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**Course:** SOEN 6841

**Journal URL:** https://github.com/anubhavm101/SPM-Learning-Journal

**Dates Rage of activities:** 09-Sept-2024 to 22-Nov-2024

**Date of the journal:** 20-Nov-2024

**Overall Course Impact**

* **Enhanced Understanding of Project Management Principles**: This course significantly improved my knowledge of the project management, especially in applying these concepts to real-world projects. I gained insight into the full lifecycle of a project, from initiation to completion. Through tasks such as establishing a project charter, I learned the value of early project planning and scope definition.
* **Emphasis on SMART Objectives and Clear Expectations**: One of the most impactful lessons I learned was how to set SMART objectives (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound) for our projects. These objectives helped us ensure that project goals are clear and achievable, which is crucial for both the project team and stakeholders.
* **Market Analysis and Project Initiation**: The course emphasized on aspects like as market analysis and project initiation. Before, I would dive into projects without fully considering the external environment or conducting a detailed analysis. he moves to strategic thinking about a project's objective, market trends, and possible stakeholders has enlarged my perspective.
* **Managing Complexity, Roles, and Dependencies**: This course switched my focus from simple task management to managing project complexity and interdependence. I now understand that project management entails efficiently coordinating numerous factors—teams, stakeholders, resources, and timelines—to meet project objectives.
* **Project Phases for Better Time and Resource Estimations**: I learned the value of breaking down projects into smaller, more manageable chunks, which makes calculating time, resources, and expenses easier. This strategy has changed how I manage academic and personal projects, as I now utilize organized planning to track progress and complete each stage on time, thereby reducing delays and resource overuse.

**Application in Professional Life**

* **Direct Application in Teaching Assistant Role and Projects**: The skills I learnt in this course are already useful in my position as a Teaching Assistant. For example, when handling course materials and working with students, I use project management principles to maintain a smooth workflow. The ability to arrange projects, set deadlines, and track progress has enabled me to manage various duties effectively
* **Intelligent Tutoring System Project**: The knowledge obtained from this course is directly applicable to the Intelligent Tutoring System project on which I am currently working. We are currently revising project goals, defining deliverables, and assigning roles to team members. By implementing project management principles, we were able to divide our project into manageable phases, making it easier to assess progress and identify bottlenecks early on.
* **Leadership and Project Management Career Opportunities**: This training has emphasized the skills required for leadership jobs, qualifying me for positions such as project manager and team leader. By combining technical expertise with project management knowledge, I may pursue chances in technology-driven industries that require both strategic oversight and hands-on involvement, thereby promoting my long-term professional development.

**Peer Collaboration Insights**

* **Collaboration on the Intelligent Tutoring System Project**: Working with peers on the Intelligent Tutoring System project was one of the most beneficial components of this course. The project's collaborative character allowed me to see personally how teamwork promotes learning and achievement. Regular team meetings allowed us to discuss ideas, review each other's work, and ensure that all perspectives were considered when making choices. My classmates' different skill sets and experiences helped me gain a better knowledge of project management methods.
* **Value of Peer Feedback and Brainstorming**: One of the key takeaways from peer collaboration was the value of feedback and brainstorming. During our group meetings, we challenged each other's assumptions, resulting in more imaginative solutions and clearer project objectives. My peers also provided helpful input that helped me find areas for growth, especially in areas like task allocation and deadline management.
* **Building Effective Roadmaps-Topic Analysis**: As part of our peer collaboration, We gave a topic presentation on "Building Effective Roadmaps." This talk provided a wonderful opportunity to further our collective understanding of strategic planning and its function in project management. Preparing and delivering this topic allowed me and my peers to investigate how thorough roadmaps lead to more precise project timeframes, resource allocation, and milestone tracking.

**Personal Growth**

* **Growth in Project Management Skills:** This course has been crucial in my growth as a learner. My initial expertise with project management was restricted to individual tasks and small-scale assignments. However, this training has given me a better grasp of how to manage huge, difficult projects. I now feel much more competent in breaking down projects into specific, concrete steps and effectively managing resources.
* **Managing Complexity and Breaking Down Projects**: One of the most important aspects of my personal development has been my capacity to manage complexity. The technique of breaking down projects into smaller segments has transformed my perspective on project execution. Rather than being overwhelmed by a project's broad scope, I now divide it into achievable tasks and focus on producing outcomes incrementally.
* **Preparation for Leadership Roles and Enhanced Presentation Skills:** The course prepared me to lead in project management by teaching me how to mix technical work with strategic control. It has also improved my ability to set realistic goals and manage teams so that projects are completed on time. Furthermore, opportunities to deliver subjects and project updates honed my public speaking and presentation skills, giving me confidence in articulating complicated ideas. These experiences have equipped me to take on positions that demand both technical knowledge and leadership abilities.

In conclusion, this course has not only provided me with the tools and techniques to manage projects more effectively but has also fostered my growth as a leader, collaborator, and strategic thinker. I feel more prepared to take on complex projects in my professional career and use these skills to create lasting, positive impacts in my future roles.