Discovering Computers

Technology in a World of Computers, Mobile Devices, and the Internet

Chapter 12

Information Systems and Program Development



Objectives Overview

Define system development and list the system development phases

Identify the guidelines for system development

Discuss the importance of project management, feasibility assessment, documentation, and data and information gathering techniques

Discuss the purpose of and tasks conducted in each system development phase

Objectives Overview

Differentiate between low-level languages and procedural languages

Identify the benefits of object-oriented programming languages and application development tools

List other programming languages and application development tools

Describe various ways to develop webpages

System development is a set of activities used to build an information system

System development activities are grouped into phases, and is called the system development life cycle (SDLC)



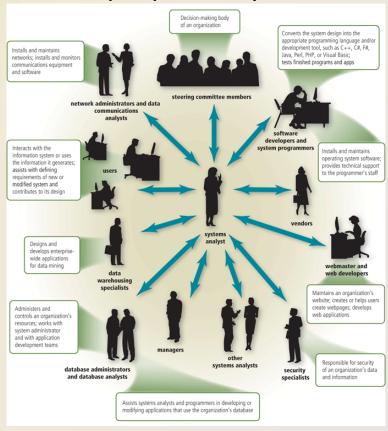
System development should follow three general guidelines:

Group activities or tasks into phases

Involve users

Define standards

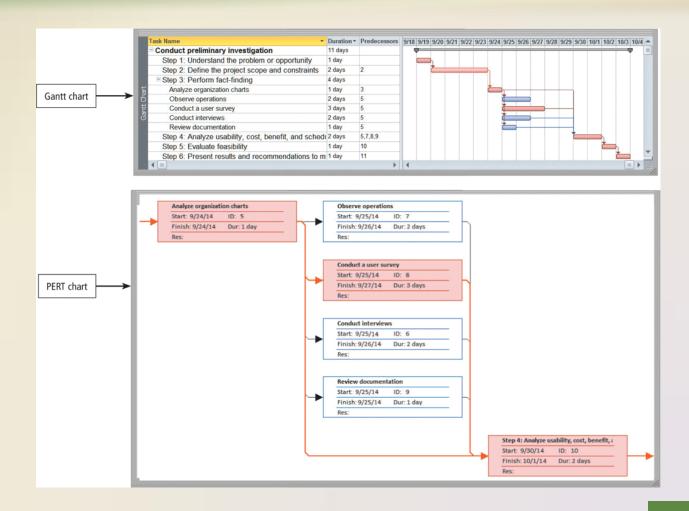
 System development should involve representatives from each department in which the proposed system will be used



- Project management is the process of planning, scheduling, and then controlling the activities during system development
- To plan and schedule a project efficiently, the project leader identifies the following elements:



Popular tools
used to plan
and schedule
the time
relationships
among project
activities are
Gantt and PERT
charts



 Feasibility is a measure of how suitable the development of a system will be to the organization

Operational feasibility

Schedule feasibility

Technical feasibility

Economic feasibility

- Documentation is the collection and summarization of data, information, and deliverables.
- Maintaining up-to-date documentation should be an ongoing part of system development.

 During system development, members of the project team gather data and information using several techniques

Review documentation

Observe

Survey

Interview

JAD Sessions

Research



- The planning phase for a project begins when the steering committee receives a project request
- Four major activities are performed:

Review and approve the project requests

Prioritize the project requests

Allocate resources

Form a project development team

The analysis phase consists of two major activities:

Conduct a preliminary investigation

- Determines and defines the exact nature of the problem or improvement
- Interview the user who submitted the request

Perform detailed analysis

- Study how the current system works
- Determine the users' wants, needs, and requirements
- Recommend a solution

HICKORY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MEMORANDUM

Karl Schmidt, Project Leader Subject: Feasibility Study of Book Ordering System

> Following is the feasibility study in response to the request for a modification to our book ordering system. Your approval is necessary before the next phase of the project will begin.

