

Learning Journal Template

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Course: Software Project Management

Journal URL: <https://github.com/shivampatel304/SOEN-6841-Software-Project-Management>

Week 3: 28 Jan – 03 Feb

Date: 03/02/2024

Chapter 3 :

Key Concepts Learned:

This week, the focus was on resource estimation and a detailed comparison of effort estimation techniques. Understanding the manual creation of software products by engineers, the factors influencing resource estimation, and the importance of considering skill sets were key takeaways. The comparison of effort estimation techniques emphasized the need to choose the right method based on project requirements.

Reflections on Case Study/course work:

The case study involving the Delphi technique for team-based effort estimation offered valuable insights. Collaboratively estimating project pieces, discussing individual estimates, and arriving at a consensus were enlightening activities. This practical exercise highlighted the collaborative nature of software project management and the importance of shared understanding in the estimation process.

Collaborative Learning:

Working with peers during the Delphi technique exercise significantly contributed to my understanding. Hearing different perspectives and discussing individual estimates fostered a holistic view of effort estimation. The collaborative nature of this activity aligned with the emphasis on group involvement in effort estimation techniques discussed in previous weeks.

Further Research/Readings:

Additional readings explored this week included articles on the limitations of experience-based techniques, especially in the context of rapidly evolving technologies like machine learning. These readings provided insights into the need for adaptive estimation approaches and a continuous learning mindset in the software project management domain.

Adjustments to Goals:

Reviewing the goals set for the previous week, there was a notable adjustment in the appreciation of the intricacies involved in resource estimation. The focus shifted towards a more nuanced understanding of how skill sets, project duration, and individual variations in speed influence resource requirements. Adjustments were made to prioritize a deeper exploration of adaptive estimation techniques given the insights gained this week.

Chapter 4 :

Key Concepts Learned:

This week emphasized grasping the essence of risks in project management, defining them as uncertain events affecting project objectives. Risks stem from diverse sources, including internal and external factors. Identifiable risk types encompass strategic, operational, financial, and compliance risks. Building on last week's exploration of project initiation, recognizing potential risks early in the project life cycle emerges as vital for effective planning and mitigation.

Reflections on Case Study/course work:

Engaging in a risk management case study underscored the crucial role of a comprehensive plan covering identification, assessment, and response strategies. The experience emphasized how understanding project initiation forms the basis for effective risk management, showcasing practical implementation in a real-world project and deepening appreciation for its integral role in project success.

Collaborative Learning:

Collaboration with peers in group activities enriched my grasp of risk management strategies. Real-world scenario discussions and diverse perspectives broadened my consideration of potential risks. The collaborative setting facilitated the exchange of ideas on varied approaches to risk mitigation, enhancing comprehension of the subject matter.

Further Research/Readings:

Supplementary readings delved deeper into specific risk management strategies and tools. Exploring literature on risk quantification methodologies and successful project risk management case studies complemented the course material. These resources expanded my knowledge and provided practical examples, reinforcing the importance of a proactive risk management approach.

Adjustments to Goals:

Building on the understanding of risk management concepts, my goals for the upcoming week include a deeper exploration of advanced software project management principles. Additionally, I aim to leverage peer discussions to further integrate risk management strategies into the broader context of software project planning and execution.