

Requirements Elicitation

CS 2720

An Example

You are approached by a friend to develop “a website for doing scheduling” for a local lawn care business. What are you building?

Value of Requirement Analysis

One study (PMI, 2014) found that 47% of failed projects failed due to poor requirements management (e.g. lack of people, skills, formal validation).

Another whitepaper claims the NIST has said “70% of software projects fail due to poor requirements”.

Requirements Elicitation

Requirements elicitation is the activity of gathering the requirements of the system, including those that are not immediately “obvious”.

Why is requirements elicitation “hard”?

Why do “we” prefer the term *elicitation* over *gathering* (another commonly-used phrase)?

Elicitation Activities

There are many elicitation activities. Some examples are:

- *Interviews* (4.3.1.1)
- *Ethnographies* (4.3.1.2)
- *Stories and Scenarios* (4.3.2)
- *Prototyping*
- *Document Analysis*
- *Surveys and Questionnaires*

A few “interesting” links to bring up during our discussion of elicitation:

- [What Questions Do I Ask During Requirements Elicitation?](#)
- [RequirementsQuest](#)
- [Wireframe.cc](#)
- [Pencil](#)
- [Survey Questions That Work](#)