Demonstrate how the various roles on your Scrum-Agile Team specifically contributed to the success of a project. The Product Owner helped contribute to the success of the SNHU Travel Project by relaying the things the customer desired from our product effectively to the Scrum Master and Product Tester. They also did their best to ensure changes were presented as soon as the information was made available. The Scrum Master contributed by maintaining cohesion within the team. They did this by holding Scrum events, communicating any issues the team was having back to the product owner, and the scrum master made sure to check in with any team member having issues. Issues could range from happening with the development team, to testers, to the customer communicating last-minute changes. The developers contributed by building the entire website. Without the developers none of this project would be possible and they were effective in communicating any issues they were having to the rest of the team. The testers contributed to ensure our software was fully operational and exceeded our customers’ expectations. The product testers also checked in frequently with the rest of the development team to gather questions related to the product’s development, so that they could form a list of the most important topics to pass on to the lead tester. The lead tester was then able to filter the list further and pass it on to the product owner and scrum master.

Describe how a Scrum-Agile approach to the software development life cycle (SDLC) helped user stories come to completion. Throughout the course of the SNHU Travel Project changes had to be made to the user stories and some functionalities had to be changed or reworked. The Scrum-Agile approach helped in reaching the final version of the user stories by providing a functional website at the end of each sprint to see where we stood as a team. The Daily Stand Ups from Scrum were effective in communicating changes made last-minute to the project such as wanting to specify “Detox/Wellness” retreats.

Describe how a Scrum-Agile approach supported project completion when the project was interrupted and changed direction. The Scrum-Agile approach helped in the development of the SNHU Travel Project even when changes were made by providing a functional website at the end of each sprint. Having a functional website at the end of each sprint meant that the bones of the project could stay, and minor things were all that needed to be tweaked. The Daily Stand Ups were also effective in communicating changes made last-minute to the project to the rest of the team such as when the customer wanted to specify “Detox/Wellness” retreats on their website.

Demonstrate your ability to communicate effectively with your team by providing samples of your communication. Explain why your examples were effective in their context and how they encouraged collaboration among team members. The example I have of effective communication with my team from the SNHU Travel Project is an email sent to Christy regarding the Detox/Wellness Packages. It goes as follows,

“Dear Christy,

I was just hoping you could provide a bit more information regarding the new direction we are taking with the SNHU Travel Website. It was stated that the new focus of the website will be on providing customers with top destinations that are catered to the wellness and detox sector of travel. Will this be the only type of vacation that we offer to the customers, or will they also be able to purchase other vacations such as cruises, multi-city trips, museum trips, etc.? Will the customer be able to change their personal preferences to not see the detox/wellness focused vacations? If a customer doesn’t specify which type of vacation they want, will the different types of vacations all be listed in the results with the detox/wellness packages being promoted at the top? Lastly what color scheme would we like to use? Choosing the correct color can have a big impact on how our customers view the website.” This communication was effective because it addressed key points of change on the website, but also asked them in such a way that it promoted collaboration by seeking input from others.

Evaluate the organizational tools and Scrum-Agile principles that helped your team be successful. Reference the Scrum events in relation to the effectiveness of the tools. A big way that JIRA helped with increasing efficiency is with JIRA Automation, because then our Scrum team was able to automate repetitive tasks that take up time across sprints and projects such as the handling of bugs.

Describe the pros and cons that the Scrum-Agile approach presented during the SNHU Travel project. The pros of a Scrum-Agile approach that I encountered during the SNHU Travel Project were that it integrated communication into multiple steps throughout the process, it helped provide the most customization possible for our customers, and it ensured that our developers and testers were always checked on to make sure they weren’t overwhelmed. The biggest con of the Scrum-Agile approach that I noticed during the SNHU Travel Project was also one of the pros. That would be that the Scrum-Agile approach provides the most customization possible for our customers. This appeared as an issue when the customer wanted to make changes to the website at the last minute to highlight Detox and Wellness Packages. If it hadn’t been for having a working website after each sprint though we may have had to start over at the beginning, because the customer wouldn’t have seen the website until we were finished.

Determine whether or not a Scrum-Agile approach was the best approach for the SNHU Travel development project. I do believe the Scrum-Agile approach was the best approach for the SNHU Travel development project, because of the flexibility it provided to our team. It helped to boost communication within our team and ensured we provided a quality product to our customers. If it hadn’t been for the Scrum-Agile approach we wouldn’t have had a working website until we were finished. Instead, after each sprint we had a working website and were able to make minor adjustments to it to provide the customer with exactly what they wanted.