Learning Journal

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Course: SOEN 6841 (SPM)

Journal URL: https://github.com/udisha0606/SOEN-6841-SPM-/blob/main/LR4_10Feb.pdf

Week : Feb 4 - Feb 10

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1. **Key Concepts Learned:**

This week we learned about **Project Planning** and carefully organized every aspect. We learned both **top-down** and **bottom-up** methods.Professor spoke about **Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)** and how it helps organize tasks hierarchically.We learned the importance of **Contingency planning** to prepare for unexpected events. We learned to set clear milestones to track progress and how Tools like calendars and activity networks help with scheduling. I was a little confused about **Precedence networks** to show task dependencies and how Identifying the **critical path** is crucial for managing timelines.

2. **Application in Real Projects:**

In real software projects, the concepts we learned this week can be really helpful. For example if we are building a website. We start by planning the main features like user registration. Then break these down into smaller tasks, such as designing the registration form or setting up the database .A challenge we might face is unexpected bugs during development, so it's important to plan for extra time to fix them where comes the concept of contingency planning. Setting milestones, like completing the registration feature, helps us track progress and helps create milestones . Using project scheduling tools allows us to see our tasks and their dependencies, but it can be tricky to figure out these dependencies accurately. Overall, these concepts help us stay organized and flexible in real software projects, ensuring we deliver a great product on time.

3. **Peer Interactions:**

This week, while working on our automated code review system, I had some great talks with my peers. One shared their experiences with similar systems in the industry, pointing out common challenges and smart ways to tackle them. We had a deep discussion on how we are going to use scheduling tools in our project. A team mate suggested using machine learning to make our system better at spotting tricky code issues but later it was decided it might not be feasible. Talking with them helped me see just how tough it is to build an automated code review system that stands out in the market. I learned a lot from their experiences. It's intuitive how different ideas can come together to make our project stronger.

4. **Challenges Faced:**

Initially, I found it challenging to navigate project management software and effectively utilize scheduling tools such as **Gantt charts.** To overcome this, I invested time in exploring online tutorials and training resources to improve my proficiency. I also sought assistance from classmates and actively applied my learning to real-world project scenarios, gradually building confidence in using these tools effectively.

Figuring out **precedence networks** and critical paths also felt tough. To tackle this, I studied examples and practiced finding task connections and critical paths in different project situations. With time and practice, I got the hang of it and understood how to use precedence networks for project planning.

5. Personal development activities:

I dedicated time to preparing for a business analyst internship by engaging in various personal development activities. Firstly, I enrolled in online courses and attended workshops focused on business analysis fundamentals, data analysis techniques, and requirements gathering methodologies. These courses helped me deepen my understanding of key concepts and tools essential for the role.

6. Goals for the Next Week:

This week, I'll focus on mastering project scheduling tools like Gantt charts or software such as Microsoft Project or Asana. I'll practice creating schedules, assigning tasks, and tracking progress to get better at using these tools. I aim to stay informed about the latest trends in software project management. I'll do this by reading blogs, attending webinars, and joining professional groups. I want to learn about new technologies and methods to keep up with industry advancements. Study precedence networks and conventions to understand task sequences and dependencies better.