



Transitioning to Agile: Lessons From the SNHU Travel Project

A Scrum-Agile Review and Waterfall Comparison
Presented by: Oliver Rodriguez

Date: June 2025



Key Scrum-Agile Roles



Scrum Team Roles



Scrum Master: Facilitates meetings, removes blockers, and supports team success.



Product Owner: Represents stakeholders, defines the product backlog, and prioritizes features.



Development Team: Cross-functional members who build and test the product in sprints.



Importance:
Each role promotes collaboration, adaptability, and a shared vision of delivering customer value.



(Scrum.org, 2023)

Agile Phases of the SDLC

Agile Approach to the SDLC

Requirements Gathering → Continuous through backlog refinement and user stories.

Design → Evolving design approach; prototypes and UI evolve with user input.

Development → Done in sprints; features delivered incrementally.

Testing → Continuous testing integrated into every sprint.

Deployment → Frequent, smaller releases to users.

Maintenance → Issues are added to backlog and addressed iteratively.

Value: Agile phases promote flexibility and early feedback to improve product quality.

(Cobb, 2015; Ambler, 2022)

Comparing Agile and Waterfall

- **Waterfall Model Characteristics**
- Sequential: Complete one phase before starting the next
- Rigid: Changing requirements mid-project is costly
- Late testing: Issues often discovered late
- **Agile Approach in Practice**
- On SNHU Travel, a change to destination filtering was implemented mid-sprint
- Under Waterfall, this would have required a formal change request and delayed delivery
- **Conclusion:** Agile allowed us to adapt quickly and still deliver on time.
- (Johnivan, 2024)

Choosing Waterfall vs. Agile

Factors to Consider

Project Complexity: Agile is better for dynamic, evolving projects

Stakeholder Involvement: Agile needs continuous feedback; Waterfall does not

Risk and Flexibility: Agile mitigates risk early through iteration

Team Structure: Agile requires cross-functional, collaborative teams

Course Takeaway: For projects like SNHU Travel, Agile proved ideal due to frequent changes, user-centered design, and incremental delivery.

(Cobb, 2015; Scrum.org, 2023)

References

Ambler, S. W. (2022). *Agile change management: An executive overview of disciplined agile*. Agile Modeling.

<https://agilemodeling.com/essays/changeManagement.htm>

Cobb, C. G. (2015). *The project manager's guide to mastering agile: Principles and practices for an adaptive approach*. Wiley.

<https://search.ebscohost.com> (eBook Collection [EBSCOhost])

Johnivan, J. R. (2024, November 25). *Agile vs Waterfall Methodology: Differences & How to Choose*. TechRepublic.

Scrum.org. (2023). *The Scrum Guide*.

<https://www.scrum.org/resources/scrum-guide>