

Learning Journal

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Course: Software Project Management

Journal URL: <https://github.com/mohsin-681/SoftwareProjectManagement/tree/main>

Dates Range of activities: 01/10/2024 – 02/11/2024

Date of the journal: 02/11/2024

Key Concepts Learned: The focus was on Software Project Planning. This included understanding the process of breaking down a project into smaller tasks using the Work Breakdown Structure (WBS). WBS enables task allocation and dependency mapping, which is essential for scheduling. Two primary scheduling techniques were introduced: Top-Down Planning and Bottom-Up Planning along with milestones and deliverables. Project Monitoring and Control were also introduced. The emphasis was on tracking project progress using tools like Earned Value Management (EVM), which helps measure budget and schedule variance. The chapter detailed the steps for monitoring progress, setting performance baselines, and taking corrective actions in case of deviations.

Application in Real Projects: I can apply the techniques discussed, particularly Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) and critical path analysis, are highly applicable to real-world software projects. These methods enable detailed task scheduling and resource planning, which are critical for on-time project delivery. The Earned Value Management (EVM) approach is beneficial for continuous monitoring and adjusting resources or schedules as necessary. Understanding how to handle project deviations and scope changes effectively would help in adapting quickly to project dynamics and maintaining alignment with project goals.

Peer Interactions: I am collaborating with my group members for the upcoming submission. Due to midterm exam, there was less peer interaction.

Challenges Faced: The most challenging part was fully grasping Earned Value Management and its practical applications in tracking both schedule and budget variance. Interpreting EVM metrics and applying them to calculate variance requires a deep understanding of project progress metrics.

Personal development activities: I have gone through the book by Ashfaq Ahmed and completed the exercises. I also revisited some of the project monitoring tools introduced in the lectures, like bar charts and Gantt charts, to improve my ability to visualize and track project progress.

Goals for the Next Week: For the upcoming week, I will be focusing more on the upcoming group submission.