**Learning Journal Template**

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**Course:** Software Project Management **SOEN 6841**

**Journal URL:**

**Dates Rage of activities:** 16/01/2024-23/01/2024

**Date of the journal:** 28/01/2024

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| **Key Concepts Learned:** | **Application in Real Projects:** | **Peer Interactions:** | **Challenges Faced:** | **Personal development activities:** | **Goals for the Next Week:** |
| It was interesting to find out how the **Waterfall Model** is a helpful for projects that require detailed documentation, but not a good choice for teams that require **flexible changes.** The importance of **project initiation** in identifying resources, budget, and timelines in a **project** **lifecycle** is profound. The term that stood out to me was **Algorithmic cost modelling**. I to observed how the estimates based on predefined algorithms help in reducing uncertainty of human judgment | This week’s learning focused on working with the **SMART Objective** methodologies as well as the **algorithmic cost** modeling COCOMO for timelines. I was fascinated to find out about the responsibilities of a Scrum Master. Managing resistance to change in an Agile environment and promoting team collaboration are I feel the biggest challenges they face, as per my experience in the industry. | W.R.T **SMART Framework objectives,**  I discussed these with my project team. We started off with setting up **clear, specific and concrete goals** to achieve in the project. One of my peers elaborated about having **measurable objectives** to allow the progress to be tracked. For this, we started adding updates and comments under the tasks we were working on, on a daily basis. | While studying FPA, I found that figuring out the types and **processing the complexities** was a bit difficult for me and needs further clarification with examples. **COCOMO model** include difficulty in **estimating effort multipliers and scale factors** due to subjective judgments, reliance on historical data which many organizations lack. | For having a deeper understanding of project management processes, I watched **Project Management Course Simplified from SimpliLearn**. It gave me an insight on predictive **project management& agile principles**  Figuring out the **scale factor and effort multiplier** concept with more clarity from the case studies and relevant examples as a part of research activity, I explored various articles related to those. | I will be moving forward with my **CAPM course** as well as revise this week’s concept with more clarifications and **case studies reviews**  Review additional case studies focusing on the **Delphi and Function Point Analysis (FPA)** methods to deepen my understanding of their practical applications. |
| I also noticed the **SMART framework** with effort and cost estimates. It then speaks about popular models like **COCOMO**, **FPA** and **Delphi** to estimate software development effort. | The benefits of having a good scrum master could be better **project alignment with the stakeholders,** **improved planning & resources, and timely execution of deliverables.** | While discussing the **Delphi** method, we discussed insights on **timeline and resource of any software project.** We were able to think of various **factors and perspectives** governing it. | With the **SMART Framework**, I realised that **not all the goals are easily measurable**, especially those involving qualitative outcomes like customer satisfaction | I improved my project management skills by having discussions, where we analyzed projects. I conducted a self-review of project management frameworks to enhance my practical understanding. | Apply learned techniques like COCOMO and SMART framework in a hypothetical project scenario to test my grasp of the concepts and with upcoming chapters, to understand its lifecycle perspective. |

**Final Reflections:**

**Overall Course Impact:**

The course has helped me develop **required learning on the concept and components of software project management in the industry**. Key insights on **project initiation phase** of the **project lifecycle** have helped me understand the importance of doing things right at the initiation phase.

**Application in Professional Life:**

In my professional life, I will be able to better apply the **SMART Framework and other techniques like COCOMO, FPA and Delphi** to calculate man-hours while doing resource estimation for accurate effort and cost estimation and enhanced planning as a Senior Software Developer.

**Peer Collaboration Insights:**

The interactions with my teammates helped me realise the value of **teamwork** and **effective communication** in project management for conflict resolution and achieving goals.

**Personal Growth:**

This insight has enhanced my **critical thinking** and **organizational skills** as a learner. I've grown more confident in handling complex situations related to conflict resolution and making informed decisions in my daily life.