

# Requirements Engineering

2 Day Workshop

9.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

(Registration 9.15 a.m.)

Centre for  
Software  
Engineering

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Members receive a  
10% discount

## Background

It is widely recognised throughout the software industry that incorrect requirements account for up to 60% of the errors in software systems, yet many software development organisations have no formal means for gathering or managing their requirements. Numerous industry studies have shown that the earlier in the life-cycle that an error can be detected, the lower the impact on the overall cost of the software system.

Frequently, it is difficult to get a complete understanding for the requirements of software systems. Users themselves are sometimes unable to accurately explain their IT needs, or envision their future IT requirements. The results are that the developers of the system have to make assumptions about what the user wants. These assumptions about the user requirements are often not correct or verified, resulting in frequent changes to the system during development or following user trials. Changes at this stage of the process are expensive and time consuming.

In addition, requirements are either lost or changed in terms of definition and scope from Capture to Design, and throughout the development process. This slows projects down and results in budget over-run.

To address these problems, a structured approach towards gathering and managing user and software requirements is required.

### Methods can be used to:

- a) understand more deeply and comprehensibly what the user requires;
- b) help the user visualise their future requirements.

This 2-day course will help you to understand the operation of a requirements process, and how to improve your handling of them.

## Who should attend?

The workshop is aimed at Project Managers, Team Leaders, System Analysts and Designers who need to understand how to use effective methods to gather user requirements.

Other staff that will be involved in the requirements stage of development will also benefit from attendance.

## The Event

This course will provide a thorough understanding of how to apply different methods for gathering user requirements, and provide an overview to managing the requirements throughout the life-cycle. It will also include a series of practical sessions, which will allow participants to gain experience in applying the principles and techniques learned.

Other techniques for eliciting requirements, such as prototyping, will be covered, along with the situations in which requirements may be reused. Finally, some of the commercial tools available for eliciting and managing user and software requirements will be described.

### At the end of this workshop you will be able to:

- Understand what is meant by a requirements process;
- Identify the advantages and disadvantages of different methods for gathering requirements;
- Conduct interviews with users in order to better understand their requirements;
- Identify, define and prioritise both functional and non-functional requirements;
- Understand methods for quantifying requirements;
- Understand the principles and issues around requirements management;
- Use reviews to identify errors with requirements;
- Better define requirements in a requirements specification
- Gain an overview of the main tools available for capturing and managing requirements;

### Fees and Registration

To register, email [events@cse.dcu.ie](mailto:events@cse.dcu.ie) with course title and date, attendee name, organisation name, contact name and phone number.

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