Learning Journal - II

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Course: SOEN 6841- Software Project Management

Journal URL: https://github.com/dashi1601/SOEN6841LJ_40267664/

Dates Range of activities: 26/09/24 – 28/09/2024, 1/10/24, 3/10/24

Date of the journal: 30/09/24

Key Concepts Learned:	**Application in Real Projects:**	**Peer Interactions:**	**Challenges Faced:**	**Personal development activities:**	**Goals for the Next Week:**
Software Risk refers to the something that can lead to a bad outcome. Not all risks are bad for the project. Types: technological: software, hardware used, people: emergency leave, sick leave, requirements: unclear requirements, tools: compatibility issue and organisation: resource constraints.	Brainstorming sessions with project peers to identify different types of risks and its probability of occurrence. Risk mitigation plan should also be drafted for each risk. Examples: people risk is when only one person has the skill to use a particular software and that person resigns or is on long term sick leave. Tools risk is when a software is incompatible with another.	Discussed with my classmate who was a project manager about how risk assessment is done in real life projects. It involves many rounds of meetings and thorough analysis especially projects that follow incremental development, agile, etc.	Difficult to understand how risk is not always bad in real life projects.	Read case studies on risk having a positive impact. Example, identifying and devising a plan to handle positive risks for example, heavy traffic on a website, can be fruitful.	Review more case studies on the same
Risk is measured as a probability of it becoming a reality and its impact on the project. More the impact, more priority is the risk. Both are measured in qualitative and quantitative scale. Risk = impact * probability of it happening.	Impact can be measured in terms of its costs, time and additional resources to mitigate the risk when it becomes a reality. Hence, small part of budget is allocated for such unforeseen expenses. These delays may affect the project timeline by many weeks or even months if risk mitigation strategies are not in place.	-	Concept of risk transference was unclear as I could not picture how it is implemented in a real project setting.	Read case studies of risk transference and what steps are involved to shift the burden of risk to another party through contractual agreement and insurances.	Read risk impact in textbook
Configuration management is the process of maintaining, version controlling and track changes in the	A software project involves a large team who are working concurrently to build a software. Different versions of the software, the	-	How impact of change is calculated in real time projects.	Read case studies on configuration management. Its challenging to have everyone	Review more project case studies

software to maintain consistency. Change is tracked by calculating the impact of change.	differences and other build details are available. Further, access control is also important, for example, critical operations can be performed only be a few senior developers.		Various aspects of the project, such as cost, time, resources, quality, and risks are taken into account.	working on the project on sync.	on configuration management
Configuration management has the following parts, identification: parts that need to be managed, accounting: what changes were made, auditing: calculate whether the change was successful and change control: manage the past changes.	Change request can be issued by anyone and in a big software project, hundreds of requests are issued, and a configuration management system can track all these requests, completed requests and details about the person who issued it. Auditing is to ensure the changes made adhere to the standards and requirements.	Discussed with my classmate who was a project manager about how configuration management is implemented in real projects. Git/SVN is used for version control. Everything is logged and monitored and securely stored.	How traceability of modifications is achieved in a huge software project	Saw examples of impact analysis report. Read chapter 5 case study.	Re-read this topic in text book for more understanding.

Final Reflections:

Overall Course Impact:
The understanding of both risks and configurations management is crucial in software project as it ensures project success and system integrity. Risks need to be assessed based on its probability of occurrence and impact. Based on the assessment each risk must come up with a, risk mitigation, avoidance and transference plans. Once a software is deployed, the requirements continue to change and to ensure that the new requirements are satisfied and are re-released in increments, version control and management is important.

Application in Professional Life:
By applying the skills and knowledge from these chapters, I can improve my effectiveness in managing software development projects by identifying the types of risks, allocating budgets for unforeseen expenses of risk occurrence, implementing configuration management system, and ensuring compliance through auditing that will enhance project outcomes and contribute to overall project success. These practices will not only streamline project workflows but also create a more resilient and responsive team environment.

Peer Collaboration Insights:
I learned how theory applies to real-life projects, emphasizing that careful consideration of various factors in risk assessment is imperative and configuration management is the key to effective collaboration and maintenance. Each project is unique, requiring thorough analysis of its complexity before making any decision**.**

Personal Growth:
I gained a clearer understanding of risk and configuration management, recognizing that it is not straightforward and that project managers play a critical role in a project's success.