

Learning Journal Template

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Course: SOEN 6841 – Software Project Management

Journal URL: <https://github.com/prachipatel488/SOEN6841-SPM-Fall2024>

Dates Range of activities: 30 October 2024 – 28 October 2024 (Chapter 6 & 7 and Topic Analysis Poster Presentation)

Date of the journal: 1 November 2024

Key Concepts Learned:

- During these 4 weeks we have learned about Project Planning and Project Monitoring and Control from lecture notes and, we had to present topic analysis to our TAs.
- Read all the lecture notes and textbook chapters for the preparation of mid-term exam.
- Project planning consists of project scheduling, project budgeting, manpower planning, communication planning, quality planning
- Learned two approaches of project scheduling: top down: set period for entire project and then divide time for the respective task. In bottom up: assign time to task and then summation of that time is the time period for the entire project.
- Basic definition:
 - o WBS (Work breakdown system): systematic way of breaking down the complete project work into smaller tasks.
 - o Milestone: endpoint of a process activity
 - o Deliverables: project results delivered to customers
 - o Critical path: determining the longest path in the project by adding time for activities.
 - o Monitoring: collecting sufficient data to measure progress
 - o Control: ensuring that the project delivers including all resources are working according as per planned time period.
 - o Resource utilization: measure number of hours of work assigned to a resource on projects and the idle hours of the resource.
- Milestones are set in the project plan which helps in determining the target dates for completion of any project.
- Work progress of any project task can be measured by comparing the baseline start and end dates with the actual start and end dates.
- Earned Value Management (EVM) is the best tool to measure schedule and budget progress for any project
- EVA monitors progress by comparing the value earned from completing a task to the planned value that should have been derived from that task

- Actual value is less than derived value, then project is in jeopardy
- Actual value is greater than earned value, then project is in good situation.

Application in Real Projects:

- We can consider the development of system to enhance armies to use medical equipment at time of emergency and crisis at time of war (is a real-time project). All the medical equipment should be scanned to keep more items in stock which can help to save life of people.
- We can consider following Project Planning and Project Monitoring and Control terminology and understandings to apply on project:
 - EVA must be used to keep a plan of budget and scheduling of the resources which are all involved in the project.
 - All the bigger tasks should be divided as per WBS for systematic work on task.
 - All the planning of budget, resources, quality assurance, communication should be done before the starting the project to avoid the confusion and monitoring the activities of project task.

Peer Interactions:

- Had a brief discussion with teammates for the topic analysis presentation and preparing poster for submission.
- Discussed with peers for the pitch with detailed explanation of our project.
- Also started making documentation for project delivery 2 with peers about project.

Challenges Faced:

- Had difficulties during the poster submission, we were facing issue to find a correct and accurate methodology which can justify the topic and all the collecting data to prepare chart for showing the methodology result of topic.
- Had difficulties in EVA to understand the terms which are determined after information gathering of the project. I will try to investigate example to solidify my understanding of four key function using textbook and lecture notes.

Personal development activities:

- I searched about different project artifacts of real-time project for topic in project planning, monitoring and controlling for mid-term exam which helped be to understand the concept more accurately.
- I tried to search some real-time projects about use EVA system in the project to keep track of all resources, budget and schedule.

Goals for the Next Week:

- I will learn about Chapter 8 and related case studies in class
- I will be preparing document for the project delivery 2 with my team-mates.