**Learning Journal Template**

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

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

**Dates Rage of activities:** 01/02/2024-15/02/2024

**Date of the journal:** 23/02/2024

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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 amazing to learn about **baseline structure,** which is used to execute, monitor and control the project. I also understood what **milestones** are for.  The approaches of **top-down** and **bottom-up** stood out to me as they differ in both their inputs and outputs. | Identifying how a **control management system** can be used to enable cooperation and tracking of shared documents across teams is insightful. | It was an interesting insight to observe that the individual plans may change, but the **project baseline never does.** | As part of **configuration auditing,** it was difficult to understand how formal qualification reviews were conducted for the artifacts. How can it be **verified** software product is built according to the **requirements, standards, or contractual agreement** | I read the article <https://cloudaware.com/blog/configuration-management-vs-change-management/> , which delves into the distinctions between configuration management and change management, emphasizing the importance of treating them as separate processes to avoid chaos such as missed updates and compliance issues. | I would like to focus on how a project manager is able to manage **planning** with the **least amount of information** at hand. How he uses his **experience** at hand to do so.  Additionally, I would also like to understand in detail what **project monitoring** is. |
| Understanding what **configuration management** means and its **purpose** helped me realise how important it is to manage change in a project. It is used to maintain integrity of work. | Sometimes, when there are many interdependencies between the tasks, i.e. the task graph becomes highly cohesive, it becomes difficult and complex to **arrange the tasks to form a WBS**. This often poses as a challenge for project managers. | We discussed amongst ourselves what would be the best way to keep the **revision history of a project**. To analyse what could its impact be in case multiple teams share it. | Another challenge I faced was comprehending how a project manager **tries to define the scope** of things during the **planning phase**, although the tasks and requirements may still not be completely available. | Additionally, I dived deep into this blog <https://www.knack.com/blog/project-management-planning-phase/>, which further provides insights into effectively breaking down broad project objectives into actionable tasks during the planning phase. It emphasizes the importance of comprehensive planning to prevent issues like missed deadlines and resource misallocation. | I would like to **enhance** my understanding on how a **work breakdown structure (WBS)** is created from tasks presented to a project manager. I would also like to explore what **techniques** are there for **project control.** |

**Final Reflections:**

**Overall Course Impact:**

A key takeaway from this course has been understanding how to maintain project integrity through **proper planning**, ensuring that objectives are met efficiently. Additionally, learning about **configuration management** has highlighted the role of structured processes in handling changes smoothly, ensuring projects stay on track.

**Application in Professional Life:**

Understanding how to **track project progress** has proven valuable. Additionally, insights into **auditing processes** have emphasized the importance of ensuring compliance with predefined standards.

**Peer Collaboration Insights:**

Collaborative efforts helped in exploring different approaches to managing dependencies and keeping track of project revisions. It became clear how shared knowledge and teamwork contribute to overcoming uncertainties in project planning and execution.

**Personal Growth:**

This course has fostered **critical thinking** and **analytical skills**, particularly in assessing project risks and making informed decisions. It has also encouraged a **structured approach to planning** and execution, reinforcing the value of well-defined strategies.