

Requirements Specification

- **Requirements — desired goals or behaviour**
 - **What are we trying to accomplish?**
 - **What does the customer want?**

Requirements Specification, Cont'd

- **Specification — description of proposed behaviour of software system**
 - **Can a software system help us accomplish our goals?**
 - **What would that software system do?**

The very familiar programming assignment descriptions are no more than informal specifications.

An entire course on requirements?

Why devote an entire course to requirements?

Requirements Problems:

- **80-85% of all software errors are requirements errors.**
- **The cost to fix an error grows exponentially with lifecycle stages.**