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**Course:** SOEN 6841 Software Project Management

**Journal URL:** [Github/SOEN-6841-Software-Project-Management](https://github.com/PranaykumarChauhan/SOEN-6841-Software-Project-Management)

**Week 1:** September 15 - September 29

**Date:** 5 October 2024

## 1. Key Concepts Learned: -

- **Effort Estimation for a Project:**

- Refers to predicting the amount of effort needed to complete a software project.
- Involves considering project scope, complexity, resources, and potential risks.
- Common techniques include:
  - **Expert Judgment:** Relying on the experience of experts or past data.
  - **Analogy-Based Estimation:** Comparing the current project to similar past projects.
  - **Parametric Estimation:** Using mathematical models based on project size and productivity rates (e.g., Function Point Analysis).
  - **Wideband Delphi:** A consensus-based estimation method involving multiple experts.

- **Key Features of COCOMO:**

- **Cost and Effort Estimation:** It calculates the effort (in person-months) needed for a project based on the size of the software in lines of code (LOC) or function points.
- **Three Levels of Estimation:**
  - **Basic COCOMO:** Provides a rough estimate of effort based on project size.
  - **Intermediate COCOMO:** Incorporates additional factors such as team experience, project complexity, and tools used.
  - **Detailed COCOMO:** Includes even more factors such as the project's lifecycle and additional cost drivers (e.g., personnel capabilities, hardware constraints).

- **Risks management:**

- it is the systematic process of identifying, analysing, prioritizing, and addressing potential risks that could impact a project's objectives, ensuring proactive responses.
- It aims to minimize the likelihood and impact of negative events while enhancing the likelihood of positive outcomes in a project.

- **Risk Assessment Unveiled: Critical Steps for Success:**

- **Risk Identification:**  
Collect all potential risk items that could impact the project's success, including technical, financial, operational, and external risks.
- **Risk Analysis:**  
Analyze the identified risks based on their likelihood of occurrence and potential impact on the project's cost, timeline, quality, and scope.
- **Risk Prioritization:**  
Rank the risks according to their severity, focusing on those with the highest likelihood and impact, to ensure critical risks receive attention first.

- **Effective Strategies for Comprehensive Risk Control:**

- **Acceptance:** Acknowledging the existence of a risk without active mitigation, often used for low-priority risks.

- **Avoidance:** Eliminating the risk by changing project plans or avoiding activities that pose the risk.
- **Risk Transfer:** Shifting responsibility for the risk and its potential impact to another party, such as through insurance.
- **Mitigation:** Taking proactive measures to reduce the probability or impact of a risk occurring.

## 2. Application in Real Projects:

- **Core Insights:** This week underscored the significance of precise effort and cost estimation within the framework of project management and risk assessment.
- **Prospective Implementation:** I intend to incorporate these principles into forthcoming software projects to enhance overall effectiveness and efficiency.

## 3. Peer Interactions:

- **Market Analysis Research:** Conducted thorough research on market trends and competitor strategies to better understand our positioning.
- **Room Booking for Team Meeting:** Arranged for a meeting room to facilitate an upcoming team discussion, ensuring a conducive environment for collaboration.
- **Sharing Individual Opinions:** Encouraged team members to share their perspectives and insights during the meeting, fostering open dialogue and diverse viewpoints.
- **Preparation for Presentation:** Collaborated on preparing a cohesive presentation, with each member contributing their expertise to ensure comprehensive coverage of key points.
- **Unique Selling Proposition (USP) Development:** Engaged in brainstorming sessions to identify our unique selling points and strategies to differentiate ourselves in the market, focusing on innovation and value creation.

## 4. Challenges Faced:

- **Time Investment:** We encountered a significant challenge in identifying our Unique Selling Proposition (USP), dedicating nearly three days to this task.
- **Competitive Market Analysis:** The complexity of the market landscape necessitated extensive analysis to ensure our USP effectively differentiates us from competitors.
- **Focus on Quality:** We recognized the importance of developing a strong USP, as it is crucial for our competitiveness in the market and for sustaining our position.
- **Collaborative Efforts:** The team collaborated intensively, discussing various ideas and approaches to ensure that our USP would resonate with our target audience and align with market needs.

## 5. Personal Development Activities:

- **Shark Tank Video Analysis:** Watched episodes of Shark Tank to study effective pitching techniques, focusing on how to start and close a pitch successfully.
- **Feedback from Professor:** Received constructive feedback from my professor regarding my pitching strategies and overall presentation skills.
- **Communication Course Enrolment:** Enrolled in a communication course on weTube to enhance my communication skills and improve my ability to convey ideas clearly and effectively, as recommended.

Link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w82a1FT5o88&list=PL8EEC66CC5F02545C>

## 6. Goals for the Next Week:

- Begin a topic analysis for the course project.
- Review Chapters 5 Configuration Management to enhance knowledge.