CSC 440/540: Software Engineering

Inception
Topics

1. Inception Phase
2. Inception Phase Artifacts
3. Prototypes
4. First Iteration Plan
Inception Phase

Problem: Do the stakeholders have basic agreement on the vision of the project, and is it worth investing in serious investigation?

Envision product scope, vision, and business case.
Inception Phase

Brief: few weeks at most
High level: order of magnitude estimates

Artifacts

- Vision
- Use Case Model
- Supplementary Specification
- Glossary
- Risk Plan
- Prototypes
- Iteration Plan
Vision

Describes the high level goals and constraints from stakeholder’s point of view, focusing on key stakeholder needs

Order of magnitude estimate of costs and benefits

Required to end Inception Phase
Use Case Model

Describes the functional requirements

- Functional requirements provide features to user

Inception Phase To Do

- Preliminary Use Case Model consisting of:
  - Names of use cases
  - Names of actors
  - ~10% of named use cases are detailed
Supplementary Specification

Describes non-functional requirements that do not appear in the Use Case model

- Non-functional requirements don’t provide features
- Examples: performance, reliability, security

Inception Phase To Do

- High level supplementary specification
Glossary

Defines key domain terms

- Relationships to other terms
- Units
- Range of values

Inception Phase To Do

- Define key terms, like UPC for POS example
Risk Plan

List of known and expected risks

- Business
- Technical
- Resource
- Schedule

Ideas for mitigation or response to each risk
Prototypes

Develop prototypes to clarify vision
- User-interface prototypes
- Technical tests to assess risks

Inception Phase:
- TBD
Iteration Plan

Plan activities for first iteration of Elaboration Phase.
UP Requirement Artifacts

Functional
- Vision
- Use Cases

Non-functional
- Supplementary Specification
- Glossary
Key Points

1. Inception Phase is brief, high level assessment that produces Vision document and

2. Inception Phase Requirements Artifacts
   1. Preliminary Use Case Model
   2. Supplementary Specification
   3. Glossary