

PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRAINING VIDEO #1 (3:42 RUN TIME)

Setting: In an office with a simple background. The narrator speaks into the camera.

NARRATOR

Welcome to the introduction to project management program. In this course you will learn how to be a project manager in the high-tech industry.

We are going to focus on software development, but the skills you learn are used in many industries - construction, finance, healthcare, government - any place where people need to work together to deliver something.

At the end of this program we hope you will know enough to get an internship or entry level project management position in a one of the hundreds of software companies in your area.

So, what is a project manager? In software, the main job of a project manager is to lead a team of developers who are creating new applications or features. It is a little like being the coach on a sports team, or the producer of a movie. You manage the people, process and budget.

Just think about how complex it is to build a video game, a mobile app or even update a website. There are many people involved and they often have very different skills. Someone needs to keep things organized and make sure everything gets done. That is the project manager's job. They build the budget and schedule, assign tasks to people, run meetings, write status reports and much more. They take care of the business so the developers can focus on their jobs - creating art, audio, software or whatever.

Let's take an example: say a programmer is supposed to implement a screen that shows the players score at the end of a game. They need a background image for the screen, which will be created by an artist. The project manager makes sure the artist creates the art, and that it matches the specification - things like the size of the image, and the format. If the art director needs to approve it before the programmer puts it in the game, the project manager makes sure that happens too.

Without the project manager, the programmer may not know who to ask for the art or the artist might not work on it, and the project could be delayed. People might feel disorganized and get frustrated. A good project manager makes sure everything

runs smoothly. And when problems arise - as they often do - the project manager focuses the team on finding a solution so things can get back on track.

So, what does it take to be a good project manager? Well, you need to be organized and pay attention to details. You need to be a good leader and a good communicator. You must be strong enough to manage difficult situations. You must be able to work with a wide variety of people with different skills. And you must want to make your team successful. It is a big job, for sure.

Before we dive in further, I should mention that there is a lot of demand for project managers right now. For example, Indeed.com currently lists thousands of project management jobs in Chicago alone, with salaries ranging from \$40,000 per year to well over \$100,000 per year, depending on experience. If this sounds interesting to you, then let's get started!