

Unit 4 Reflection

Description

This was the fourth unit of the Software Engineering Project Management module. The goals of this unit were to learn how risks can be mitigated in large software projects and learn about which project estimation tool is appropriate using scenario-based learning. This unit consisted of a live seminar, collaborative discussion post and a wiki entry.

Feelings

There were a lot of negatives in this unit of the module such as, I didn't feel there was much new content covered in this unit of the module, I didn't get the lecture slide early again even though I am supposed to as part of my reasonable adjustment plan and the learning platform was out of date containing duplicate entries which is not up to the standard I would expect from postgraduate study. Additionally, I felt as though my summary post suffered from a lack of feedback from my peers as you had to reference the peer responses in your summary post, and I only received two very short peer responses, and I experienced a similar issue with the wiki entry as part of it relied on other students to complete their wiki entry, which they never did. I would suggest this be changed in the module as it relies on other people, so when they don't do it, it affects the students who actually do the work.

Evaluation

This unit involved putting the theory from the previous unit into practice and taught me about which estimation tool is suitable in different scenarios. As estimation is a key skill for any software developer, becoming better at estimating will be beneficial.

Analysis

This unit taught me how to estimate tasks more effectively, which is something I have had to do in all my previous jobs as prior to starting any work, you would have to create a plan and have it reviewed.

Conclusion

This unit focused on how to mitigate risks and the different tools used for estimation.

Action plan

I will use the different tools and frameworks to estimate tasks discussed in this unit of the module such as OCTAVE and COCOMO and will consider how to mitigate any potential risks that could occur throughout a project.

References

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