3. *More advanced courses in specific software engineering topics* The chapters can form a foundation for a specific software course, but they must be supplemented with further reading that explores the topic in greater detail. For example, I teach an MSc module in systems engineering that relies on material here. I have included details of this course and a course on critical systems engineering on the web site.

The benefit of a general text like this is that it can be used in several related courses. The text can be used in an introductory software engineering course and in courses on specification, design and critical systems. Courses on component-based software engineering and systems engineering use the book along with additional papers that are distributed to students. Having a single text presents students with a consistent view of the subject—and they don't have to buy several books.

To reinforce the student's learning experience, I have included a glossary of key terms, with additional definitions on the web site. Furthermore, each chapter has:

• a clearly defined set of objectives set out on the first page;

• a list of key points covered in the chapter;

• suggested further reading—either books that are currently in print or easily available papers (lists of other suggested readings and links can be found on my web site);

• exercises, including design exercises.

The Software Engineering Body of Knowledge project (http://www.swebok.org) was established to define the key technical knowledge areas that are relevant to professional software engineers. These are organised under 10 headings: requirements, design, construction, testing, maintenance, configuration management, management, process, tools and methods, and quality. While it would be impossible to cover all of the knowledge areas proposed by the SWEBOK project in a single textbook, all of the top-level areas are discussed in this book.

Web pages

The publishers web site that is associated with the book is:

http://www.pearsoned.co.uk/sommerville

To support the use of this book in software engineering courses, I have included a wide range of supplementary material on the web site. If you follow the Material for Instructors links, you can find: