During this week, we focused on the reasons for project failure and success. Going through the reasons for project failure was interesting to me because despite the existences of the statistics and reasons why projects fail, many projects still fail with all the knowledge available to them as to why projects fail and succeed. To be sure, it is not usually as clean cut as just making sure your team does not do what makes projects fail and only do what makes projects succeed generally. The reasons why projects fail are usually quite situational and personal to each project, but in terms of keeping employees on track and teams communicating I feel that much improvement is needed for many companies. This improvement could amount to measurable success with the project and serve as an example for other project teams or even other companies, and it is surprising that companies and project leaders still struggle with essentials like communication.

One of the bigger takeaways from this week’s session’s is that no matter what, projects are likely to have many mistakes and miscalculations involved, and there is no use in focusing on being completely perfect. Of course, teams should strive to be as close to perfect as possible, but it should not be the main goal as the goal is to finish the project and provide what is expected. Another interesting point is how many projects change scope and try to accommodate extra tasks to make up for lost resources and time. This is another mistake our teams will try to avoid during the Governor’s Island project. These lessons will be relevant in my professional life because I will be ready to address these possible issues and mistakes with projects when I am working in groups or on projects in the future and working towards a solution will be easier since I will be more familiar with these types of issues.