Program: BCA

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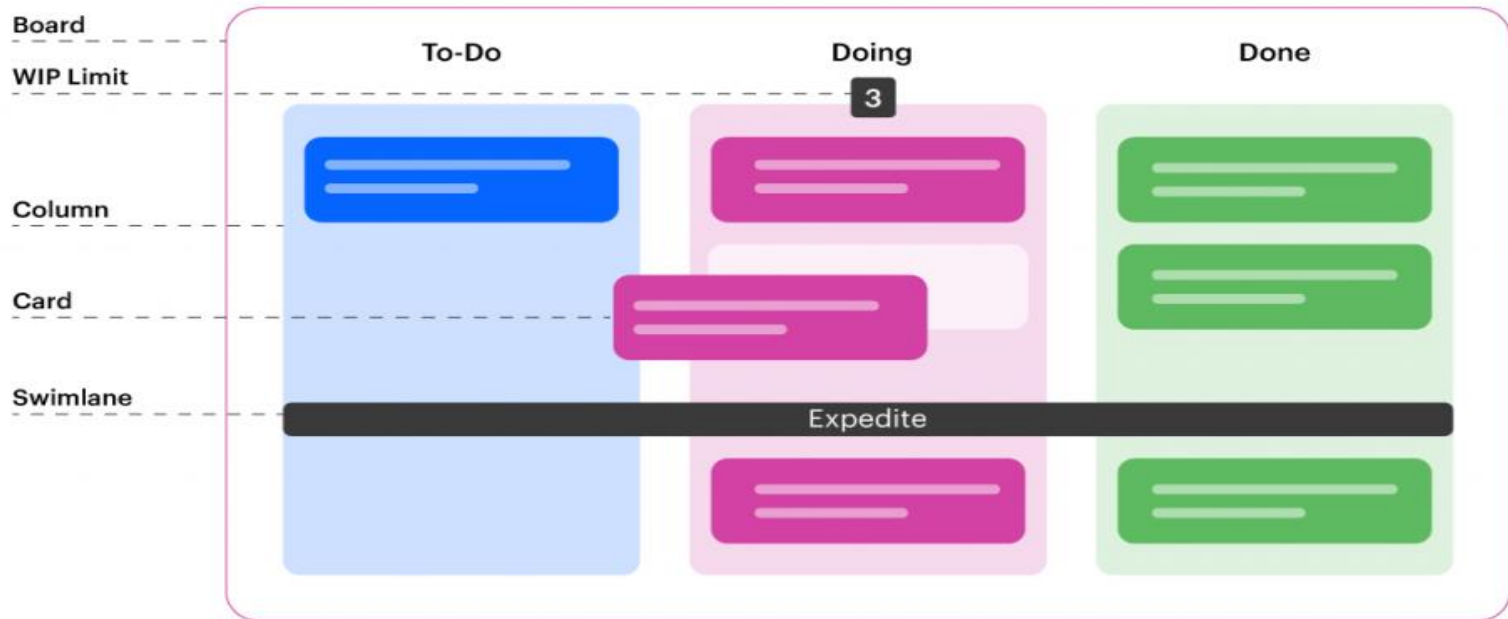# Course Name: Software Project Management

LECTURE-12

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(Professor)

Project Organization

- Create a Project Plan
- Create a Project Schedule
- Work with Deadlines
- Define Priorities
- Start using Project Management software
- Communicate well
- Utilize digital kanban boards
- Measure progress regularly
- Be agile

Project Organization- Utilize digital kanban boards

Software Project Management Challenges

The software industry is in an endless and rapid state of flux, influenced greatly by the globalization of a plethora of product and service offerings. There are various types of projects undertaken by the software industry and equally as many challenges, including the following:

Software Project Management Challenges

- Globalization causing high competition.
- Older legacy systems and infrastructure issues.
- Adoption rates and time to market pressures.
- SaaS offerings taking over.
- Internal sourcing or outsourcing.
- Sufficient software requiring specific expertise.
- Integration and interface issues.
- Multiple software bug testing & resolution iterations.
- Multiple and complex user level requirements.
- Difficulty attracting and retaining applicable talent.
- ROI (return on investment).
- Evolving revenue recognition requirements/reporting for software companies

Software Project Management Challenges

Software Project Management Challenges

The software industry is highly complex, requiring workers with both industry-specific skills as well as the requisite software development expertise. Identifying the relevant people with the appropriate level of proficiency and knowledge for dev projects is no easy task.

