

Computer Science and Software Engineering 371
Software Requirements and Specification
Fall 2007
Homework #1

Due: Friday, September 7 at 11:55 PM

Purpose: To gain experience reading requirements

1. Pick a job title related to software engineering which you could visualize yourself doing e.g. "software architect" or "systems analyst".
2. Go online and find 10 position descriptions which relate to that job title and save the text for each of them. These are, in effect, the *requirements* for 10 jobs similar to the one you envisioned, according to 10 real stakeholders.

For example: Go to Monster [1], click on "search jobs", and search for "software engineer". Try to select ones from different companies, to get some variety.

3. Read the 10 position descriptions. Write down at least 20 *requirements* that you believe look like common threads -- job qualifications which at least 2 of the 10 position descriptions mentioned. These might be specific skills or background, or something more general like "ability to communicate". Generalize the *requirements* if necessary, to get 20 of them which span multiple position descriptions. For example, several of them may have asked for database background, although they differed about which database you were supposed to know.
4. Turn in a description for a job that you would like, using those 20 *requirements* to help formulate the description. In a separate section (possibly an appendix) turn in the 20 *requirements* you used to formulate the description. Be sure to reference the 10 position descriptions that you used to obtain the 20 *requirements*. The document must be written in a professional manner.

Please turn in your homework to the **Homework #1 Drop Box in ANGEL**.

References:

1. Monster Jobs – A job search engine available at <http://www.monster.com/>