LEARNING JOURNAL TEMPLATE

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Course: SOEN 6841 - Software Project Management

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❖ **Key Concepts Learned**

- Explored Project Planning and Monitoring & Control (Chapters 6 and 7).
- Learned the importance of Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) for resource allocation and task management.
- Gained insights into Earned Value Management (EVM) for tracking budget and schedule variances.
- Understood the impact of top-down vs. bottom-up planning methodologies.
- Recognized how EVM could improve tracking in ongoing projects like the "Home Exercise Planner."

❖ **Application in Real Projects**

- Applied WBS in a logistics software project to manage tasks and streamline resources.
- Recognized the need for EVM to detect budget overruns and schedule deviations early.
- Realized how EVM could have improved monitoring and control in previous projects.
- Plan to implement WBS in the "Home Exercise Planner" to break down tasks effectively and manage resource allocation.

❖ **Peer Interactions**

- Discussed WBS and EVM applications with peers, gaining insights into practical challenges.
- Collaborated on brainstorming ways to implement effective monitoring in agile environments.
- Learned from a peer's internship experience about the consequences of inadequate project monitoring.
- During a discussion on the "Home Exercise Planner," I was stuck on task prioritization and received valuable insights from peers on using WBS to organize tasks effectively.

❖ **Challenges Faced**

- Found calculating and interpreting EVM variances complex in dynamic project scenarios.
- Faced difficulty in accurately estimating task durations in WBS for interdependent tasks.
- Plan to tackle these challenges by studying case studies and participating in workshops.
- Encountered challenges in task sequencing for the "Home Exercise Planner," particularly in aligning exercise routines with user goals and constraints.

❖ **Personal Development Activities**

- Watched tutorials on EVM and WBS implementation in tools like Jira.
- Read blogs and articles on continuous monitoring in agile environments.
- Enhanced practical understanding through real-world demonstrations and expert insights.
- Explored best practices in project management to better structure the "Home Exercise Planner" for iterative development.

❖ **Goals for the Next Week**

- Research case studies on successful EVM applications in large-scale projects.
- Participate in online forums to discuss WBS challenges with professionals.
- Explore advanced project management tools for better integration with agile methodologies.
- Develop a detailed task breakdown for the "Home Exercise Planner" using WBS to improve task clarity and resource planning.