

Learning Journal Template

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Course: SOEN 6841 (Software Project Management)

Journal URL: https://github.com/sushanth16012002/SOEN6841_40267400

Dates Range of activities: 16/01/2025 – 23/01/2025

Date of the journal: 26th January 2025

Key Concepts Learned:	Application in Real Projects:	Peer Interactions:	Challenges Faced:	Personal development activities:	Goals for the Next Week:
Covers the foundation and understanding the complexities involved in software projects. Difference between Projects and Processes and its importance. Project Management processes – Initiation, Planning, Monitoring and Control and Closure. Covers the challenges faced during SPM.	An e-commerce platform using a process-driven approach ensures efficiency, with Agile methodologies often used for dynamic projects like SaaS. Clear roles and responsibilities, improve teamwork and accountability. Risk and quality management mitigate challenges. Regular monitoring through check sheets and histograms ensures progress aligns with timelines.	One of the students had prior work experience in the IT industry. We talked on various topics of software engineering in general.	Had to look up what exactly were the differences between a process and a project.	I looked up various open-source projects and other examples to understand the basics of software engineering.	Look up a case study for further understanding of the topics.
Delves deeper into Project Initiation Management – Project charter, scope, objectives. Topics covering estimation of project size, project effort and cost, schedule and deliverable. Other important topic - Project charter - aligns the team and stakeholders by defining goals and setting expectations.	Project charter establishes understanding between stakeholder and clients. It provides formal authorization to the project manager, ensuring they have the decision-making power needed to drive progress, such as in a system migration project.	Talked about what entails the creation of an effective yet comprehensive project charter.	Did not fully understand the difference between objective, scope of a project charter.	Had to look up various project charts by looking up various open-source projects.	Review and read up more use cases.
Software Project Effort and Cost Estimation techniques – Functional Point Analysis, Wide Band Delphi, COCOMO (Basic, Intermediate, Detailed). Effort estimation for waterfall model, iterative	COCOMO - For instance, in enterprise software development, a large-scale CRM system implementation for a multinational company can use COCOMO to estimate effort based on the number of lines of code	We talked about different estimations and worked on a case study and solved a numerical for the same.	Mistakes while calculating COCOMO (basic)	Various numerical involving cost and effort estimation techniques.	Look up more numerical problems and case studies.

model. Cost Factor estimation, Schedule estimation and Resource estimation and cost estimates and UAP (Universal Application Platform) are also covered.	(LOC) and project size. In automotive software, a company developing an autonomous driving system can apply COCOMO to assess the effort required for different subsystems, such as image processing and AI decision-making.				
Risk management – Introduction, causes (resource unavailability, disinterest, attrition, cost constraints) categories (budget, time, resource, technology, quality risks) and risk analysis.	In banking software development, risk assessment ensures compliance with financial regulations, preventing security breaches in online transactions.	Asked the peer who had software experience who spoke about risk management while working in a major software giant.		Had to read further on risk management from an online source.	Read more on risk analysis.

Final Reflections:

Overall Course Impact:

The course introduced me to various introductory topics in software project management. It had an introduction to project management, its models, project charter, cost estimation techniques, effort estimation techniques. COCOMO model was covered which proved to be important. The topic was risk management was also introduced.

Application in Professional Life:

The knowledge gained thus far would prove useful when developing a software application. The project charter would be useful in understanding the goals and the motivation of the project more. The cost estimation techniques would help minimize costs, and further with the knowledge of risk management, various preventative risks can be mitigated. The topic of project closure would ensure all resources are properly released and the software application is properly documented.

Peer Collaboration Insights:

As my peer had worked in a software company, his insights proved extremely useful in understanding various software concepts. The learnt theory was further enhanced and supplemented by a practical example given by my peer. The numerical problem solved together helped understanding estimation concepts in a practical manner. Further case study readings helped me understand real world problems in software industry.

Personal Growth:

I learnt on various software project management topic, and understood that creation and management of software is extremely complex. I look forward to learn more topics on the same so that I am better equipped to handle real like software applications.