Learning Journal 1

Student Name: Mutasimur Rahman

Course: Software Project Management

Journal URL: https://github.com/Mutasimur/SOEN-6481_Software-Project-Management

Dates Rage of activities: 9th Sept – 16th Sept

Date of the journal: 17th Sept

Key Concepts Learned:	Application in Real Projects:	Peer Interactions:	Challenges Faced:	Personal development activities:	Goals for the Next Week:
This week's sessions introduced the basics of Project Management and Software Engineering, focusing on how to start a project and estimate its work and costs. We learned about creating a project charter, a document that explains the project's purpose, goals, and what it will deliver. Goals should follow the SMART criteria, meaning they need to be clear,	This week's learnings on project management, particularly in project initiation, effort estimation, and cost modeling, are highly relevant to real-world projects. Creating a project charter and setting SMART objectives ensures clear communication and aligned expectations, which are critical for success. Techniques like COCOMO and	This week, working with classmates gave useful insights, especially when we talked about the difficulties of setting project scope and SMART objectives in fast-changing environments like startups, where things often change quickly. We also worked together on effort	I struggled with understanding and using the effort estimation methods, especially COCOMO and Function Point Analysis (FPA). The formulas and calculations were a bit confusing, and it was hard to figure out how to estimate project size and effort when the information isn't complete	I focused on my professional development by reading more about Agile project management to enhance my understanding of flexible project environments. I spent time going through books and articles on Agile methodologies and how they differ from traditional project management approaches. This helped me	Next week, I aim to deepen my understanding of effort estimation techniques like COCOMO and Function Point Analysis (FPA) by working through practical examples to improve my accuracy in applying them. I also plan to focus on the practical application of Agile methodologies, particularly in managing changing requirements and estimating effort in iterative cycles, through reviewing

measurable, achievable, relevant, and have a deadline. For estimating how much effort a project will take, we looked at methods like using experience, COCOMO (a model to predict project costs), and comparing new projects with similar past ones. We also learned about Function Point Analysis (FPA), which measures software size based on what the user needs. Lastly, we covered cost estimation, which connects the amount of work to the project's budget using methods like activity-based costing. These concepts are essential for planning and managing projects well.	Function Point Analysis (FPA) help in estimating resources and budgeting, providing a structured approach to planning. However, real-world challenges like the availability of accurate historical data and the unpredictability of new technologies can make precise estimation difficult. While these concepts offer benefits in terms of clarity and organization, their effectiveness depends on ongoing adjustments and the experience of the project team.	estimation using methods like COCOMO and Function Point Analysis (FPA), which helped us understand how these techniques can be used in different industries. These discussions showed that while these tools give structure to projects, it's important to be flexible and adjust them to fit the specific situation for them to work well.	or clear. Another thing I found tricky was how to apply these estimation methods to Agile development, where project requirements often change. I think I need more practice or examples to better understand these topics.	grasp how to better handle changing requirements and iterative development processes. I also engaged in discussions with peers and professionals to gain practical insights into the challenges and benefits of Agile in real-world projects, which gave me a broader perspective on how to apply these concepts in my future work.	case studies. Additionally, I want to enhance my skills in risk management and resource allocation to better handle uncertainties in software projects. Finally, I will work on understanding how to integrate both traditional and Agile project management techniques to adapt them based on project needs.