

Standout Final Project

Digital Project Management

Go Above and Beyond

Choose an Alternative Methodology

Optionally, consider creating the deliverable for Step 4 in an alternative project management methodology, if you would like to make your project stand out.

In Step 4, you were asked to approach creating a project plan as either Waterfall or Agile. For Waterfall, you had to fill out a Gantt chart. And for Agile, the deliverable was a Scrum board featuring Scrum events. So to go above and beyond, build a new project plan in the other methodology. For example, if you completed the final project with a Waterfall Gantt chart, now create an Agile Scrum board.

Then, at the bottom of this Stand Out submission template, write a paragraph comparing the two methodologies. Fill out this template and include it with your Final Project submission zip (compressed) folder.

Alternative Solution for Step 4

Revisit Step 4 of the *Project Instructions and Submission Template* to see the requirements on completing your project plan.

Submit the Standout Project

Waterfall

If you created a Gantt Chart as your Standout assignment, export or save the *Gantt Chart Template* as a .xls or .xlsx file, rename it as "Standout Waterfall Gantt Chart", and include it in the zip (compressed) folder with all the other final project materials. You will see more detailed submission instructions in the classroom.

Agile

If you created a new Scrum Board on Trello, be sure to make it public.

- To make your board public, click on Private > Change Visibility: Public > "Yes, make board go public".
- To grab the public URL, go to Show Menu > ...More > Link to This Board.

Paste the URL here:

[TODO: Add your link here]

Write a Methodology Comparison

Now that you've created a project plan following both the Waterfall and Agile approach, think about how planning a project changes when considering each methodology. Review the questions below and respond with what you learned from building the two project plans.

<p><i>Which of the project plans was best for meeting the business objectives? Explain which objectives each methodology supports or hinders.</i></p>	<p><i>Agile methodology best suits the business objectives due to its flexibility, adaptability to changes, and incremental approach, aligning with the dynamic nature of the project and its independent components. Unlike Waterfall, Agile allows for continuous development, enabling separate deliverable releases while incorporating new solutions and technologies seamlessly. Its emphasis on frequent communication and client involvement ensures efficient correspondence with client needs and requirements throughout the project, making Agile the more suitable choice for meeting the project's goals. Conversely, Waterfall methodology might hinder adaptability and flexibility, lacking the iterative approach needed for dynamic projects and potentially limiting client involvement throughout the development process.</i></p>
<p><i>How do Waterfall and Agile compare when it comes to scheduling and delivering the milestones of the project (i.e. the features of the storefront)?</i></p>	<p><i>In Waterfall, scheduling and delivering milestones follow a sequential approach, where each phase, including planning, design, development, testing, and deployment, is completed in a linear fashion. This means that milestones, such as storefront features, are planned and executed in a structured, pre-defined sequence. Once a phase is completed, the project moves to the next phase, and changes are challenging to accommodate once a phase has begun.</i></p> <p><i>On the other hand, Agile allows for more flexibility in scheduling and delivering milestones. Features, like storefront components, are broken down into smaller, manageable units called user stories or tasks. These features are developed iteratively in short cycles called sprints. Agile allows for ongoing adjustments and refinements based on feedback received after each sprint, enabling changes to be incorporated as the project progresses. This iterative nature allows for more adaptability in scheduling and delivering milestones, facilitating quicker responses to evolving requirements and priorities.</i></p>
<p><i>Looking at the two project plans, how long would it take to complete the project?</i></p>	<p><i>With Agile it will take minimum of 8 weeks, while in waterfall we need a minimum of 9.5 weeks</i></p>
<p><i>Which of the project plans was best for engaging stakeholders?</i></p>	<p><i>Agile methodology typically excels in engaging stakeholders compared to Waterfall. Agile's iterative approach involves stakeholders throughout the</i></p>

<i>Explain which methodology supports better communication.</i>	<i>project, encouraging continuous feedback and collaboration. We have held daily standup internal meetings with the team. We also had weekly report status to other stakeholders.</i>
<i>Which methodology did you prefer and why?</i>	<i>While managing the scrum proved more challenging than navigating the waterfall method, I found Agile to be the optimal choice. Agile facilitated increased interaction among the team and stakeholders, ensuring constant updates on progress and challenges. It allowed for better project and documentation oversight, empowering me as a project manager to closely track advancements. Utilizing retrospective meetings, I encouraged the team to identify weaknesses in each deliverable, enabling us to implement targeted improvements in subsequent sprints.</i>