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**Course:** SOEN 6841

**Journal URL:** https://github.com/itshisher/SOEN-6841-learning-journal/tree/main

**Week 1:** January 18 – January 27

**Date:** January 27

**Key Concepts Learned:**

Chapter 1 introduces software project management, defining a project as time-bound activities with specific goals. It addresses challenges that are unique to software projects and includes organizational, project management, and SDLC processes. The integration of people, processes, tools, and technology customer influence and team management is also discussed. The characteristics of a good project manager and subprocesses in project management are highlighted. The chapter also mentions management measure metrics like check sheets, charts, and graphs.

Chapter 2 focuses on project initiation. Like other projects, it introduces the project charter, a statement from top management outlining goals, responsibilities, and purpose. Project scope, objectives, and activities during initiation, such as estimating size, effort, costs, and quality planning, are discussed.

Chapter 3 focuses on project estimation, covering effort, cost, schedule, and resource estimates. Effort estimation techniques such as FPA, COCOMO, and Wide Band Delphi can be applied to different situations based on project information availability. Each of the techniques has different approaches. Following the effort estimate, cost estimation provides details on project costs, duration, and staffing without detailed scheduling. Schedule estimation, determined after calculating project effort, considers idle time between tasks. Resource estimation, developed after scheduling, focuses on identifying tasks, required skills, and allocating available resources. Lastly, risk factors are included in every estimate as an important component.

**Application in Real Projects:**

Chapter one gives a general idea of what a software project is and what processes are required in a software project. Additionally, it tells me about project management and how important a good project manager is to a software project.

Chapter two mentions how a software project is initiated and the importance of a project charter, project scope, and objectives of the project. There are also important activities during the project initiation.

Chapter three gives an idea on how to choose effort estimation techniques and why project estimations are so important.

It reminds me of my other projects from taking other courses in Concordia. Some of them are not really worked out by the end of the semester, some of them I would rather call them assignments instead of real software projects. If I continue to work in this field, these can be applied to my future software projects. Instead of searching for answers from the internet, I can start identifying processes and software management steps. To start the project, our group must decide the project charter, scope and the objectives to not lead the situation to chaos. Also, project estimation is present continuously throughout the whole project to present to customers and can be used for project team.

**Peer Interactions:**

Meet with one group member and still try to contact with the rest of the team members. Discuss and chat with some friends that I met last semester.

**Challenges Faced:**

Exercises are very open and applied to real world cases. It takes time to search for useful information and pick the one that is suitable for me. I’m not sure if the information is correct because there is too much noise.

**Personal development activities:**

I'm still under the process of going through all the course outlines and trying to figure out the requirements (programming languages, course weight) for each course.

I started learning Python data structures on Udemy and did some problems on LeetCode.

Reading assigned chapters and trying to make summary of these chapters.

**Goals for the Next Week:**

Readings for chapter 4 and 5. Make summaries for these two chapters. Try to have a meeting with other group members and start discussing our projects. Also need to do exercises for the chapters and do more leetcode problems.