Learning Journal

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Course: Software Project Management

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Dates Rage of activities: 16 January 2024- 22 January 2024

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Key Concepts Learned:	**Application in Real Projects:**	**Peer Interactions:**	**Challenges Faced:**	**Personal development activities:**	**Goals for the Next Week:**
Chapter 1 introduced the fundamental principles of software project management (SPM) through an exploration of project attributes. The chapter demonstrated key distinctions between software project work and jobs as well as explained why projects differ from regular activities. Software project management consists of essential tasks from requirement management through design management then follows the steps of building the source code and testing until deployment and maintenance. Different stages in project development include project planning, initiation, monitoring, control and closure. Each stage contains various project tasks. The analysis covered essential tasks during software project initiation that included development of project charters alongside project scope determination along with time predictions and budget forecasting. A successful project base requires these important foundational activities. In addition, we learned about the overall software development initiation tasks, such as market analysis, product feature development,	The successful completion of every software project depends on the principles studied in class during Software Project Management (SPM) sessions. If projects, follow the SPM process they obtain guidance to move through the development cycle systematically until completion. The workflow system guides us to develop software that meets client requirements. While it's possible to build a project without strictly following these steps,	Classroom discussions with other peers let me advance my knowledge about software project management during our lecture. I discussed with them about the task duration per team member throughout various project stages which provided me with essential information about time management and project production efficiency. I also asked about the most useful tools and technologies in the industry, and hearing different viewpoints highlighted how the right tools can	The theoretical content from Chapters 1 and 2 were easily understood but successfully applying these principles to real-life situations turned out to be hard. My main difficulty lay in understanding the precise difference between scope and objectives even	This week, I focused on preparing notes that will help me to get crux of the fundamental concepts which will further grant me success in future exams as well as long-term understanding. I also investigated actual software project documentation online to learn about management methods across various development stages. To improve my skills, I also practiced coding exercises, tools like Jira which are widely used for	Next week's main goal is to focus on reading Chapters 3 and 4 to deepen my understanding of estimation techniques and new software project management methodologies. Along with that, I plan to collaborate with my teammates on our project, discussing different approaches to initiate the project, such as defining the project scope and objectives, and work on creating an initial project plan. We will also conduct a market analysis to better understand our project's potential impact and target audience. This will help us define our project goals more clearly and establish a

and estimating product development costs. These steps help to define the purpose of the project and ensure it aligns with client expectations. Understanding these tasks and following the SPM workflow ensures a higher chance of success, especially in larger projects. Our class discussions alongside peer interactions allowed us to explore the ways different project roles contribute to deliverable results. During this class we analyzed the optimal time allocation for everyone's tasks allowing me to better understand why team collaboration remains central to project management. Chapter 2 introduced important concepts like the **Project Charter** which serves as the fundamental project document whereby organizations define purpose and goals at the beginning of their projects. Early cost and effort estimation played a fundamental role according to the charter. Also, we learned about transforming **initial project schedules** into **baseline schedules** which serve to monitor project progress. The monitoring of project deadlines becomes crucial when checking if objectives reach their designated times. Field experts use **project division** techniques to determine precise project timeframes and costs when estimating their work. The connection between project efforts and financial expenditure became clear to me through this understanding which helped me grasp why it's essential to plan thoroughly at every stage.	there's no guarantee the result will be successful. Tools like Microsoft Project or Jira help track progress and make sure the project stays on schedule. Bigger projects need to use complete project processes to achieve complete coverage throughout. Small project deadlines can be met by omitting nonessential steps that both save time and expenses yet maintain high-quality work. Planning together with budgeting remains important to maintain project scope and fulfill client requirements even while saving time and resources.	support different stages of the project. Also, we discussed project initiation tools together with techniques that showed how proper tools help execute project initiation, budgeting and resource management tasks. We also talked about how suitable tool selection brings noticeable improvements to project progress throughout its initial development period. This made me understand about why being flexible throughout changing project requirements helps one produce accurate estimates and complete work within deadlines.	though both concepts are connected yet separate, so I searched it online and reviewed examples to clarify these concepts. Also, I feel scenario-based workflows/diagrams can be made to provide examples that can be easily understood along with theory as it is much easier to get overview of software project management cycle.	managing software development projects. This helped me connect theoretical and practical concepts with real-world applications, enhancing my overall understanding.	strong foundation for moving forward with our research.