The University of Iowa
CS:2820 (22C:22)
Object-Oriented Software Development
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Inception
by
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Inception

Initial short step to establish a common vision and basic scope of the project

- analysis of main use cases (10%)
- analysis of the critical non-functional requirements,
- creation of a business case
- preparation of the development environment
Inception Goals

• Establish initial common vision for the objectives of the project
• Understanding the basic scope and ~10% of the requirements
• Determine if project is feasible
• Decide if it is worth some serious investigation in elaboration
Main Questions

• What is the vision and business case for this project?
• Is the project feasible?
• What should be built vs. bought?
• What is a rough, unreliable cost range? (Is it in the thousands or in the millions of $)?
• Should we proceed or not?
Inception Main Artifacts

• Vision
  - Management level description of project

• Use case model for critical aspects
  - Functional requirements (essential!)

• Glossary
  - Key domain terminology, and data dictionary

• Development case
  - The actual process to be used & artifacts to be delivered

• Others
  - Risk List, Prototypes, Iteration Plan, SW Dev. Plan
Common Mistakes

• Devoting too much time to it
• Defining too few/too many requirements
  • writing lots of detailed use cases, or
  • writing none at all
• Trying to develop reliable plans
• Defining architectural details
• Missing business case or vision artifact
Credits

Notes and figures adapted from