

# **Learning Journal**

## **Final Reflections**

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**Course:** SOEN 6841 Software Project Management

**Journal URL:** <https://github.com/shezin888/SOEN-6841-Learning-Journal>

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### **Overall Course Impact:**

Now it came to an end, this is the final journal I feel like this term went really quick. **SPM course** has overall deepened my understandings of the process and methodologies required to **manage software projects successfully from now onwards**. Every module has made a major contribution to a deep knowledge of the software project lifecycle, starting with the fundamentals of project initiation, where I learned the **importance of having clearly defined scopes and objectives**, and continuing with the core concepts of project monitoring and control. Initially I didn't know there were these many phases for a project in management side, now I have a clear idea about the flow of a project in management side, it has made me **confident to apply for management and technical roles** in any company. So ultimately, I feel like SPM course has made a great impact in my career path too.

One of the **key insights** from this course was the complexity of **effort and cost estimation** and the methods available to find the effort and cost estimation. Techniques like **Function Point Analysis and COCOMO** models provided a structured approach to tackling this complexity. This knowledge of various estimation techniques helps me to understand the importance of wisely choosing the perfect one for the project needs predictions, which is **crucial for setting realistic goals and expectation**.

Another aspect is in the phase of **risk management**, which includes **risk identification, analysis, prioritization and mitigation**. Understanding these concepts made me realize the unpredictable nature of the project, and we should be very much precautionous about the

unforeseen risks coming up in the future by managing these risks we ensure the project stability and quality.

Also the discussion on **Earned Value Management (EVM)** and its application on project tracking were highlighted in the lecture classes. Learning to **measure project performance and progress** against the planned cost and schedule not only showcased the practicality of theoretical knowledge but also highlighted the importance of adaptive project management practices that respond to real-world challenges.

### **Application in Professional Life:**

There are many **real-world uses** for the ideas covered **in this course**, especially for me these knowledge would help in **position as a technology project manager**. I will guarantee that projects not only meet their deliverables but also add to the body of knowledge for future projects, for example, a thorough **analysis of project closure procedures** and the significance of lessons learned helps in the **kick start of the future projects**.

In the **scenarios** of software development, the methodologies taught in this course helps me to guide the **structuring of project phases from initiation to closure**. For example, in **deploying an E commerce website**, the principles of **project chartering, scope definition, and stakeholder management** will be important. Also, using **risk management** strategies to prepare for potential technology integration challenges will ensure that project objectives are safeguarded. **Budgeting** is another aspect to be considered as a manager, to cover the complete project in the **estimated budget**, also allotted a required percent of budget as **contingency budget**, its for any **unforeseen risks** that may happen on project.

### **Peer Collaboration Insights:**

The **collaborative** components were really helpful in the way that we had more of a **discussion** in every **lecture classes** other than just teaching. Through application of the theoretical concepts in the **course project, the group discussions** and project helped me in **understanding** the core of the **SPM and its practical implementation**. Even though the project team members were randomly assigned we all worked collaboratively and splitted the work among us, which made is

built a team work and collaboration. The last **deliverable was over yesterday**, it went really well.

Engaging with **peers on group projects**, such as the feasibility study for a new software tool with **AI enhanced Educational chatbot**, helped me to understand the **importance of collective brainstorming and task division**. Through these interactions, I learned the significance of each **team member's contributions** to achieving project goals, which helped me to get an exposure of **real-world project execution**. Overall all the lecture classes were much **interactive in terms of group discussion and individual opinion** on the topic.

### **Personal Growth:**

This course has greatly helped me in my **personal and professional development**, particularly in developing a structured and **analytical approach to managing projects**. My growth as a learner is evident in my ability to critically analyze project requirements and plan detailed management strategies. The knowledge that I learned from this **course** has really **helped me in an interview, for the role Human Resource Information System(HRIS) Analyst**, for this roles interview I faced many **questions which were taught in the lecture class** and few terms in resource planning sections were quiet useful. So after the completion of this course **I feel confident with my knowledge in the concepts of Software Project Management**.

Most importantly there has been **great improvement in my documentation, critical thinking, and strategic planning abilities**. The **practice of weekly journal** has really helped me out in **understanding the concepts of the course**, and in the project keep the **record the project change and progress** prepared me for **handling complex projects in future**. Finally, the course has overall made a huge personal growth in myself, by the end of this term.

### **Abbreviations:**

SPM - Software Project Management

EVM - Earned Value Management

FPA - Function Point Analysis

HRIS - Human Resource Information System