**Software Project Management - SOEN 6841**

**Learning Journal – 1 Chapters 1 and 2**

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**Course:** Master Of Software Engineering

**Journal URL:** <https://github.com/VishnuRameshbabu/SOEN6841>

**Week 1:** Jan 18 – Jan 27

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**Key Concepts Learned:**

I had the opportunity to go through the slides as I got enrolled pretty late into the class. I learned the definition about what a Project actually means, it’s differentiation from other discipline projects, Project management it’s sub processes. The various phases in a project lifecycle, software tasks from requirements management till software maintenance. Project initiation tasks like, initial schedule estimates, project charter till initial cost estimation.   
  
Software product initiation tasks like market analysis, product development estimates , product features, product delivery and product service and the metrics for a software project.  
  
I got to learn about the importance of Project Charter which gives a brief about the project, and project scope which defines the resources and deadlines and project objectives which states the improvements of the new project compared to it’s existing base.  
  
Project initiation is done to give an initial idea, such that smaller tasks can be drawn and worked upon. After an initial estimate, it will be fine tuned to give accurate estimates of the project.

Another method is project division, where an expert is called in to make an effort and cost estimation after which bids are invited from software companies. Objectives are set as project definition with an if condition, like if it exceeds by this metric, it’s considered a success.

**New Terms introduced:**

**S –** specific, well defined

**M -** measurable

**A -** achievable

**R -** relevant

**T -** time constraint

**Application in Real Projects:**

These learnings can be applied to any business or personal projects that are well defined within the definition of the project. This gives an idea of the various sub tasks involved in the project requirements gathering phase, project development and project release. To give an example,  
  
A company launches a project for a new CRM software solution. The project includes phases like design, development, testing, and maintenance. Project management involves scheduling, risk management, and quality assurance. Initiation includes estimating schedules, creating a project charter, and initial cost estimates.

Software product initiation involves market analysis, development estimates, feature definition, and success metrics. The Project Charter outlines the project's purpose, scope, and initial timelines, ensuring success through continuous task division and fine-tuning of estimates.

**Challenges Faced:**

The concepts that I learned for this week is easier to understand and gives an introduction to project management and the various steps in the project initiation process. A practical approach would give a better understanding of these concepts, but I believe we will get to implement these in the upcoming project for this course.

**Peer Interactions:**

I enrolled pretty late, so I didn’t get the opportunity to attend the initial classes or to interact with any peers. But I did interact with my peers online regarding the project and the project risk management.

**Personal development activities:**

I am planning to undertake an oracle certification in Java as it would help my professional career. This certification gives me a sense of technical mastery over the language and also gives me project management techniques which relates to this course as well.

**Goals for the Next Week:**

Goals for next week would be to go through the course book and learn the concepts.