Software Project Management Challenges

The software industry is also one of the fastest moving and evolving industries, creating an environment where companies can go under as fast as they started, due to domestic and international competition. Business owners, executives, middle management and all other employees working in this field are continually pressured to keep up, and project management professionals are under even more pressure to ensure the successful execution of projects

Software Project Management Challenges

Globalization causing extremely high competition Project managers will need to work closely with business owners, executives and other stakeholders to flush out all factors that may impact the successfulness of software related projects. There have been many software companies that have developed and implemented terrific software only to find the return on their investment was simply not there due to high competition.

Software Project Management Challenges

Legacy systems and infrastructure issues

Businesses have invested significant financial and human resources implementing, enhancing, maintaining and patching older legacy systems and infrastructures. As a result, there may be great reluctance to replace them, even if these systems no longer meet their needs

Software Project Management Challenges

Sufficient software specific expertise

The software selection process can be time-consuming and tedious for business owners and executives, and when it comes to implementations, finding project management professionals with the relevant experience can be just as difficult, whether in-house or outsourced. While there are general systems project implementation skill sets, it may be necessary in most cases, especially when it comes to large ERP implementations, to seek project managers who are highly experienced implementing those specific systems. As a general rule, the more complex the system, project implementation, and the larger the organization, the more likely direct system related project implementation experience will be required.

Software Project Management Challenges

SaaS offerings taking over:

With increasing frequency, older legacy systems and large ERP systems are being replaced with Saas offerings, enabling small, mid-siz and large businesses to access the same or better features and capabilities without outlaying large amounts of valuable capital. Companies are subscribing to this model because they are able to redirect larger amounts of capital towards other projects that may be more value added to the overall business strategy. They are able to instead allocate operating funds towards outsourced monthly SaaS offerings that provide what they need and are more scalable and flexible.

Software Project Management Challenges

SaaS offerings taking over: Additionally, they no longer need to account for and deal with depreciation issues. It also may be more cost-effective and more efficient to have an outside vendor take care of maintenance and service-related requests that companies otherwise would have to hire additional staff for. Often times project managers work for these outsourced SaaS vendors and are highly experienced in implementations with that exact type of software, taking a lot of pressure off of the company's leadership. That said, the business strategy, project alignment, and other due diligence still remains a responsibility of the leadership

Software Project Management Challenges

Multiple complicated user level requirements:

Businesses require system users at multiple levels, some may be basic users, some may be power users, administrators and some may be strictly IT users. When it comes to systems implementations project managers in the software industry need to be versed in all the different types of users with specific systems, and the types of user access rights and permissions for each. This can range from complex to extremely complicated depending on the system.

Software Project Management Challenges

Multiple complicated user level requirements: Some businesses utilize user-specific models or role-based models. There is a fair amount of technical knowledge that is required to ensure systems implementation projects go smoothly and user level requirements are properly and fully addressed to ensure internal controls are followed correctly. This is particularly critical with financial systems implementations, where there is a need to accurately adhere to GAAP (generally accepted accounting principles), adopted by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)

Software Project Management Challenges

Third-party integration and interface issues:
Software vendors can no longer develop standalone solutions. There is an increasing need for third-party integration, making it more complex for project managers as they are under pressure to increase their knowledge and experience with other software that may interface with the one they are implementing. To some degree, it can be as if they are implementing multiple systems within one project.

Software Project Management Challenges

Quality testing and bug fixes requiring numerous software iterations:

In this industry systems implementation projects are plenty and constant. Within these projects, various iterations of testing occur throughout the project cycle to ensure the actual outcome meets the intended outcome. It is common to discover issues/bugs throughout the testing phases that require fixing and retesting until the issues are resolved. It can be extremely difficult for project teams to isolate issues, requiring escalation to more senior IT staff/developers. Project managers need to practice sound judgment to ensure all issues are resolved prior to systems going live. The testing phase is critical in ensuring no additional rework is required after going live, and to avoid customer dissatisfaction.

Software Project Management Challenges

Revenue recognition reporting requirements for the software industry:

there are specific revenue recognition requirements that are specific to the software industry that will need to be factored in throughout projects. These requirements can affect the company's day-to-day accounting as well as customer contracts and how they are executed. Project managers need to ensure reporting requirements are sufficiently addressed with a CPA/accounting professional involvement throughout the project lifecycle. Not addressing this key factor can result in consequences for a software company. The AICPA is a great resource to find out more on revenue recognition.

Software Project Management Challenges

Revenue recognition reporting requirements for the software industry:

The software industry is extremely complicated and requires project management expertise in areas of software development, software testing and quality assurance, implementation, user security, internal controls, customer relationship management, change management, business processes and many other areas

For any Doubts or Queries

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Thank You