**Assignment 4-1: Business Requirement Questions**

You are presented with the business requirement below. Read the requirements and ask at least five questions you need to complete a good database design. There is not enough detail here to complete the database design.

**NOTE: This assignment is heavily weighted for your grade, and the more complete you are the better your grade. BE THOROUGH.**

TaylorSoft Solutions, Inc.

* We are a software company with 23 employees.
* We make a software package that tracks the projects for construction companies, and we have customers in almost every state.
* We have three offices where our employees are divided into three groups: The software engineering team, a consulting team that teaches our customers how to use our software, and staff such as administrators and managers.
* We need a way to track the activities of our consulting team members.
* They will hold training either online or by flying out to the customer's site.
* We bill the customer for their time, or sometimes we bill the customer for a "standard class", which has a fixed price.
* We currently use a series of spreadsheets and paper to track the consultants and our clients, but we are growing to two new offices and that just won't work.
* We want a website that has a database on the back end that will allow us to scale properly.
* What else do you need to know?

**Questions**

1. To clarify the overall tracking metric, do you need to track information related only to the consultants? Do you need to track any activities between the consultants and the software team/administrative team? If so, can you explain in further detail on what type of activities need to be tracked?
2. Do you track the hours that the consultant spends teaching the client about the software for both online and onsite training? Also, do you bill the customers for the hours, only if it’s onsite training?
3. Can 2 or more consultants have the same client?
4. I assume you are tracking basic information such as name, address, phone, email of your company (software team, admin team and consulting team) and the clients. Is this a correct assumption?
5. Do you need to track different software versions of your software package that your consultants might be teaching your clients?
6. Are there any definitive columns/fields in your existing spreadsheets that you want migrated over to the new database?
7. You mentioned that there is already a tool in your company to take care of the financial aspects. If that is the case, I assume you don’t want a Price column to mention the pricing for the client. Did you only want to track columns such as training type (onsite vs online), billing type (Standard Class vs Time Based), Hours (tracking clients time/training time of consultant)?
8. What other types of information will administration or the software team have to enter in the new database, or will it only pertain to consultant related activities?