**CS-250 Software Development Lifecycle**

**Module 7**

**Final Project**

**Sprint Review and Retrospective**

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**Sprint Review and Retrospective**

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# **Introduction**

In this Sprint Review and Retrospective, I reflect on the development process for the SNHU Travel project, completed using the Scrum-Agile framework. Serving as Scrum Master, I facilitated team collaboration, maintained process discipline, and ensured alignment with project goals across multiple sprints. This document summarizes the contributions of each Scrum role, the strategies employed to complete user stories, our responses to interruptions, and the tools and communication practices that supported delivery. It also assesses the effectiveness of the Agile approach for this project, highlighting lessons learned that can guide future ChadaTech initiatives.

This review aims to examine the contributions, processes, and lessons learned during the development of the SNHU Travel project using the Scrum-Agile framework.

# **Applying Roles**

In the SNHU Travel project, the Scrum-Agile framework provided clearly defined roles that were essential to project success. As Scrum Master, I facilitated Scrum events, removed impediments, and maintained focus on the sprint goals. The Product Owner prioritized backlog items, clarified acceptance criteria, and ensured alignment with business priorities. The Development Team delivered high-quality product increments, collaborating daily to address blockers and optimize workflow.

For example, during Sprint 2, the Product Owner clarified the *Destination Search* story’s acceptance criteria. This allowed the Development Team to estimate accurately and commit with confidence, while I ensured decisions were documented in JIRA for full transparency.

**Summary:** The clear division of responsibilities across Scrum roles ensured efficient collaboration, reduced ambiguity, and helped us meet sprint goals consistently.

# **Completing User Stories**

The Scrum-Agile approach allowed us to decompose deliverables into smaller, manageable increments. User stories were refined using the INVEST criteria: Independent, Negotiable, Valuable, Estimable, Small, and Testable, before entering Sprint Planning.

An example is the ***Top 5 Destinations*** story, which began as a static list. When marketing requested clickable images mid-sprint, we completed the original scope and added the enhancement to the backlog for a future sprint. This prevented scope creep and ensured steady delivery without compromising flexibility.

**Summary:** Breaking work into small, testable user stories enabled us to adapt to changes quickly while maintaining delivery predictability.

# **Handling Interruptions**

Midway through the project, a new business priority emerged: integrating a promotional campaign tool. We adapted quickly by conducting a backlog refinement session, removing lower-priority items, and adding the integration to the sprint backlog.

This pivot, supported by real-time updates in JIRA, allowed us to deliver the integration without disrupting the sprint’s overall momentum. Agile’s adaptability was key to managing this change effectively.

**Summary:** The Agile framework gave us the flexibility to respond to shifting priorities without derailing the project’s timeline or quality.

# **Communication**

Effective communication practices kept the team aligned. Daily stand-ups provided transparency, while consistent written updates in JIRA and Slack ensured asynchronous access to information.

Example message to the team:

***“****Please update all JIRA tasks before tomorrow’s daily scrum. If you encounter blockers with the booking API, post them in #dev-support so we can address them within the sprint.****”***

This message was concise, action-focused, and promoted accountability, helping maintain a collaborative environment.

**Summary:** Consistent, targeted communication across multiple channels kept team members informed, proactive, and engaged throughout the project.

# **Organizational Tools**

We used JIRA to manage the backlog, track progress, and visualize sprint status through burndown charts. Slack serves for quick communication and integrating JIRA notifications, enabling rapid response to issues.

These tools paired naturally with Scrum events, burndown charts informed sprint reviews and backlog views facilitated planning. Historical sprint data also helped identify bottlenecks, leading to more effective work allocation in subsequent sprints.

**Summary:** Using complementary tools like JIRA and Slack provided visibility, supported Agile ceremonies, and helped identify opportunities for process improvement.

# **Evaluating Agile Process**

Overall, the Agile methodology significantly influenced multiple aspects of the SNHU Travel project, resulting in both advantages and challenges that are summarized below.

## **Pros:**

* Flexible adaptation to changing priorities
* Frequent stakeholder feedback improved alignment
* Incremental delivery built trust and reduced risk

## **Cons:**

* Required high commitment for frequent ceremonies
* Risk of scope creep without careful backlog management

**Summary:** Overall, Agile’s adaptability, transparency, and early value delivery far outweighed its challenges, making it the best fit for the SNHU Travel project compared to a traditional Waterfall approach.

# **Conclusion**

The SNHU Travel project demonstrated the power of Agile in managing complex, evolving requirements. Clear role execution, continuous feedback, and effective tools allowed us to deliver a functional, adaptable product. Agile should be expanded to future ChadaTech projects with similar dynamics.

**Summary:** The combination of defined roles, iterative delivery, strong communication, and adaptive tools created a repeatable formula for project success.

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