

## Learning Journal Template

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**Course:** SOEN 6841 - Software Project Management

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**Week 1:** 09/09/2024 – 09/13/2024

**Date of the journal:** 09/14/2024

<b>Key Concepts Learned:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learned about Project initiation tasks and software life cycles.</li> <li>• I learned new words: <b>“Project Charter”</b> which authorizes project documents, and <b>“Project Scope”</b> which defines project boundaries.</li> </ul>
<b>Applications in Real Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding the waterfall model can enhance planning and execution in software projects.</li> <li>• Applying relevant metrics helps in tracking project performance effectively.</li> <li>• <b>Challenges:</b> I tried to plan my future project, <b>“Graph Algorithm Visualizer”</b> according to the Project management models and life cycles.</li> </ul>
<b>Peer Interactions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connected with peers for the group and learned about their available times, work strengths, and working styles for the course project.</li> <li>• I participated in a group discussion, which helped me clear my misconception of the waterfall model.</li> <li>• <b>Challenges:</b> Collaborated on understanding software lifecycle processes and clarifying my project approach.</li> </ul>
<b>Challenges Faced</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initially, I struggled to understand the software project life cycles, but interaction with my peers helped me through it.</li> <li>• Connecting with all my team members according to their time and getting to know them was a struggle.</li> </ul>
<b>Personal Development Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I read a few blogs on project management strategies, which enhanced my understanding.</li> <li>• I connected with a few seniors in good companies and learned how their companies plan the projects and distribute the work among the employees.</li> </ul>
<b>Goals for the Next Weekend</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the upcoming week, I will read chapter 2 of the book and learn about its concepts.</li> <li>• Focus on deepening knowledge of project monitoring and control techniques.</li> <li>• <b>Challenges:</b> I will learn more about different graph algorithms and visualizer techniques. Moreover, I will start with <b>Project Initiation tasks</b>.</li> </ul>

**Week 2:** 09/16/2024 – 09/20/2024

**Date of the journal:** 09/21/2024

<b>Key Concepts Learned:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects are initiated similarly across various fields, involving project charters and scope.</li> <li>I learned more about project initiation as we dove deeper into the project charter, project goals, and project scope.</li> <li>Learned about the <b>SMART</b> criteria for practical objective setting.</li> </ul>
<b>Applications in Real Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing a detailed project scope is crucial for defining software functionalities and quality.</li> <li>Allocating specific goals to team members aids in achieving overall project objectives.</li> <li><b>Challenges:</b> After thoroughly researching effort cost, I decided on technologies I will use in my project, "Graph Algorithm visualizer".</li> </ul>
<b>Peer Interactions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussed class project definitions with peers and decided the class project definition.</li> <li>Engaged in peer reviews of project charters to ensure alignment with project objectives.</li> <li><b>Challenges:</b> I talked with a few other students to help finalizing my personal project goals.</li> </ul>
<b>Challenges Faced</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs to be improved in estimating project budgets accurately based on initial requirements.</li> <li>I needed further clarity on how to make the best structure for project objectives and goals.</li> <li><b>Challenges:</b> Faced challenges in breaking down the complex algorithms into manageable tasks for the visualizer project.</li> </ul>
<b>Personal Development Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I further read about project management life cycles and learned about <b>Agile methodologies</b>.</li> <li>Reviewed case studies on successful project initiation to enhance understanding.</li> </ul>
<b>Goals for the Next Weekend</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read chapter 3 from the book and start working on the class project to avoid last-time work.</li> <li>Explore risk management strategies and how they can be applied to current and future project.</li> <li>Learn more about agile methods.</li> <li><b>Challenges:</b> Aim to refine project schedules for the <b>Graph Algorithm Visualizer</b>.</li> </ul>