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.