Weekly Learning Journal

Week (Feb. 4 - Feb. 10)

Journal URL: https://github.com/Vaishakhi2000/SOEN6841_journals

1. **Key Concepts Learned**

   This week's studies focused primarily on Chapters 5 and 6, going into the complex realms of project management.

   First start with Chapter 5, The practice of managing and recording system changes is known as configuration management, or CM. The significance of CM as a project's cornerstone and its function in upholding discipline. Changes in finance, requirements, and technology improvements are some examples of the sources that might affect a software project. The risks linked to unmanaged modifications and the requirement for a methodical strategy in configuration management. Features and attributes of an excellent Configuration Management System (CMS). Advantages of CM for a project include lowering ambiguity, creating structure, and guaranteeing accurate product configurations. A Change Control Policy's constituent parts and the Change Control Board's (CCB) decision-making function. Identification, control, status accounting, and auditing are the functions of configuration management.

   In Chapter 6, An overview of project planning as an elaborate process that takes time from conception to system delivery. Project scheduling, budgeting, manpower planning, and quality planning are some of the components that make up project planning. Work Breakdown Structure (WBS), CPM, and Goldratt's Critical Chain Method are project scheduling techniques. Communication planning and quality assurance are crucial for project success. Effective communication and peer role play a crucial role in the collaborative components of project planning. Budgetary concerns for the project and aim modifications considering development and growing comprehension. Project planning in models of iterative software lifecycles and the distinct methodology in contrast to waterfall approaches.

2. **Reflections on Case Study/Course Work**

   The case studies incorporated in Chapter 5 provided incredible real-world examples of theoretical ideas, illuminating useful tactics for effective project management. Several important conclusions can be drawn from this perceptive investigation:

   - The case study clearly demonstrates how a centralized configuration management system may be used to effectively promote teamwork across disparate internal, external, and offshore teams.
   - The application of access rights control complies with theoretical ideas, demonstrating how to document integrity is preserved by granting particular permissions to authorised team members.
   - The real-world success story emphasises the significance of 24/7 availability and strong security measures in guaranteeing uninterrupted operations and system integrity.
   - The practice of developers maintaining local builds and running tests resonates with theoretical discussions, emphasising the importance of pre-check-in validation to minimise disruptions in the central build.

- The case study validates the theoretical notion of version control best practices, emphasising the role of a main branch in simplifying management and ensuring a streamlined development process.

3. Collaborative Learning

Project Session:

- took advantage of the chance to work with the team to explore various aspects of configuration management benefits by applying principles learned in class to actual project scenarios.
- During this practical, in-the-moment conversation, we broke down real-world problems and improved estimating techniques.

Active Participation in Discussions:

- proved to be quite helpful in the learning process, improving the capacity to handle erratic project dynamics and creating a stimulating, cooperative learning atmosphere.
- Promoted the sharing of various viewpoints on project planning and configuration management, strengthening theoretical ideas and expanding knowledge of contextual differences in project management techniques.
- happened at breaks, after lectures, and in class; sharing of real-world instances enriched viewpoints.
- gave people a place to challenge presumptions and work together to investigate answers, fostering a dynamic and engaging learning environment.

4. Further Research/Readings

- Starting on the groundwork established this week, my targeted research method will explore In the next readings, make plans to dive into advanced CM approaches and Agile project planning methodologies.
- Continue to learn about version control systems, such as Git, and their importance in continuous maintenance.
- Seek to learn how version control systems—especially Git—integrate with DevOps procedures for a comprehensive knowledge.
- Through upcoming readings, hope to obtain useful insights into industry best practices for modern software development.
- Make plans to add further resources to the current course material to get a more in-depth and useful grasp of CM.

5. Adjustments to Goals

I have revised my learning objectives and set attainable goals in response to the tasks that will be assigned this coming week. These goals are in keeping with the course material and project work.

- Establish efficient channels of communication among the team to guarantee smooth project collaboration.
- Establish clear roles and duties for each member of the group to create an organised workflow.
- Keep working on the project initiates, establishing the goals, parameters, and initial schedules.

- Carefully go over Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, highlighting important ideas and real-world examples.
- Recap the key lessons learned from each chapter, highlighting important ideas that can be applied to actual project situations.
- Ask for feedback from teachers or peers to make sure you fully grasp the exercise and its application in real life.
- To get a deeper understanding of different project scenarios, look into other case studies that are connected to Chapters 5 and 6.