# LEARNING JOURNAL 2

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**Course:** Software Project Management

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**Journal URL:** [Learning Journal 2](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yyM79XT2LuYbFcNZFeFYGQplQ07Nb5qxsi8ajyF82Y0/edit?usp=sharing)

**Dates Rage of activities:** (Sept 23 - Oct 5) , 2024

**Date of the journal:** Oct 4, 2024

| **Key Concepts Learned:** | **Application in Real Projects:** | **Peer Interactions:** | **Challenges Faced:** | **Personal development activities:** | **Goals for the Next Week:** |
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| Effort & Cost Estimation: I learned about the various techniques such as experience-based techniques, algorithmic cost modeling (e.g., COCOMO), and function point analysis. The chapter emphasized that estimation involves uncertainty and must be revised as the project progresses. | These techniques can be directly applied to the software projects I am managing. For example, when working on a new software module, I can use estimation by analogy or function point analysis to predict the effort required based on past projects. | During discussions with Kevin Wadera, we discussed the importance of using expert judgment in effort estimation. He shared insights from his past projects, where incorrect estimations led to budget and schedule overruns. Our debate on how risk transfer, like outsourcing, impacts long-term project control was particularly helpful as his previous experience gave me much clarity and understanding of the topics. | One challenge was with the complexity of algorithmic cost modeling, particularly COCOMO. Understanding the various multipliers and their impact on project size estimation in my situation requires more hands-on examples, I believe that will really help me. | I looked at other resources on COCOMO cost modeling, application in early design phases which I think was helpful to my understanding of how to practically apply risk mitigation techniques​t | Develop a sample project estimation using both function point analysis and COCOMO to compare results. |
| Risk Management: The chapter covered identifying, analyzing, and prioritizing risks in a project. Risk response strategies like acceptance, avoidance, transference, and mitigation were highlighted as key strategies to manage project risks​ | In my current projects, I plan to adopt the risk prioritization matrix from Chapter 4 to regularly evaluate and prioritize potential risks, particularly on technical and scheduling risks. |  |  |  |
| Configuration Management: This chapter focused on controlling changes in a project through CM practices such as configuration identification, control, status accounting, and auditing. It highlighted the importance of managing versions, especially in dynamic software environments | Implementing robust configuration management practices will help prevent chaos in version control, especially in large teams. Ensuring proper version traceability and regular audits will enhance product quality. |  |  | Explore real-world case studies where configuration management played a critical role in project success, focusing on how change control was managed |

Final Journal............................

**Final Reflections:**

**Overall Course Impact:**

Summarize the overall impact of the course on your understanding.

Highlight key insights and transformations from your perspective.

**Application in Professional Life:**

Discuss how the knowledge gained in this course can be applied in your professional life.

Consider specific scenarios or projects where these skills would be valuable.

**Peer Collaboration Insights:**

Reflect on the value of peer collaboration throughout the course.

Consider how interactions with classmates contributed to your learning.

**Personal Growth:**

Share insights into your personal growth as a learner.

Identify areas where you have seen improvement or development.

Note: Ensure that the journal is updated weekly, at least once a week and that the publicly accessible cloud service URL is provided for easy access by teaching assistants and for potential test-related inquiries. The learning journal should be no longer than 2 pages. Keep your content precise and to the point.