

# **UML:** The Language

- ◆ Language = syntax + semantics
  - Syntax = rules by which language elements (e.g., words) are assembled into expressions (e.g., phrases, clauses)
  - Semantics = rules by which syntactic expressions are assigned meanings.
- ◆ UML Notation: defines UML's graphic syntax
- UML Semantics: defines UML's Semantics

5

# UML: A Language for Visualizing

- Writing models in the UML facilitates communication.
- ◆ The UML is a graphical language.
- The UML is more than just a bunch of graphical symbols.

# UML: A Language for Specifying

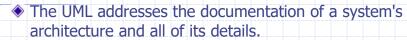
- In this context, specifying means building models that are precise, unambiguous, and complete.
- In particular, the UML addresses the specification of all the important analysis, design, and implementation decisions that must be made in developing and deploying a software-intensive system.

7

# **UML:** A Language for Constructing

- It is possible to map from a model in the UML to a programming language or relational database or object-oriented database.
- Things that are best expressed graphically are done so graphically in the UML.
- This mapping permits forward engineering.
- ◆ The UML is sufficiently expressive and unambiguous.

# **UML:** A Language for Documenting



- The UML also provides a language for expressing requirements and for tests.
- Finally, the UML provides a language for modeling the activities of project planning and release management.

9

#### Goals of the UML

- The primary design goals of the UML are as follows:
  - Provide users with a ready-to-use, expressive visual modeling language to develop and exchange meaningful models.
  - Furnish extensibility and specialization mechanisms to extend the core concepts.
  - Support specifications that are independent of particular programming languages and development processes.
  - Provide a formal basis for understanding the modeling language.
  - Encourage the growth of the object tools market.
  - Support higher-level development concepts such as components, collaborations, frameworks and patterns.
  - Integrate best practices.

### Scope of the UML

- First and foremost, the Unified Modeling Language fuses the concepts of Booch, OMT, and OOSE. The result is a single, common, and widely usable modeling language for users of these and other methods.
- Second, the Unified Modeling Language pushes the envelope of what can be done with existing methods.
- Third, the Unified Modeling Language focuses on a standard modeling language, not a standard process.

11

#### **UML Provides**

- The Unified Modeling Language provides the following:
  - Semantics and notation
  - Semantics to address certain expected future modeling issues, specifically related to component technology, distributed computing, frameworks, and executability.
  - Extensibility mechanisms.
  - Semantics to facilitate model interchange among a variety of tools.
  - Semantics to specify the interface to repositories for the sharing and storage of model artifacts.

# **UML Usage Overview**

- The UML may be used to:
- Represent the Elements of a system or a domain and their Relationships in a Static Structure using class and object diagrams
- ♠ Model the Behavior of objects with state transition diagrams
- Reveal the Physical Implementation Architecture with component & deployment diagrams
- Display the Boundary of a System & its major Functions using use cases and actors
- ◆ Illustrate Use Case Realizations with interaction diagrams

13

#### Features of the UML

- extensibility mechanisms (stereotypes, tagged values, and constraints),
- threads and processes,
- distribution and concurrency (e.g., for modeling ActiveX/DCOM and CORBA),
- patterns/collaborations,
- activity diagrams (for business process modeling),
- refinement (to handle relationships between levels of abstraction),
- interfaces and components, and
- a constraint language.

# Outside the Scope of the UML

- Programming Languages
  - The UML, a visual modeling language, is not intended to be a visual programming language, in the sense of having all the necessary visual and semantic support to replace programming languages.
- Tools
  - The UML defines a semantic metamodel, not a tool interface, storage, or run-time model, although these should be fairly close to one another.
- Process
  - The UML is intentionally process independent, and defining a standard process was not a goal of the UML or OMG's RFP.

15

# Primary Artifacts of the UML

- UML-defining Artifacts: UML Semantics, UML Notation Guide, and UML Standard Profiles
- Development Project Artifacts: In terms of the views of a model, the UML defines the following graphical diagrams:
  - use case diagram
  - class diagram
  - behavior diagrams: statechart diagram, activity diagram
  - interaction diagrams: sequence diagram, collaboration diagram
  - implementation diagrams: component diagram, deployment diagram

