SS ZG622:

Software Project Management

Contact Session # 16

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Topics

- Course review
  - Major topics covered
- Comprehensive exam
  - About the Exam
  - How to prepare for the exam
- Q&A

Major topics covered

- Projects and programs; characteristics of projects; project life cycle management; challenges in managing software development projects

- Project goals vs. program/business goals; project metrics; techniques for effort estimation; distribution of effort across project phases

- Plan-driven and agile processes; selecting a suitable (or the right) process for software development

Major topics covered

- Project planning; project scheduling; AoN diagrams; resource scheduling; critical path

- Types of risks and their management alternatives

- Software product and process quality; quality attributes; quality planning

- Software change management; process and CCB

Major topics covered

- Project monitoring and control; managing teams/stakeholders; managing attrition and distributed teams

- Contracts and their management

- Project evaluation and program/IT-portfolio evaluation; Migration to agile process

- Project closure activities

Comprehensive exam

About the exam

- Open-book, 2 ½ hours duration and most of the questions are specific to some case or some problem domain

- Covers **all course topics** but more emphasis on topics covered after the mid semester test

- Test your broader understanding of SPM and application of specific techniques/methods covered in the course (recorded lectures and contact sessions)

http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/course/67-325/OutsourcingHB.pdf

How to prepare for the exam

- Before the exam
  - Understand various concepts/methods; their importance, application and limitations; what is common and what is different between alternative concepts/methods
  - Practice solving problems such as Gantt charts, activity diagrams, estimation, planning, earned value management, burndown charts, …
  - Understand how various challenges in project management are addressed by different methods or approaches

How to prepare for the exam

- During the exam
    - Do not over-answer by giving lengthy and unrelated answers to fill space
    - Read the questions carefully and understand what is expected
    - Prepare draft answers or points (rough work at the bottom of each page of your answer book)
    - Give concise answers synthesizing, reflecting and connecting your understanding of SPM

Q&A