

# Learning Journal 2

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**Course:** SOEN 6841 Software Project Management

**Journal URL:** <https://github.com/saifminhaz/SOEN-6841---Learning-Journal.git>

**Dates Range of activities:** 21 September, 2024 – 05 October, 2024

**Date of the journal:** 05 October, 2024

**Key Concepts Learned:** In the last few classes, the professor has taught us about the risk management and configuration management, and several essential concepts. We learned about risk management and its significance in software project management in chapter 4. Key learnings include identifying different types of risks, such as technical, legal, organizational, and schedule risks. Risk assessment is performed through identification, analysis, and prioritization of risks based on their likelihood and impact. In chapter 5 we learned about the configuration management, which is vital in managing changes and maintaining the integrity of software products throughout their life cycle. Configuration management is essential for preventing chaos, ensuring consistency, and reducing project failures due to uncontrolled changes.

**Application in Real Projects:** In real-world projects, risk management is applied to anticipate, analyze, and mitigate risks that may affect project timelines, budget, and quality. For instance, during software development, project managers must consider potential risks like technology obsolescence or resource unavailability. Effective risk control strategies include risk avoidance, mitigation, and transference. On the other hand, configuration management plays a critical role in ensuring that multiple versions of software are managed effectively. This is particularly important in large-scale projects where frequent changes occur due to customer requests, technology advancements, or evolving business requirements. Configuration management ensures that software components are properly versioned, tracked, and maintained.

**Peer Interactions:** Professor helps us by interact with the students during the classes and it allowed us to explore different perspectives on effort estimation. It helps us to understand clearly all the advantages and limitations risk management and its significance and configuration management. Whenever I have any doubt about any topics I directly ask the professor and she helps me to understand that very clearly. I asked 2-3 questions to understand clearly.

**Challenges Faced:** There are some challenges we faced during our class when the professor started teaching about the risk management. The primary challenge encountered during this learning process was understanding how to effectively quantify risks. Translating qualitative risk assessments into quantifiable measures for better prioritization requires experience and context-specific knowledge, making it difficult to apply uniformly across projects. Additionally, the complexity of implementing configuration management in agile environments where requirements change frequently was another challenge. Balancing the need for flexibility in agile methodologies while ensuring traceability and version control requires robust processes, which are not always easy to establish.

**Personal development activities:** I have studied all the slides carefully and researched online about the topics to gain personal development. I completed additional readings on quantitative risk analysis techniques. I have started practicing the Git by myself and it is helping me a lot to understand everything first hand. Also, I am getting some help from online as well.

**Goals for the Next Week:** For the coming weeks I am willing to learn a lot of things about risk management and configuration management. These are very important things in software development and I am willing to be good at it. It will help me in my exam as well as in my future career. I am planning to read more about configuration management because it is the key to handle a software project more efficiently. To succeed that, I am planning to do more first-hand practice in the next week.