Learning Journal Template

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Course: SOEN 6841 - Software Project Management

Journal URL: TODO

Week 1: 01/13/2025 – 01/17/2025

Date of the journal: 28/01/2025

Key Concepts Learned:	• Learned about project definitions, initiation tasks, life cycles, and the integration of management processes with software engineering activities. • I learned new terms **"Project Charter,"** which authorizes the project documentation, and "**Project Scope**," which outlines the project's boundaries.
Applications in Real Projects	• Understanding the waterfall model improves planning and execution in software projects. • Utilizing metrics ensures effective tracking of project performance. • **Challenges:** I tried to plan my future project, **"Pathfinding Algorithm Simulator,"** according to project management models and life cycles, addressing discrepancies in its lifecycle progression.
Peer Interactions	• Collaborated with peers to understand their availability, strengths, and working styles for the course project. • In classroom, I participated in group discussions that helped clarify my misconceptions about the waterfall model. • **Challenges:** Worked together to understand software lifecycle processes, leading to better execution of my personal project.
Challenges Faced	• Initially struggled to grasp software project life cycles, but peer interaction helped me overcome this challenge. • Collaborating with group members and schedule coordination adoption, getting to know them was a struggle at first.
Personal Development Activities	• Read several blogs and explored various web sources on project management strategies, which broadened my understanding. • Connected with seniors working in reputable companies to learn how they plan projects and allocate work among employees.
Goals for the Next Weekend	• For the upcoming week, I plan to read Chapter 2 of the book and explore its concepts. • Focus on enhancing my understanding of project monitoring and control techniques. • **Challenges:** I aim to learn more about various graph algorithms and visualization techniques, and begin working on **Project Initiation tasks.**

Week 2: 01/20/2025 – 2/24/2025

Date of the journal: 27/01/2025

Key Concepts Learned:	• Learned about the project initiation phase, focusing on the project charter, which defines purpose, goals, and scope. • Explored the **SMART** criteria for setting clear, achievable objectives and preventing scope creep through well-defined requirements. • Gained insights into the relationship between project size, effort estimation, and cost management, highlighting the need for accurate effort and schedule estimates.
Applications in Real Projects	• Defining software functionalities through a detailed project scope remains vital for both quality development and system definition. • Assigning clear goals to team members helps in reaching the overall project objectives. • **Challenges:** After a complete analysis of effort and cost estimation me and my team determined the technologies, we needed for our personal project titled **" Pathfinding Algorithm Simulator,".**
Peer Interactions	• Collaborated with peers to define the class project and finalize its scope. • Participated in peer reviews of project charters to ensure they align with the project's objectives. • **Challenges:** I personally reached to other students to finalize the goals for my personal project.
Challenges Faced	• A challenge I'm facing is exploring techniques for accurate project size estimation, project division, and integrating software lifecycle processes into project management. • Needed more clarity on how to structure project objectives and goals effectively. • **Challenges**: Found it difficult to break down complex algorithms into manageable tasks for the simulator project.
Personal Development Activities	• Explored project management life cycles, **Agile methodologies**, and case studies on successful project initiation to expand my knowledge. • I read and engaged in additional readings to identify areas for skill enhancement in project initiation and management.
Goals for the Next Weekend	• Perform an in-depth review of Chapters 3, emphasizing how their concepts can be applied in real-world situations. • Explore risk management strategies and how they can be applied to current and future project. • Explore relevant case studies for upcoming chapters to gain a deeper understanding of different project scenarios.