**Learning Journal Template**

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

**Journal URL:** https://github.com/Rupal27/SOEN6841

**Dates Rage of activities:** 23/01/2024-31/01/2024

**Date of the journal:** 9/02/2024

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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 learn about the use of **counting boundary** in calculating **Function Points**. Additionally, learning that the **Value Adjustment factor** also helps us compute on **GSCs** the degree of influence further. | Identifying and categorizing **risks** in categories such as : **Technology risks, People risks, Organizational Risks, Tools risks** and **Requirement Risks** during sprint planning can help in **overall estimation** and calculating surplus **buffer accordingly.** | While calculating the availability of my peers to deliver our project pitches, we divided our parts for the delivery. While assessing the goal, we noted things that could act as a **risk** while delivering our deliverable. A person’s unavailability acted as an **organisational risk.** | Understanding the significance of **Risk Reduction Leverage** as a concept and not just a metric needs further clarification. To understand **what it does to a project** and how having values of > or <1 can impact a particular project will provide clarity. | I read the following research paper to clarify my understanding on COCOMO: **An Amplified COCOMO-II Based Cost Estimation Model in Global Software Development Context**  by M. A. Babar and M. Niazi, where they aim to improve the accuracy of cost estimations in distributed software development environments. | I want to also focus on understanding **COCOMO cost modelling**. To challenge myself to assess and evaluate and mitigate risks in my goal setting. Also read about **Configuration Management** and understand how change is incorporated in an ongoing project. |
| Understanding different **categories, impacts and** the **definition** of **Risk** itself introduced me to the concept of having an event with a negative consequence, and what to do next to mitigate it. | The **potential challenges** of identifying and categorizing risks for every sprint can **slow down planning**.  Additionally, teams may find it difficult to **balance risk assessment with actual development work**. | We realized that **risk mitigation** reduces the consequences of adverse risks. **Taking early action** to reduce a risk’s impact is better than reacting later. Therefore, we came up with another plan to cope with the **absence of our teammate**. | I faced challenges in understanding COCOMO cost modelling in depth, and what **kdsi** implies (size of effort in person months). | I read the blog on **Risk Reduction Leverage (RRL) Calculation** to better understand the values and their meanings  <https://quizgecko.com/learn/risk-reduction-leverage-rrl-calculation-wtwdtl>. | I also want to understand the uses of and differences between **PERT chart and GANTT chart** while in the project planning stage. To also understand the significance of **Milestones** in a project. |

**Final Reflections:**

**Overall Course Impact:**

This course helped me enhance my understanding of **risk assessment**, cost estimation models like **COCOMO**. It transformed my approach to identifying, categorizing, and mitigating risks, making my estimations more **data-driven and structured.**

**Application in Professional Life:**

The ability to **categorize risks** and **estimate surplus buffers will be crucial in Agile sprint planning** and software project management. Understanding risk reduction leverage and cost modeling will help in decision-making and resource allocation for future projects.

**Peer Collaboration Insights:**

Collaborating with peers helped me recognize real-world risks in project execution, such as **organizational and people risks**. Discussions and shared experiences enhanced my ability to analyze **and mitigate risks effectively in a team setting**.

**Personal Growth:**

I have improved my ability to critically assess uncertainties, plan risk mitigation strategies, and incorporate structured estimation techniques. My confidence in handling project management challenges has grown, along with my ability to evaluate risks proactively.