

# Retrospective Essay

## Analysis of the project management practices implemented in your project (with the PMBOK in the background)

My team (Mo-Dash) implemented project management practices in almost every knowledge area. In Integration Management, we develop the Project Charter and all the planning, execution and monitoring of the project was done in Notion, where we concentrate all the information needed about the course, all the deliverables to be done, all the work (besides the product itself, where we used GitHub as a repository and Jira as our agile project management tool) and doubts we were having throughout the weeks.

In the first weeks of the course, we started by meet with our client to make some questions about the initial project information given, to clarify some topics and to start collecting requirements. The WBS (Work Breakdown Structure) was already done by the teachers, making the course with not only 1 deliverable (as instance, the MVP), but 19 deliverables split by each phase (Launch, Ideation, Review, Build-Measure-Learn, LGP Challenge and Closure).

Time and Cost Management was obviously done automatically by all of us, otherwise we wouldn't be able to deliver all the deliverables and have an organized team with so many work to do to this course. Among others, we scheduled and estimated activity durations to meet the deadlines and we were always "in budget" with our LGP coins and with our budget from the Catalog (for the LGP Challenge).

As we split the team into Developer and Planning teams, we were able to create a strong workflow each week, as developers were working on the product (code itself) and "planners" were working on deliverables, communicating with other companies, teachers and client. This team decomposition allowed us to assure quality in our activities. All the communication done was shared with all the team (and others involved, if it was the case), ensuring everyone was on the same page.

We also kept a trace of the risks we were having (and we were afraid to have), to try to find solutions for them and/or to prevent if they occur. Our risk management has only negative points with different levels of impact, but all of them were surpassed with success, with more or less effort.

## Concluding remarks (including an analysis of lessons learned and how these lessons could have improved the outcome)

Honestly, I had another vision about this course before starting it. I already knew this course was “bigger”: a new level of responsibility, a new level of team organization, a new level of work. However, I didn’t know we would have so many deliveries and that we would spend so much time with them. In general, I enjoyed a lot making this course, but there are some aspects I wanted to be different, and I believe that, being different, would be appreciated by a lot more students.

Theoretical classes should be split in real theoretical classes and invited talks. Personally, I would like to have that kind of distinction clear, so I can organize my week about what we were going to do and not only knowing the day before.

I was really excited with the LGP Challenge Day. All the booth activities, all the merchandising we planned to have, business cards and flyers we did to distribute for guests, all that preparation was amazing. The day itself had a structure that, with 24 companies, was hard to improve. However, all the effort we did planning our merchandising was done for nothing, as nothing we requested had arrived. Our marketing plan and booth activities were compromised by that, making all day a little “sadder”. I was expecting a bigger space for the installation of each team in that appealing space inside Lionesa Business Hub.

Overall, I think it was a great experience since day 1 until the day of the last deliverable (today). We learned the difference of a start-up and a company and a lot more about project management practices namely, with a high importance to the practical side of it. After this course, I’m finally able to say that I feel ready to join the world of work, because of the number of tips and lessons this course gave me.

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