View of SE in this Course

- The purpose of software engineering is to gain and maintain intellectual and managerial control over the products and processes of software development.
- Intellectual control implies
  - We understand the developmental goals
  - Can distinguish good choices from bad
  - We can effectively build to meet our goals
    - Behavioral requirements (functionality)
    - Software Qualities (reliability, security, maintainability, etc.)
- Managerial control implies
  - We make accurate recourse estimates
  - We deliver on schedule and within budget

Control Realities

- Reality Check:
  - Cannot fully predict consequences of our choices
  - Control is never absolute
- Implication: maintaining control is an active process (view as a feedback-control loop)
Active Control

- Control in a software development means
  - Understand where we want to be (ideal)
  - Evaluate current delta
  - Make adjustments

Control and Risk

- Risk: a risk is defined as a condition that can lead to a loss of control
  - Incorrect, misunderstood, or missing requirements
  - Poor design choices
  - Differing assumptions by developers
  - Inadequate testing, validation, etc.
- Can lead to delivering wrong product, late, over cost.
- Assessing and mitigating risk is a critical SE activity
- Assertion: well defined processes help organize work and control risks

Need to Organize the Work

- Nature of a software project
  - Software development produces a set of interlocking, interdependent work products
    - E.g. Requirements -> Design -> Code -> Test
  - Implies dependencies between tasks
  - Implies dependencies between people
- Must organize the work such that:
  - Every task gets done
  - Tasks get done in the right order
  - Tasks are done by the right people
  - The product has the desired qualities
  - The product is delivered on time
Addressed by Software Processes

- Developed as a conceptual tool for organizing complex software developments
- Answers the "who", "what", "when", etc. questions
  - What product should we work on next?
  - What kind of person should do the work?
  - What information is needed to do the work?
  - When is the work finished?
- Intended use (idealized)
  1. Model of development (what does or should occur)
  2. Guide to developers in what to produce and when to produce it

Definitions

- **Software Life Cycle**: evolution of a software development effort from concept to retirement
- **Software Process Model**: Abstract representation of a software life cycle as a set of
  1. Activities: tasks to be performed (how)
  2. Artifacts: work products produced (what)
  3. Roles: skills needed (who)
- **Software Process**: institutionalized version of a life software model defining specific roles, activities, and artifacts

Examples of Use

- Software life-cycle: in choosing whether to build or buy, companies should consider the entire life-cycle cost of software.
- Software process model: many companies are currently adapting the agile model to fit their organizational constraints.
- Software process: many organizations standardize their software process across developments.
Common Process Models

Waterfall
Prototyping
Iterative
Spiral
Agile

A “Waterfall” Model

Activities and Products

• Requirements Analysis
  – Goal: understand and define what the software must do and any properties it must have
  – Product: Software Requirements Specification (SRS)
  – Role: Requirements Analyst
• Architectural Design
  – Goal: decompose of the problem into components that together satisfy the requirements
  – Products: architectural design specification, interface specs.
  – Role: Software Architect
• Detail Design
  – Goal: internal design of components (e.g., objects) defining algorithms and data structures supporting the interface
  – Products: design documentation, pseudo-code
  – Role: Coder
Phases and Products

- Implementation
  - Goal: realization of the design in machine-executable form
  - Product: code
  - Role: Coder
- Integration and Testing
  - Goal: validation and verification of the implementation against requirements and design
  - Products: test plan, test cases
  - Roles: tester, user (customer)
- Maintenance (really multiple distinct activities)
  - Goal: repair errors or update deployed system
  - Products: bug fixes, patches, new versions
  - Role: Architect, Coder, Tester

Waterfall Model Variations

There have been many variations

What are the issues:
1. What kinds of risks are addressed?
2. What kinds of risks are not addressed?
Limitations of the waterfall model

- Model implies that you should complete a given stage before moving on to the next
  - Does not account for the fact that requirements constantly change
  - It also means that customers cannot use anything until the entire system is complete
- Model implies that you can get the requirements right up front
- The entire functionality is developed and then tested all together at the end
- The model implies that once the product is finished, everything else is maintenance

A “Waterfall” Model*

As a guide: does not address common development risks
- What happens if requirements are wrong?
- If scheduling or budget is wrong?

