Unit 12 Reflection

Description

This was the twelve and final unit of the Software Engineering Project Management module. This unit focused on wrapping up the software engineering project management module and the main deliverable for this unit was the final assignment. The goals of this unit were the same as the last unit where we again looked at the future trends in the industry. This goal was achieved through the reading for this unit of the module and the seminar.

Feelings

I still don't really understand why so much importance has been placed throughout the entirety of the course on e-portfolios as whilst they are good in theory I don't believe they should be an assignment to the modules given how long they take to do as when combined with all the other assignments and activities the work load for the module can be high as was the case with this module.

I also don't feel that the presentation required for this unit of the module was necessary as a collaborative discussion or wiki post would have sufficed. I didn't really see the benefit in an additional presentation given the time left in the module and the fact the e-portfolio had to be handed in this week.

I believe the assignments should have been spaced apart more as the e-portfolio was due one week after the second assignment not giving you much time to prioritise the e-portfolio as I prefer to complete one assignment before working on the next one which was not possible in this module due to the deadlines of each assignment.

I feel as if the structure of this unit of the module could have been improving by having a collaborative discussion instead of the lecture as by now the lecturer is aware of the poor attendance by the other students so could have added an additional collaborative discussion to account for that.

Evaluation

This unit served as a useful wrap up for the project management module. Even though I don't envision myself ever working in project management I do believe I learned a lot over the course of this module how relevant it will be on the other hand only time will tell. I do believe I gained a much greater appreciation for the role project managers play in the project over the course of the module largely due in part to the fact that I have never worked on a failed project up to this point in my career as I am a relatively inexperienced software developer having just over 2 years professional experience. As it is highly likely at some point in my career I will work on a project that is considered a failure having the necessary skills to be able to spot and mitigate potential risks can only be considered a good thing.

Analysis

The main deliverable for this unit was the e-portfolio assignment which I struggle with seeing the value in as I already know how I have developed over the course of the module so while it helps improve my reflective skills I question the need for it.

Conclusion

This unit concluded the software engineering project management module.

Action plan

I will spend a greater amount of time planning out any project I work on in the future and will add it to my existing e-portfolio I use when applying for jobs.

References

Gibbs, G. (1998) Learning by Doing: A guide to teaching and learning methods. Further Education Unit. Oxford Polytechnic: Oxford.