

Final Reflections:

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Course: SOEN - 6841

Journal URL: <https://github.com/msrana25/SOEN-6841-Journals>

Week 13: 14-April-2024 to 21-April-2024

Date: 14-April-2024

Overall Course Impact:

This course provided me with an in-depth understanding of software project management principles, starting with foundational concepts like project charter, and project scope and later on, diving into details of project management including project initiation, project planning, project execution, and project closure.

This helped me understand the project lifecycle and the connectedness of its various phases which has empowered me to approach software projects with greater clarity and confidence, equipped with the tools and techniques that are necessary to navigate uncertainties and complexities effectively.

The second part of the course was a good refresher into different Software Development Lifecycle techniques and their phases in detail.

Application in Professional Life:

The knowledge that I gained from this subject applies greatly to real-world scenarios. For example, understanding risk management methodologies has opened my mind to anticipate and access various risks and consequently address these challenges with suitable mitigation strategies.

This improved my capability to lead teams effectively and underlined to me the importance of delivering high-quality solutions within budget and timeline constraints.

On top of this, the insights gained from peer collaboration have underlined the importance of effective communication and teamwork, laying a strong foundation for professional growth and success.

Peer Collaboration Insights:

The influence of Peer collaboration has been my biggest learning from this project. Before taking this course, I was mostly a solo learner. But in this subject, I realized that peer interactions usually provide a very different and refreshing perspective on a single topic, which is a huge learning.

It is analogous to me having 4 different brains. Through vibrant discussions and shared experiences, not only did I learn a fresh perspective on software project management principles but also learned about their thinking patterns and their approach to solving a problem.

Additionally, it gave me valuable opportunities to build my network and develop professionally.

Personal Growth:

Reflecting on my journey, I recognize substantial growth in my skills and mindset as a software project manager. I developed a deeper understanding of project management, learned the project management jargon (which our professor says is a must tool to have when one is managing a project), mastered risk assessment and mitigation strategies, honed my communication and collaboration skills, delved into SDLC techniques and phases, and learned to navigate the complexities of project planning with confidence and clarity.

I also learned to handle conflicts that occurred in some phases of our project. In my opinion, better communication, and a calm and logical mindset when everyone is emotionally charged is the key to navigating conflicts.

Moreover, I gained insights into my personal leadership style and effective decision-making, which paved the way for my continued growth and development.

N.B. – I am aware that the final reflection journal was meant to be 2-4 pages long, but I have been brutally honest and concise in expressing my opinion. I have tried to keep the text raw and crisp avoiding unnecessary wordplay and gibberish. This ensures that both my and my reader's time is respected. Thank You!!