

Learning Journal 3 : Chapter 6 and 7

Student Name: Rikin Dipakkumar Chauhan [Student ID: 40269431]

Course: Software Project Management [SOEN 6841]

Journal URL: https://github.com/rikinchauhan01/Software_Project_Management_Course/

Dates Range of activities: 6-October-2024 to 26-October-2024

Date of the journal: 2-November-2024

Key Concepts Learned:

- We explored key concepts in software project management, focusing on project scope, timeline management, and quality assurance. Pitching and presentation skills were developed to effectively communicate with stakeholders. Key topics included creating comprehensive project plans, managing suppliers, Work Breakdown Structure (WBS), and handling configuration management. We emphasized budget control and crafting compelling pitches tailored to audience needs, essential for attracting interest and support in software development projects.

Application in Real Projects:

- **Central Configuration Management System:** centralized platform for version control, document management, software distribution. Essential quality assurance processes for reliability and stakeholder satisfaction. Agile and iterative practices promote adaptability, collaboration, and customer focus in project execution.

Peer Interactions:

- Attempted Quiz2: Risk and CM and Engaged in discussions during lectures on software project management (Chapter 6) to exchange ideas and align strategies for future presentations. Consulted with the professor about mid-term preparation.

Challenges Faced:

- **Time Management:** Juggling midterm exam preparations with project work required effective strategies to meet academic and project commitments.
- **Scope Management:** Aligning project documents with requirements involved iterative discussions and revisions to refine deliverables and prevent scope creep.

Personal development activities:

- Conducted independent study sessions on Chapter 6 concepts. Reviewed Chapter 5 case study for real-world insights into configuration management in software projects.
- Analyzed successful software project management case studies for practical future applications. (<https://www.pmi.org/business-solutions/case-studies>)

Goals for the Next Week:

- **Midterm Exam Preparation:** Daily review of course materials and practice exam

questions to reinforce key concepts in Software Project Management.

- **Assigned Readings:** Keep up with readings from "Software Project Management: A Process Driven Approach" to enhance understanding of project management principles and techniques.

Key Concepts Learned:

- **Baselines:** Establish significance for measuring progress and variances.
- **Monitoring vs. Control:** Understand the need for accurate data tracking.
- **EVM:** Tool for measuring schedule and budget progress, identifying variances.
- **Project Elements:** Monitor performance, quality, scope, risk, and team dynamics.
- **Scope Change Management:** Manage changes effectively through thorough investigation and a change control system.

Application in Real Projects:

- **Project Monitoring and Control:** The project manager implements a monitoring system to track progress against the baseline, holding regular meetings to address deviations and take corrective actions, such as reallocating resources or adjusting timelines.
- **Earned Value Analysis (EVA):** The project manager uses EVA to assess performance and forecast outcomes by comparing planned value (PV), earned value (EV), and actual cost (AC) to identify variances and adjust budgets as needed.

Peer Interactions:

- Engage actively in discussions to clarify doubts, share valuable study resources, and quiz to one another on essential topics to foster deeper learning and reinforce retention.

Challenges Faced:

- **Scheduling Coordination:** Faced challenges in aligning team members' conflicting schedules, necessitating strong communication and negotiation skills.
- **Time Management:** Balancing academic duties with project responsibilities during the Midterm break complicated time management and task prioritization.

Personal development activities:

- I explored supplementary materials, including textbooks, online tutorials, and case studies, to enhance my project management knowledge. I also reviewed articles on effective strategies and lessons learned in project management.

(<https://www.slingshotapp.io/blog/project-management-strategies-for-successful-execution>)

Goals for the Next Week:

- Integrating project monitoring and control to track progress and implement corrective actions. Forming Poster Presentation groups for collaboration with team partners to plan and discuss the poster presentation for the selected Topic Analysis.