The purpose of this feasibility report is to determine whether it is beneficial for Hickory Community College to continue studying the book ordering system. The bookstore manager has indicated bookstore staff spends too much time entering and verifying book orders. This project would affect the bookstore and instructors.

Existing System

Currently, the bookstore requires that instructors manually fill in book order forms. On these forms, the instructors fill in the course ID, course section, expected enrollment, and ISBN of the book, indicating whether the book is required or supplemental. As instructors send in their completed book order forms, bookstore staff enters each instructor's book order into bookstore's database program. After book orders are entered, a separate set of bookstore staff compares the original forms with the entered orders to check for any errors that may have occurred during the data entry process. After all orders are verified, they are processed and sent to the book publishers.

The following problems have been identified with the current book ordering system at Hickory

- Bookstore staff spends too much time entering and verifying book orders.
- During the check for errors of entered book orders, staff has been finding an excessive

FEASIBILITY STUDY

Page 2

Benefits of a New or Modified System

Following is a list of benefits that could be realized if the book ordering system at Hickory Community College were modified to enable instructors to use an online book order form, where instructors enter their book orders directly into the bookstore database:

- Data entry errors of book orders by bookstore staff would be eliminated
- Cost of supplies, such as paper and ink, would be reduced by 10 percent.
- Through a more efficient use of bookstore staff time, the college could achieve a 25 percent reduction in temporary assistants in the bookstore.

Feasibility of a New or Modified System

Operational

A modified book ordering system will require instructors enter all book orders online.

The established deadline for the book ordering system is reasonable.

Hickory Community College already has a functional database and server. To handle the increased volume and usage of data, however, it may be required to purchase a larger database server.

A detailed summary of the costs and benefits, including all assumptions, is available on our FTP server. The potential costs of the proposed solution could range from \$15,000 to \$20,000. The estimated savings in temporary clerks and supplies will exceed \$30,000.

If you have any questions about the detailed cost/benefit summary or require further information, please contact me.

Recommendation

Based on the findings presented in this report, we recommend a continued study of the book ordering system.

- The system proposal assesses the feasibility of each alternative solution
- The steering committee discusses the system proposal and decides which alternative to pursue

Modify existing system

Buy retail software

Use web apps

Build custom software

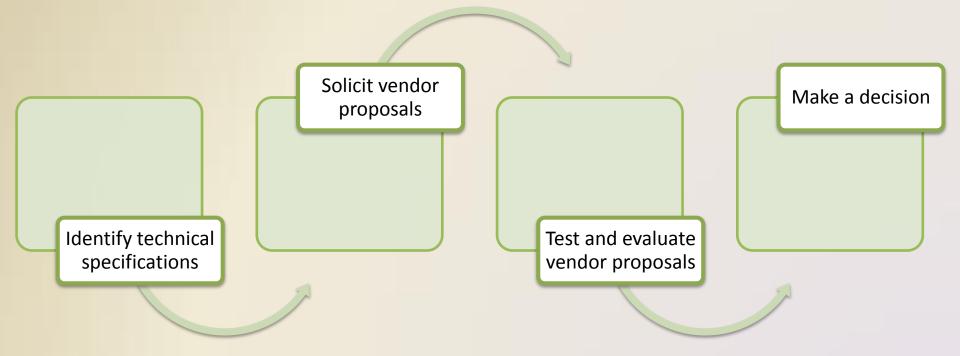
Outsource

The design phase consists of two major activities

Acquire hardware and software

Develop all of the details of the new or modified information system

To acquire the necessary hardware and software:



 The next step is to develop detailed design specifications

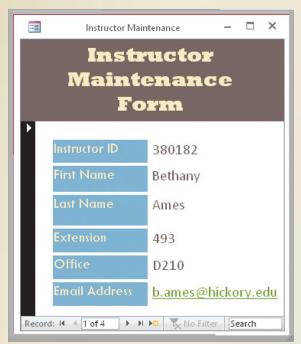
Database design

Input and output design

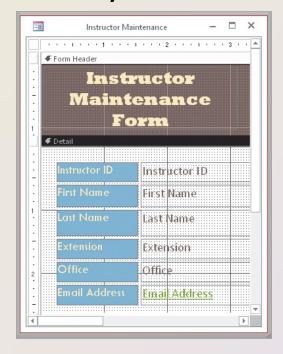
Program design

 Systems analysts typically develop two types of designs for each input and output

