**Learning Journal 2**

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**Course:** Software Project Management (SOEN-6841)

**Journal URL:** [Learning Journal 2](https://github.com/Shehzer-Aurangzeb/SOEN-6481-SPM/blob/main/40291795_Learning_Journal_1.docx)

**Dates Rage of activities:** 30/01/2025 to 06/02/2025

**Date of the journal:** 09/02/2025

1. **Key Concepts Learned:**

**Risk Management (Chapter 4):**

* Risks significantly affect project success, making structured identification, analysis, and control essential.
* Missing deadlines can lead to lost business opportunities, highlighting the need for proactive risk control.
* Risks arise from factors like resource constraints, service interruptions, and outdated technologies.
* Risk is measured by its likelihood and impact, with response strategies including:
  + **Acceptance** – Acknowledging the risk without taking action.
  + **Transference** – Shifting responsibility to a third party (e.g., insurance).
  + **Mitigation** – Reducing the impact or likelihood of risk.
  + **Avoidance** – Eliminating the root cause of the risk.
* A key lesson: Proactive risk management is crucial to keeping a project on track.

**Configuration Management (CM) (Chapter 5):**

* CM ensures changes and versions are managed efficiently to maintain deliverable integrity.
* It consists of several components:
  + **Identification** – Recognizing configuration items that need to be tracked.
  + **Change Control** – Reviewing and approving changes through a Change Control Board (CCB).
  + **Status Accounting** – Keeping records of all changes made.
  + **Audits** – Regularly verifying that configuration management policies are followed.
* CM helps reduce errors and inefficiencies, especially in fast-changing software projects.

1. **Application in Real Projects:**

* Risk management is critical in high-uncertainty projects, such as implementing new technologies.
* Incorporating risk assessments during planning helps identify potential threats early.
* Using risk prioritization models ensures that the most critical risks are addressed first.
* Risk assessments should be revisited throughout the project to manage evolving challenges.
* In large teams, proper CM practices prevent inconsistencies and conflicts between different project versions..

1. **Peer Interactions:**

* Discussed group project topics and brainstormed potential new functionalities for existing systems.
* A peer shared their experience with overlooked risks causing major project setbacks—reinforcing the importance of early risk identification.
* Another peer explained how configuration management supports DevOps, particularly in Continuous Integration (CI), giving me a broader perspective on CM’s role in modern software development.

1. **Challenges Faced:**

* Struggled with the mathematical aspects of risk prioritization, particularly calculating riskexposure and translating it into actionable strategies.
* Balancing strict configuration management processes with the flexibility needed in fast-moving projects remains a complex challenge I want to explore further.

1. **Personal development activities:**

* Watched a video on **risk management strategies**, learning from real-world case studies.
* Enrolled in an online course on **Git and version control**, gaining hands-on experience in CM tools and workflows.

1. **Goals for the Next Week:**

* Learn to use project management tools like **Jira, Trello, and Asana**.
* Set up a **small-scale configuration management system** for a personal project to apply CM concepts practically.
* **Time management:** **2 hours/week** going through lecture slides and participating in group project activities