

Learning Journal for Week 02

Student Name: Sanjana Sayeed

Course: Software Project Management

Journal URL: <https://github.com/SayeedSanjana/SOEN6841>

Week 1: Jan28 – Feb03

Date: Feb03, 2024

Key Concepts Learned:

This week, I learned a few new effort estimating tactics, which are an important step in successful project management. Depending on the situation, many strategies for estimating effort might be utilized. After reading the book and participating in class discussions, I learned about new methodologies such as the COCOMO model, FPA analysis, and Delphi model. After thoroughly reading the book, I learned that if you have good information for the current project but no data for the previous project, the COCOMO model is the best to use. On the other hand, if data is available for both the present and earlier projects, it is advisable to go for the FPA Analysis because this technique leverages historical project data to generate adjustment factors. If all data is accessible for the current project, the Delphi model is the ideal solution, as it is mostly an experience-based technique. Aside from that, we learned how to use mathematical calculations to determine effort. In addition, this week we had the opportunity to study about effort estimation for several software models such as the waterfall model and the iterative model. Aside from effort estimation, we discussed cost and schedule estimation as essential components of successful project management. Next, we discussed risk management for any project and how to plan such that it has a less negative impact on our future plans. We learned that going over budget is one of the most serious repercussions for risk management. Furthermore, the class debate revealed that there are two criteria. Risk assessment should consider both quantitative and qualitative factors. Furthermore, we learned about the many risk management processes, including risk identification, risk, consequence, risk prioritization, and risk mitigation. We also discussed risk transfer and risk reduction leverage.

Application in Real Projects:

Risk management and cost estimation ensure that software efforts are well-planned, resourced, and budgeted. Accurate estimating fosters client trust, while proactive risk mitigation prevents project delays and financial pressures. Both strategies contribute to maintaining project quality and control, resulting in successful project delivery. For the project we are assigned, the knowledge we gained this week will assist us in estimating the cost of our project as well as mitigating and understanding the risks involved with it.

Peer Interactions:

This week, I spoke with my teammates about the project. We discussed how we should go with the project and what factors we should consider when approaching the project. We were assigned a predefined topic for our assignment. We brainstormed on the issue for a while, spoke about the problem statement, problem identification, and performed some analysis of the grades for the assignment we were assigned. Then, divide the tasks for the project's initial delivery.

Challenges Faced:

This week's challenges were minimal because many of the topics we covered were thoroughly documented in the book and clarified by the lecturer in class. However, for the project we have been assigned, we need to conduct extensive research and brainstorming to conduct market analysis and identify problems.

Personal development activities:

As part of my own development, I read a few periodicals about current trends in software project management. Reviewing the case study provided in class to gain practical insights into how properly integrating various project management ideas helps to the production of an ideal software solution. Furthermore, the exercise we completed this week gave me insight into how effort estimating is done for agile projects.

Goals for the Next Week:

We have a deadline of next week to submit the project's first deliverable. Following the requirement to review the preceding chapters (1, 2, and 4). After reviewing these chapters, you should read the case studies accessible on Moodle for chapters 4 and 5. Finally, we must read Chapter 5, which will teach us about the configuration management system, its various components, the relevance of software configuration management in software development, and what tactics may be used to successfully manage software.