**Learning Journal Template**

**Student Name:** Ting Lok Hui

**Course:** SOEN 6841 Software Project Management

**Journal URL:**

**Dates Rage of activities:** 22ndSept – 5thOct

**Date of the journal:** 10thOctober 2024

**Key Concepts Learned**

**Chapter 4:**

I learned what is risk management and how to analysis the risk in scientific way and how to response when the risk comes out in software project management. The first part is Risk assessment, which has three iterations (risk identification, risk analysis, and risk prioritization) to help us identify and manage the potential risks that we have discovered. Second part is the categories of risks like estimation risks, technology risks, people risk, etc. Also, some of the cause of the risk like bad negotiation, cost constraints, etc. The assess of risk are the likelihood of occurrence and impact on project, product and business of each risk item. Then, we have to priorities the risk, set the plan, resolution of risk and monitor the risk. Last but not least, I learned strategies of risk response like acceptance, avoidance, transference and mitigation. Finally, the risk reduction leverage in risk exposure over the cost of the reduction.

**Chapter 5:**

I learned the configuration management to control and document the change of the system. It consists of four parts: configuration identification (baseline components), configuration control (manage changes), configuration status accounting (maintain system evolution records), and configuration audits (verify system state against baselines). Nature of software, components to keep trace are main reasons bothering with software configuration management. And change control policy, which ensures all modifications are properly documented, evaluated, and approved before implementation. Configuration Control Board (SCCB) is to approve change and track change requests.

**Application in Real Projects:**

The knowledge gained from these chapters has significant implications for real-world projects. In our Virtual Wedding Planning Concierge project, I can now implement a structured approach to identifying and addressing potential risks. For instance, we could use the risk assessment techniques to identify potential pitfalls in integrating various third-party services or handling peak loads during popular wedding seasons. Robust CM system will be crucial for our project. As we're likely to have multiple developers working on different features simultaneously, we usually use Github to having a clear tracking for version control, change requests, and impact analysis will be essential.

**Peer Interactions:**

During the in-class activity, we had a discussion and our college asked a question on the Why Bother With Software CM in chapter 5, which helped me understand the importance and reason that we need software configuration management, and how we should control the change requests and versions.

**Challenges Faced:**

One of the main challenges I faced was fully understanding the complexities of quantitative risk assessment. I found it more challenging than anticipated to apply the Risk Exposure concept to complex, interconnected risks in a project scenario. I had difficulty accurately estimating probabilities and impacts for less tangible risks, such as team morale or market changes. I realized the importance of experience in relevant projects and companies. And I initially found it challenging to differentiate between the roles of configuration status accounting and configuration auditing. Their overlapping nature in tracking and verifying changes caused some confusion, particularly given the lack of clear delineation between the two.

**Personal development activities:**

For configuration management, I've begun exploring various CM tools available in the market. I'm currently working through online tutorials for Git and Jira, focusing on their change management and version control features. This practical exposure is significantly enhancing my understanding of CM concepts and its importance.

**Goal for the Next Week:**

First, develop a comprehensive risk management plan for our Virtual Wedding Planning Concierge project, incorporating both traditional and innovative risk assessment techniques. Second, adopt Github or Jira in our group project to trace the software development process. Third, Discuss with my teammates about intersection of risk management and ethical considerations in software projects. And preview the chapter 6 of "Software Engineering: A Practitioner's Approach" by Roger S. Pressman to gain a better understanding in the class and write a summary of what I learned in next week.