

Learning Journal Template

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Course: SOEN 6841 - Software Project Management

Journal URL: https://github.com/shashwat-shah/SPM_2024

Week 1: 01/13/2025 - 01/17/2025

Date of the journal: 28/01/2025

Key Concepts Learned:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.