

Learning Journal Template

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Course: Software Project Management

Journal URL: [Github Link](#)

Dates Range of activities: 16.01.2025 – 23.01.2025

Date of the journal: 28.01.2025

Key Concepts Learned:

This week, I explored the fundamentals of software project management. I learned what defines a project, how it differs from a job, and the various project phases. The role of a project manager stood out, as they must balance scope, time, and cost while ensuring smooth execution. The project initiation phase was particularly insightful, introducing the project charter, scope definition, and budget estimation. The SMART objective framework helped me understand how to set clear and achievable goals.

Application in Real Projects:

I can see how project phases and structured planning are essential in real-world software development. Breaking down tasks into smaller milestones can make projects more manageable. Understanding the project scope and defining clear objectives would help in my own projects, like my microservices application. Learning how budgets are estimated and schedules created gave me insights into real industry practices.

Peer Interactions:

This week, I had multiple discussions with my peers. We worked on forming project groups, which was a challenge as we wanted a balanced mix of skills and interests. Selecting a project topic was another engaging discussion. I also started discussing our upcoming poster presentation with Saheb Singh Chandok, brainstorming how to best convey our project idea visually and concisely. These discussions helped me realize the importance of collaboration and effective communication in project planning.

Challenges Faced:

I struggled to differentiate between project lifecycle tasks and project management processes. Understanding how project cost estimation is linked to effort estimation was also tricky. But after going through the chapters I was able to understand the core concepts better.

Personal development activities:

I read about the latest government spendings on IT as part of chapter 1.1 and 2.2 exercises. Additionally, to deepen my understanding, I reviewed case studies of successful software projects.

Goals for the Next Week:

Next week, I want to focus on risk management and stakeholder communication, as these are critical for ensuring project success. I also want to refine my understanding of project scheduling techniques and cost estimation methods.