Mock-up



Layout chart



- A prototype (proof of concept) is a working model of the proposed system's essential functionality
 - Prototypes have inadequate or missing documentation
 - Users tend to embrace the prototype as a final system
 - Should not eliminate or replace activities

 A prototype (proof of concept) is a working model of the proposed system's essential functionality

 Computer-aided software engineering (CASE) tools are designed to support one or more activities of system

development



 The purpose of the implementation phase is to construct the new or modified system and then deliver it to users

Develop programs and apps

Install and test the new system

Train users

Convert to the new system

 Various tests should be performed on the new system

Unit test

 Verifies that each individual program or object works by itself

Systems test

 Verifies that all programs in an application work together properly

Integration test

 Verifies that an application works with other applications

Acceptance test

 Checks the new system to ensure that it works with actual data

 Training involves showing users exactly how they will use the new hardware and software in the system

- One-on-one sessions
- Classroom-style lectures
- Web-based training



- One or more of four conversion strategies can be used to change from the old system to the new system
 - Direct conversion
 - Parallel conversion
 - Phased conversion
 - Pilot conversion

 The purpose of the support and security phase is to provide ongoing assistance for an information system and its users after the system is implemented

Perform maintenance activities

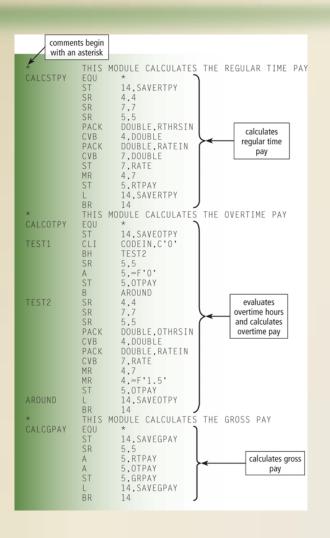
Monitor system performance

Assess system security

- A programming language is a set of words, abbreviations, and symbols that enable a software developer to communicate instructions to a computer or mobile device
 - Low-level language
 - High-level language

- Machine language is the first generation of programming languages
- Only language the computer directly recognizes

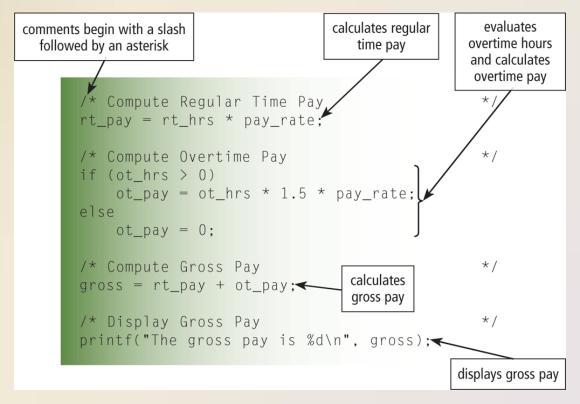
0000DE 0000E2	5A50 47F0	35AA 2100		00102	015AC
000102 000104 000108	1B77 5870 1C47	304E			01050
00010A 00010E 000114 000118 00011C 000120	4E50 F075 4F50 5050 58E0 07FE	30D6 30D6 30D6 3052 30B6	003E	010D8	010D8 0003E 010D8 01054 010B8
000122	50E0	30BA			00122 010BC
000126 000128 00012C 000130 000134 000138	1855 5A50 5B50 5050 58E0 07FE	304E 3052 305A 30BA			01050 01054 0105C 010BC



- Assembly language is the second generation of programming languages
- Programmer writes instructions using symbolic instruction codes
- A source program contains the language instructions, or code, to be converted into machine language

