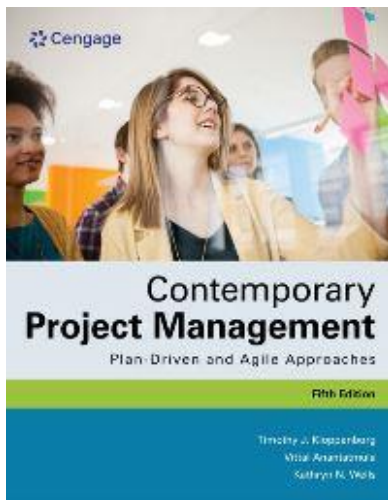


PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: **Contemporary Project Management: Plan-Driven and Agile Approaches, 5th Edition**¹

Author: **Timothy J. Kloppenborg, Vittal S. Anantatmula, Kathryn N. Wells**

Publisher: Cengage

List Price: \$115.49 (hard cover); \$48.49 (eTextbook)

Format: Hardcover, Textbook, eTextbook, paperback

Publication Date: 2023 ISBN: 978-0-357-71573-4

Reviewer: **Joseph Dziurman**

Review Date: January 2023

Introduction

Contemporary Project Management: Plan-Driven and Agile Approaches (5e) authored by Timothy J. Kloppenborg, Vittal S. Anantatmula, and Kathryn N. Wells, and published by Cengage has been recently released. This book was published at an opportune time to assist in bridging the gap between the Project Management Institute's (PMI) *Project Management Book of Knowledge (PMBOK) 6e* and the updated version seven. This book aims to aid readers in developing a robust foundation in traditional, process-based project management skills, as detailed in the previous versions of the *PMBOK*, while also highlighting the newly added Agile approaches and the seventh edition's principle-based standards clearly and concisely.

In addition, this new version includes fresh content from the 2021 PMP exam update, and 150 PMP-style questions at the end of each chapter. There are also examples from numerous project managers who possess decades of experience, various project management credentials, and authored their own professional books on specific and relevant aspects of project management.

Overview of Book's Structure

Contemporary Project Management: Plan-Driven and Agile Approaches breaks down 616 pages into 15 chapters that are subdivided into four parts; Part 1: Organizing Projects, Part 2: Leading Projects, Part 3: Planning Projects, and Part 4: Performing Projects.

¹ How to cite this review: Dziurman, J. (2023). *Contemporary Project Management: Plan-Driven and Agile Approaches*, book review, *PM World Journal*, Vol. XII, Issue IV, April

Part 1 is primarily concerned with project charters, which are how projects are officially approved. In Part 2 the reader is introduced to the various project environments, roles, and working with team members and project stakeholders. As the reader moves into Part 3, they are introduced to project planning as outlined in *PMBOK 6e* with a strong focus on the interconnectedness and overlap of the different knowledge areas and processes. Part 4 introduces the reader to the politics of managing a project throughout its lifecycle, such as procurement, results, control, and how to close out a completed project.

Included in each chapter are a list of chapter-specific objectives, a *PMBOK Guide 6e* coverage table, and a glossary of the Delivery Principles and Performance Domains introduced in *PMBOK Guide 7e*. Additionally, each chapter concludes with key terms, chapter review, discussion, PMP exam questions, and integrated example projects that provide the student with real world scenarios to help provide context for the material presented.

Highlights

In addition to the new content mentioned, *Contemporary Project Management* includes valuable supplementary materials. Among them are 23 training videos that provide a detailed demonstration of how to perform various project management techniques, a comprehensive introduction to the Microsoft Project software, and several quizzes to assist aspiring project managers in preparing for the CAPM or PMP certification exams.

Many of these features call for the purchase of a MindTap subscription accessible via the Cengage website. While this subscription may incur additional costs, it appears to be a valuable tool for project management students.

Highlights: What I liked!

I was immediately drawn to the glossaries and objectives listed at the beginning of each chapter, the well-constructed summaries, review questions, as well as real-world examples and assignments that conclude each chapter. The authors have presented the most crucial and captivating information in a user-friendly manner that reinforces and contextualizes previously covered material. This aligns with my preferred learning style, and I appreciate this approach in a study guide.

When studying, I often find that the subject matter is presented in a manner that may make sense to the authors but might not translate effectively to the intended audience. Fortunately, this book does not suffer from that issue. The authors' style of presenting the material in an accessible manner while reinforcing it with real-world examples is highly effective and well-suited to the needs of students.

Who might benefit from the Book?

This book is an excellent choice for individuals who are already acquainted with the PMI *PMBOK Guide*. While it is not a replica of the *PMBOK Guide's* style, it bears enough resemblance to make those familiar with the *PMBOK* feel comfortable and at ease.

Kloppenborg, Anantatmula, and Wells have produced an exceptional resource, particularly useful for individuals, such as myself, who are presently working towards their Project Management Professional certification and are already familiar with the *PMBOK*. This book is an ideal choice for those seeking additional resources and different approaches to learning the established principles. Moreover, the authors have done an excellent job of creating a resource that closes the gap between *PMBOK* version six, the newly introduced Agile components, and the updated information from version seven.

Conclusion

Contemporary Project Management serves as an outstanding complement to the *PMBOK Guide*, particularly for individuals who are acquainted with other PMI materials. It is worth noting that this book should not be used as a substitute for the *PMBOK*, but rather as an additional resource for preparation, as I intend to do when studying for my Project Management Professional examination.

One of the advantages of *Contemporary Project Management* is the ease of access to new information, including *PMBOK 7e* and the updated Agile components. Additionally, the book includes comprehensive real-world project practice materials and the proven processes, tools, and techniques from the sixth edition. These elements make it a valuable resource for those seeking to expand their knowledge and further their understanding of project management principles.

For more about this book, go to: <https://www.cengage.com/c/contemporary-project-management-plan-driven-and-agile-approaches-5e-kloppenborg-anantatmula-wells/9780357715734/>

If you are an author or publisher of a project management-related book, and would like the book reviewed, please contact editor@peworldjournal.com.

To learn more about the PMWJ book review program, go to <https://peworldlibrary.net/book-review-program/>

About the Reviewer



Joseph R. Dziurman

Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Joseph R. Dziurman has had a varied career, having worked in multiple industries over the years, with a primary focus on hospitality management. In 2014 Joe made a significant career shift to the field of Information Security. Due to his extensive experience in standard and operational management, Joe's transition into Project Management was a logical progression. In 2021, Joe obtained his Certified Associate Project Manager certification from the Project Management Institute and has been actively working towards acquiring his Project Management Professional certification. Joe's diverse background and certification demonstrate his commitment to continuing professional development and highlights his potential as a skilled and knowledgeable project management professional.

Joe can be contacted at dziurmanj@pm.me