

## APPRAISAL OF STUDENTS' LEARNING NEEDS IN REQUIREMENTS ENGINEERING CLASS

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Requirements engineering is the discipline where user's requirements are collected, analysed and the specification documents for system development is prepared. The importance of requirements engineering teaching/learning in software engineering has been well recognized in which theory and practice applied to study the process of defining the requirements in software project development. The goal of requirements engineering is to understand the customer's needs and buttress the client to provide the solution using requirements engineering techniques and tools. Unclear requirements are accounted as one of the main cause for software project failure and product defects. Poor understanding of requirements engineering practices and their benefits hampers the industry's software development process. Requirements engineering teaching is an important endeavour that can produce the talented requirements engineers to improve the adoption of requirements engineering methods in the businesses. But there is a lack in produce the talented requirements engineers to satisfy the real time industry's needs. Hence it is necessary to identify needs in requirements engineering class students and provide the proper solution to motivate them to study the requirements engineering concepts in depth to satisfy the real time needs. Convenient sampling method was used to select the students' community for this study. Learning analytics concepts were adopted to measure their needs using self administered questionnaire. Two hundred questionnaires were distributed among the students. One hundred seventy two questionnaires were in usable condition and SPSS 17.0 was used to analyze the data. The results reveal that majority of the students prefer technology based collaborative learning methods than the pure traditional based learning in requirements engineering. Therefore, it is necessary to invent technology based collaborative teaching/learning atmosphere to motivate the students to study the requirements engineering concepts in depth and satisfy the real time society's needs. This could motivate the industry to produce the quality software in economic manner.

**Keywords:** Learning analytics, Requirements engineering