. You cannot create an object using an interface type. A class can implement (realize) an interface as **SimplePicture** does. A non-abstract class provides bodies for all the methods declared in the interface, either directly or through inheritance. You can declare a variable to be of an interface type and then set that variable to refer to an object of any class that implements that interface. For example, Java has a List interface that declares the methods that a list should have such as add, remove, and get, etc. But, if you want to create a List object you will create an ArrayList object. It is recommended that you declare a variable to be of type List, not ArrayList, as shown below.

List<String> nameList = new ArrayList<String>();

Why wouldn't you just declare nameList to be of the type ArrayList<String>? There are other classes in Java that implement the List interface. By declaring nameList to be of the type List<String> instead of ArrayList<String>, it is easy to change your mind in the future and use another class that implements the same interface. Interfaces give you some flexibility and reduce the number of changes you might need to make in the future, as long as your code only uses the functionality defined by the interface.

Because **DigitalPicture** declares a getPixel2D() method that returns a two-dimensional array of **Pixel** objects, **SimplePicture** implements that interface, and **Picture** inherits from **SimplePicture**, you can use the getPixels2D() method on a **Picture** object. You can loop through all the **Pixel** objects in the two-dimensional array to modify the picture. You can get and set the red, green, and/or blue value for a **Pixel** object. You can also get and/or set the Color value for a **Pixel** object. You can create a new Color object using a constructor that takes the red, green, and blue values as integers as shown below.

```
Color myColor = new Color(255, 30, 120);
```

What do you think you will see if you modify the beach picture in the images folder to set all the blue values to zero? Do you think you will still see a beach? Run the main method in the **Picture** class. The body of the main method will create a **Picture** object named beach from the "beach.jpg" file, open an explorer on a copy of the picture (in memory), call the method that sets the blue values at all pixels to zero, and then open an explorer on a copy of the resulting picture.

The following code is the main method from the **Picture** class.

```
public static void main(String[] args)
{
    Picture beach = new Picture("beach.jpg");
    beach.explore();
    beach.zeroBlue();
    beach.explore();
}
```

Activity:

A3) Open **PictureTester.java**. Be sure to change "beach.jpg" to "images/beach.jpg" then compile and run its main method. You should get the same results as running the main method in the **Picture** class. The **PictureTester** class contains class (or static) methods for testing the methods that are in the **Picture** class.

A4) Uncomment the appropriate test method in the main method of **PictureTester** to test any of the other methods in **Picture.java**. You can comment out the tests you don't want to run. You can also add new test methods to **PictureTester** to test any methods you create in the **Picture** class.

Modifying a Picture

The method zeroBlue() in the **Picture** class gets a two-dimensional array of **Pixel** objects from the current picture (the picture the method was called on). It then declares a variable that will refer to a **Pixel** object named pixelObj. It uses a nested for-each loop it sets the blue value for the current pixel to zero. Note that you cannot change the elements of an array when you use a for-each loop, If, however, the array elements are references to objects that have methods that allow changes, you can change the internal state of objects referenced in the array (pixels).

The following code is the <code>zeroBlue()</code> method in the **Picture** class.

```
public void zeroBlue()
{
    Pixel[][] pixels = this.getPixels2D();
    for (Pixel[] rowArray : pixels)
    {
        for (Pixel pixelObj : rowArray)
        {
            for (Pixel pixelObj : rowArray)
            {
                pixelObj.setBlue(0);
            }
        }
}
```

Activity:

A5) Using the zeroBlue() method as a starting point, write the method keepOnlyBlue() that will keep only the blue values, that is, it will set the red and green values to zero. Create a class method to test this new method in the class **PictureTester**. Be sure to call the new test method in the main method in **PictureTester**.

A6) Write the negate() method to negate all the pixels in a picture. To negate a picture, set the red value to 255 minus the current red value, the green value to 255 minus the current green value, and the blue value to 255 minus the current blue value. Create a class method to test this new method in **PictureTester**.

A7) Write the grayscale() method to turn the picture into shades of gray. Set the red, green, and blue values to the average of the current red, green, and blue values (add all three values and divide by 3). Create a class method to test this new method in the class **PictureTester**. Be sure to call the new test method in the main method in **PictureTester**.