 In a procedural language, the programmer writes instructions that tell the computer what to accomplish and how to do it

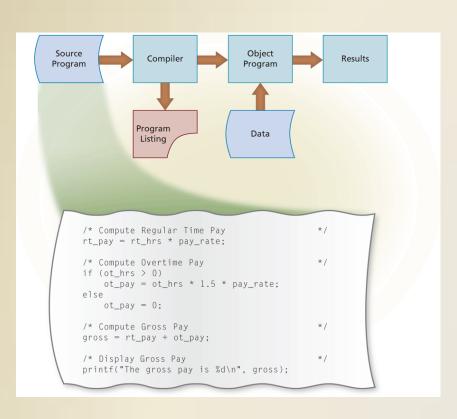
 The C programming language is used to write many of today's programs



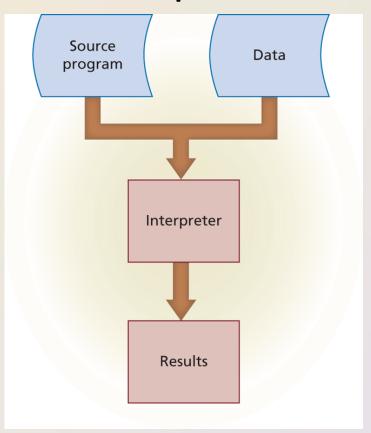
A compiler translates an entire program before executing it

An interpreter converts and executes one code statement at a time

Compiler



Interpreter



- An object-oriented programming (OOP) language allows programmers the ability to reuse and modify existing objects
- Other advantages include:

Objects can be reused

Programmers create applications faster

Most objectoriented application development tools are IDEs

- Java is an object-oriented programming language developed by Sun Microsystems
- The Just-in-time (JIT) compiler to convert the machineindependent code into machine-dependent code

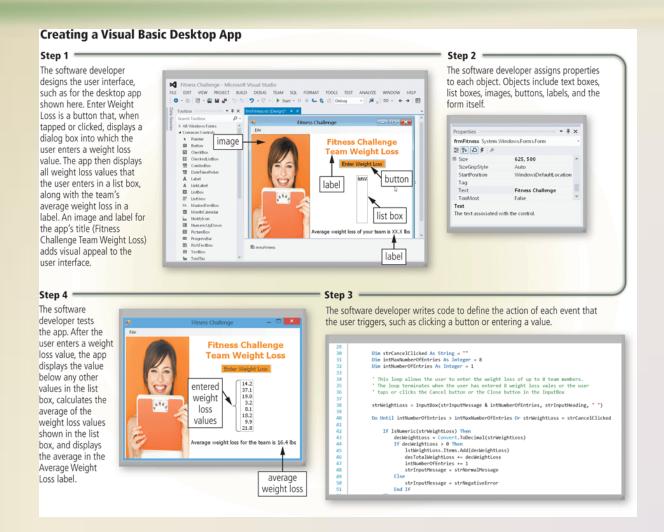
```
public class BodyMassApplet extends Applet implements ActionListener

{
    //declare variables
    Image logo; //declare an Image object
    int inches, pounds;
    double meters, kilograms, index;

//construct.components

Label companyLabel = new Label("THE SUN FITNESS CENTER BODY MASS INDEX CALCULATOR");
    Label heightfield = new Label("Enter your height to the nearest inch ");
    Label weightfield = new Label ("Enter your weight to the nearest pound ");
    Button calcButton = new Button("Calculate");
    Label outputLabel = new Label("Calculate");
    Label outputLabel = new Label("Calculate");
    Label outputLabel = new Label("Calculate");
    inches = Integer, parseInt(weightField.getText());
    meters = inches / 39.36;
    kilograms = pounds / 2.2;
    inches = inches / 39.36;
    kilograms = pounds / 2.2;
    inches = inches / 39.36;
    kilograms = pounds / 2.2;
    inches = inches / 39.36;
    kilograms = pounds / 2.3;
    inches = Integer, parseInt(weightField.getText());
    meters = inches / 39.36;
    kilograms = pounds / 2.3;
    inches = Integer, parseInt(weightField.getText());
    meters = inches / 39.36;
    kilograms = pounds / 2.3;
    inches = Integer, parseInt(weightField.getText());
    meters = inches / 39.36;
    kilograms = pounds / 2.3;
    inches = Integer, parseInt(weightField.getText());
    meters = inches / 39.36;
    kilograms = pounds / 2.3;
    inches = Integer, parseInt(weightField.getText());
    integer = Integer, parseInt(weightField.getText());
    integer = Integer, parseInteger = Integer, parseInte
```

