

A working definition for us

(First lecture slide)

*A distributed system is a collection of entities, each of which is **autonomous**, **programmable**, **asynchronous** and **failure-prone**, and which communicate through an **unreliable** communication medium.*

- Entity=a process on a device (PC, PDA)
- Communication Medium=Wired or wireless network
- Our interest in distributed systems involves
 - design and implementation, maintenance, algorithmics
- *What Evidence/Examples have we seen?*