

# Specification Document Recommendations

## 1 Project Overview and Description

The project overview and description should provide a short description of your project. Your description should, at minimum, address the following questions:

- What is the problem you are trying to solve?
- What will your product do?
- Who will use your product?
- How will your product help the intended user base?
- How does your product relate to other similar products?

## 2 Goals

The goals you describe should include all of the functional requirements of your product. You should consider the following questions:

- What are the operations that your user interface will support?
- What are the operations that will be supported by your system?
- Do you have any performance requirements? If so, what are they?

## 3 Design

Your design should be as specific as possible, using diagrams as appropriate. You should describe all of the components of your system and who will be responsible for each. Where possible, you should identify the classes you plan to implement, the responsibilities of each class, and the interface each class supports. You should also identify the communication between classes.

## 4 Deliverables and Timeline

The deliverables and timeline represent an informal contract between you, your sponsor, and the instructor. They indicate what you plan to accomplish and by when you plan to complete each item. The deliverables must be tangible items that can easily be determined to be complete or incomplete. “Think about communication between X and Y” would not be a good deliverable, but “Specify communication protocol between X and Y” would be appropriate. In the latter case, you can provide a document that describes the messages that X and Y can exchange.

## 5 Other Information

- Submit a hard copy of your specification document in class on September 14, 2006.
- Make sure your specification document lists the URLs of the status web pages of every team member.