Week Two Learning Journal

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Course: [SOEN 6841] Software Project Management

Journal URL: https://github.com/rakibulhuda/-SOEN-6841-Software-Project-Management

Week 1: January 28th – Feb 3rd

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Key Concepts Learned:

This week I delved into the crucial topic of software project estimation, learning valuable techniques like COCOMO, Function Point Analysis, and Wide Band Delphi method. I grasped how these efforts lay the foundation for project schedules, costs, and resource allocation. The chapter built upon previous lessons about project charters, scope, and quality, emphasizing the importance of controlling scope creep and integrating quality from the get-go. It highlighted the connection between iterative development, where large projects are broken down into manageable cycles, and making accurate effort and cost predictions.

Reflections on Case Study/Course Work:
Our engagement with a compelling case study, unfolding the narrative of a SaaS vendor transitioning to a larger development team, provided invaluable insights into the nuanced challenges and strategic considerations in software project estimation. It shone a spotlight on crucial factors like the implications of outsourcing and the direct correlation between team size, development speed, and overall project cost. This real-world scenario not only cemented theoretical concepts but also emphasized the dynamic importance of iterative estimation and risk management as projects evolve.

Collaborative Learning:
Collaboration played a key role in my learning this week. Our team meeting not only helped with our project but also deepened our understanding of software project estimation and risk management. Talking with peers provided diverse perspectives and practical advice, bridging the gap between theory and real-life examples. We went beyond project work, discussing how estimation and risk management work in actual projects. Sharing roles and experiences within software development, from coding to testing, illuminated the various problems and solutions encountered in project management. This exchange of ideas and personal experiences significantly improved my comprehension of the topics. Working together not only enhanced my learning but also demonstrated the value of approaching project issues from different angles.

Further Research/Readings:

"Software Project Effort and Cost Estimation," I researched online and watched videos to understand how project managers handle it in real-world industrial projects. Additionally, I discussed personal experiences with my classmates during our weekly meeting.

Adjustments to Goals:

At first, I wanted to learn all the basics of software project management. But now, I'm really interested in getting good at estimating how much effort and money projects will take. This is super important because if you get it wrong, the project can fail! So, I want to practice more and learn from harder examples to become an estimation master. This fits perfectly with my new goal of being awesome at software project management!