# Communication With Stakeholders

A discussion has been set up in the 08-701 (Requirements Elicitation and Analysis) Canvas for communication with the stakeholders.

The stakeholders will introduce themselves in this discussion shortly. This is the forum via which you should ask questions of the stakeholders. Please address your question to the specific stakeholder from whom you would like to solicit an answer.

Although replies are public, your team should be careful not to "freeload". Part of each team's professional skills grade (team, not individual) is based upon quality participation in this forum.

The stakeholders will do their best to answer your questions to the best of their abilities, but you should remember that they are skilled in their own roles, not in articulating requirements. Asking well-formed questions is important to getting useful answers.

Although you can see the posting from all stakeholders and all students, stakeholders may only pay attention to their own postings and the replies to them. In particular, they may not be aware of discussions involving other stakeholders. If you need to resolve requirements among stakeholders, you may need to communicate pair-wise.

Also remember that your clients' time and attention is very, very scarce and important. This project is your team's full-time job, but it is not the full-time job of the stakeholders. Although the success of this project is critical to them -- they have other near full-time responsibilities. You should be very careful not to waste their time. If you do, as in the real world, they may ignore your questions or become very slow or sloppy in addressing them. it might be prudent to discuss questions as a team before posting them to stakeholders.