Learning Journal - 3

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Journal URL: https://github.com/JayPatel286/SOEN_6841_Software_Project_Management

Date Range of Activities: 06/10/2024 to 26/10/2024

Date: 02/11/2024

Key Concepts Learned:

In our exploration of software project management, we covered essential concepts like project scope, timeline management, and quality assurance. We enhanced our pitching and presentation skills to improve communication with stakeholders. Key subjects included the development of comprehensive project plans, supplier management, the creation of Work Breakdown Structures (WBS), and approaches to configuration management. We also focused on budget control and crafting pitches tailored to the audience, crucial for securing interest and backing in software development projects.

Applications in Real Projects:

Central Configuration Management System: This centralized platform is essential for version control, document management, and software distribution, supporting key quality assurance processes for consistent reliability and stakeholder satisfaction. Agile and iterative methods foster adaptability, collaboration, and a strong customer focus throughout project execution.

Interactions:

• Completed Quiz 2 on Risk and Configuration Management (CM) and actively participated in software project management discussions (Chapter 6) to share ideas and coordinate strategies for upcoming presentations.

Challenges Faced:

- **Time Management:** Balancing midterm preparation with project work required effective strategies to manage academic and project commitments.
- **Scope Management:** Ensuring project documents aligned with requirements involved multiple revisions to refine deliverables and control scope creep.

Goals for the Next Week:

- **Readings:** Continue with readings from *Software Project Management: A Process Driven Approach* to deepen understanding of essential project management principles.
- **Midterm Exam Preparation:** Daily review of course materials and practice questions to reinforce core concepts in software project management.

Key Concepts Learned

Baselines: Establishing project baselines is essential for measuring progress and identifying variances. Baselines serve as reference points, allowing comparisons of actual project performance against planned targets, supporting accurate assessments of schedule, scope, and cost variances.

Earned Value Management (EVM): EVM is a valuable tool for measuring schedule and budget performance. By comparing planned vs. actual work and cost, it helps project managers identify variances early and make informed decisions on project adjustments.

Scope Change Management: Managing changes effectively requires thorough investigation and a structured change control system. This ensures that any modifications align with project goals without disrupting established baselines.

Real World Applications

Earned Value Analysis (EVA): EVA provides a quantitative method to evaluate project performance by comparing planned value (PV), earned value (EV), and actual cost (AC). By identifying cost and schedule variances, EVA helps project managers make data-driven budget adjustments and improve forecasting accuracy for project outcomes

Peer Interactions:

Engaged actively in discussions to clear doubts, share valuable study resources, and learned essential topics for deeper learning.

Goals for the Next Week:

Applying project monitoring and control to track progress and implement corrections. Creating Poster Presentation groups for collaboration with a partner to discuss the poster presentation for the selected topic for Topic Analysis.