- C++ is an extension of the C programming language
 - Additional features for working with objects
- Visual Studio is Microsoft's suite of objectoriented application development tools that assists software developers in building programs and apps for Windows or any operating system that supports the Microsoft .NET Framework

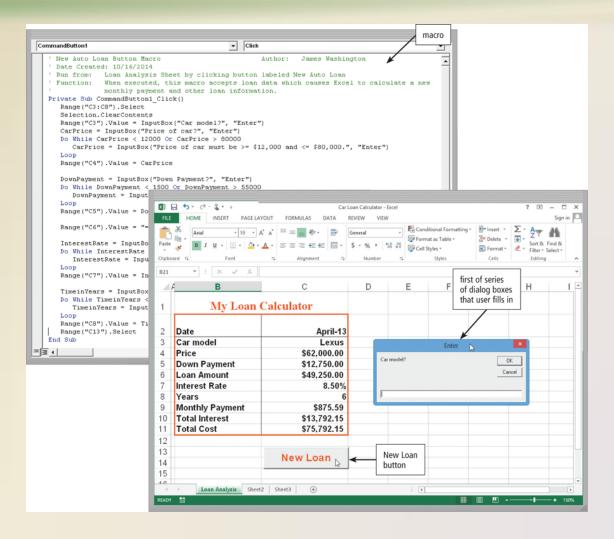


- A 4GL (fourth-generation language) is a nonprocedural language that enables users and programmers to access data in a database
 - One popular 4GL is SQL

Classic programming languages include:

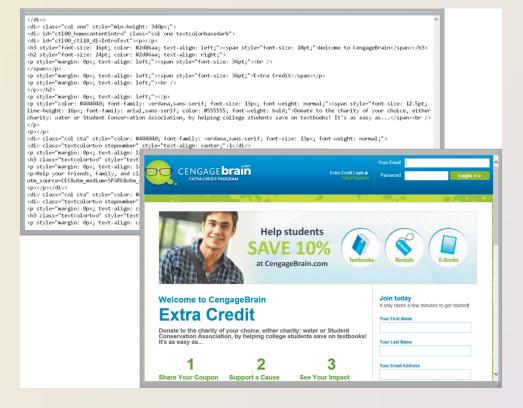
Ada	ALGOL	APL	BASIC	COBOL
Forth	FORTRAN	HyperTalk	LISP	Logo
Modula-2	Pascal	PILOT	PL/1	Prolog
	RPG Smal		lltalk	

- An application generator is a program that creates source code or machine code from a specification of the required functionality
 - Often bundled as part of a DBMS
- A macro is a series of statements that instructs an application how to complete a task
- You usually create the macro in one of two ways:
 - Record the macro with a macro recorder
 - Write the macro



 HTML is a special formatting language that programmers use to format documents for display

on the web



- XML allows web developers to create tags that describe how information is displayed
 - WML is a subset of XML and is used to design pages specifically for microbrowsers

 Software developers write scripts, applets, servlets, or ActiveX controls using a variety of languages



Ruby on Rails provides technologies for developing object-oriented, databasedriven websites

Summary

System development phases

Guidelines for system development

Activities that occur during system development

Various programming languages and program development tools

Web development tools

Discovering Computers

Technology in a World of Computers, Mobile Devices, and the Internet

Chapter 12

Information Systems and Program Development

Chapter 12 Complete