Characteristic Model: Prototyping

- Waterfall variation
- First system versions are prototypes, either:
  - Interface
  - Functional
- Which waterfall risks does this try to address?
Characteristic Processes: The Iterative Model

- Process is viewed as a sequence of iterations
  - Essentially, a series of waterfalls
  - Each iteration builds on the previous one (e.g., adds requirements, design components, code features, tests)
  - Each iteration produces complete set of work products deliverable software
  - Customers provide feedback on each release
  - There is no "maintenance" phase — each version includes problem fixes as well as new features

Iterative Model

- Also called "incremental development"
- Addresses some common waterfall risks
  - Risk that software cannot be completed — build incremental subsets
  - Risk of building the wrong system — stakeholder have opportunities to see the software each increment
  - Also, can double check feasibility, schedule, budget and others issues

Advantages of Incremental Development

- Customers get usable functionality earlier than with waterfall
- Early feedback improves likelihood of producing a product that satisfies customers
  - Reduces market risk: if customers hate the product, find out before investing too much effort and money
- The quality of the final product is better
  - The core functionality is developed early and tested multiple times
  - Only a relatively small subset of functionality added in each release: easier to get it right and test if thoroughly
  - Detect design problems early and get a chance to redesign
Characteristic Processes: The Spiral Model

- Process viewed as repeating cycles of increasing scale
- Identify risks and determine (next set of) requirements
- Each cycle builds next version by extension, increasing scale each time

Spiral Model

- Determine goals
- Risk evaluation and mitigation
- Plan next phase
- Development

Spiral Model Goals

- Response lack of explicit risk analysis and risk mitigation in "waterfall" process
- Includes risk analysis and mitigation activities at each phase (e.g., prototyping)
- Explicit Go/No-Go decision points in process
Characteristic Processes: Agile (e.g. scrum)

- Process viewed as nested sequence of builds (sprints)
  - Each build adds very small feature set (one or two)
  - Nightly build/test, frequent customer validation
  - Focus on delivering code, little or no time spent on documentation

Also...

- RAD models
- Extreme Programming
- Etc., etc.

Why so many models?

How do we Choose a Development Process?

E.g., for your projects
Objectives

• Goal: proceed as rationally and systematically as possible (i.e., in a controlled manner) from a statement of goals to a design that demonstrably meets those goals within design and management constraints
  – Understand that any process description is an abstraction
  – Always must compensate for deviation from the ideal (e.g., by iteration)
  – Still important to have a well-defined process to follow and measure against

A Software Engineering Perspective

• Question of control vs. cost: processes introduce overhead
• Choose process to provide an appropriate level of control for the given product and context
  – Sufficient control to achieve results
  – No more than necessary to contain cost and effort
• Provides a basis for choosing or evaluating processes, methods, etc.
  – Does it achieve our objectives at reasonable cost?
  – Does it address the most important developmental risks?
• Need to agree on kind of control you need and how you will accomplish it

Exercise: Which Model?
Exercise: Project Processes

• Discuss: which process is the best fit for your projects and why?
• For each process you do not select, what characteristics do not fit well with the project?
• For the process selected
  – How does it fit with project characteristics?
  – How does it help address project risks?

Take-away

• Expected to know standard processes and their rationale
• Understand how and why people use different development models
• Understand how to choose an appropriate model for a given developments
  – Often poorly understood in industry

Project Preparation

Project Requirements
  Worksite
  Teams
Project 1: Simple Address Book

- Simple programming exercise but with significant quality constraints
- Requires developing a number of non-code artifacts
  - Require significant time and effort
  - Must be planned for!
- Requires distributing and coordinating the work
  - Must have two or more programmers
  - Must show that system meets requirements

Project Requirements

- Are the project requirements complete and well defined?
  - If not, what will you do about it?
- Goal for this week: be clear on what you plan to build
  - Extend, revise Address Book requirements
  - Generate questions for instructor
  - Plan iterations
- Think in terms of *useful subsets*
  - Build the smallest useful subset first: think about which capabilities will be needed by any future enhancements
  - Plan how you will add to it each increment

Team Assignments

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Assignment

- Project
  - Forward your emails from xxx@uoregon.edu or send me your preferred email address
  - First meeting (in class)
    - Plan and hold at least one project meeting out of class
  - Assembla worksite assignment
    - Assign team member to invite others to site
    - Choose a team name
    - Create team page on wiki
    - Record meeting notes (Meeting Notes page)
    - Fill out Developer Logs
  - Monday:
    - No class, work on projects
    - Develop first cut a requirements, project plan
    - Set up meeting with instructor

Questions?