# Group Discussion: What do you really think we are being asked to do?

Lynn Robert Carter, PhD 2019-02-08

# **Activity Kind**

Group discussion.

## **Purpose**

Separating what the client says they want from what they really need is difficult. Things were so much easier when we were children, when answers were easy and obviously correct. The older we get, the more complex the questions become, and the harder they are to answer. The purpose of this discussion is to begin the students down a complex path to understanding what is really needed and how to deliver it.

### **Prerequisite**

Students are expected to have:

- 1. Participated in the live introduction the SEF
- 2. Watched the video Introduction to Software Engineering Foundations
- 3. Participated in the discussion What is this class about and why should it be taken seriously
- 4. Watched the video Professional Deliverables and How to Submit Them
- 5. Participated in the discussion What questions do you have? Let's get the answers.
- 6. Watched the video Backstory: The need for better computation

## **Tasking**

This mentor-led session is intended to force the students think more deeply about the client's needs and what it really means. Could this project be the start of something big, if we really do it well? Or is he only looking to us for a calculator?

#### **Deliverables**

The only deliverable for this activity is the set of notes you should have taken during the activity.

#### Submission

The notes taken during the discussion should be placed into each student's engineering notebook as part of the standard evening submission of the ENB.