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CS-250 Final Project

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**Applying Roles: Demonstrate how the various roles on your Scrum-Agile Team specifically contributed to the success of a project. Use specific examples from your experiences.**

Each of the roles in the Scrum-Agile Team carries a unique set of expectations and work-related tasks that are vital to the overall success of the group and project. I will start at the top with the project owner. Their primary responsibilities include being the point person for the client, creating and managing the product backlog, managing the release, and prioritizing tasks for the group. They are the ones that help to create the framework for the overall project and make sure that the results meet or exceed the expectations of the clients. They have the overhead view of the team and project and are vital for keeping everything moving in the right direction. The Scrum Master is responsible for the day-to-day tasks and directly involved with the development team in all phases. They are there to support their development team, advocate for them, and to make sure that their daily and sprint long tasks remain on time. It is vital to keep the work of the day-to-day moving in the right direction and to help remove obstacles for their group as well as clarify the vision for the project as it relates to the specific tasks needed to complete the vision. Lastly, you have the development team. This group comprises coders, testers, and is run through daily meetings with the Scrum Master. This group is the ‘boots on the ground’ crew who are the ones physically completing the coding and tasks that are creating the product. They are vital because without them there would only be grand plans and no concrete products!

**Completing User Stories: Describe how a Scrum-Agile approach to the software development life cycle (SDLC) helped user stories come to completion. Use specific examples from your experiences.**

The user stories are a perfect match for the Agile approach. In our project we were tasked with creating the user stories in the role of Product Owner. Then we had to get clarification as a developer/ tester. These both allowed us to better create the product in order to satisfy the end user. Also, we were tasked with changing the direction of the product development based on the feedback from user stories. If we were not approaching this with the Agile mindset, where we expect and are ready for changes, then this could have reset and derailed the whole project.

**Handling Interruptions: Describe how a Scrum-Agile approach supported project completion when the project was interrupted and changed direction. Use specific examples from your experiences.**

I just mentioned this in my answer above. In the Scrum-Agile approach you are building in and expectation for changes and are constantly checking on the direction and tasks at hand. You are also creating the triage system in order to figure out which tasks are the most important in the project backlog. Using these systems allows you to intake and responses or changes and quickly implement their development or figure out where they can fit in the overall process.

**Communication: 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.**

I will use examples from my daily life in this section. I have said before that I and the Director for Strength and Conditioning at a college. I run an internship program and have part time employees that work with me and coordination/ communication is key. We have weekly meetings where we talk about the workouts for the teams each week, how they are progressing, and discuss ideas on how to complete their goals. We also update the team on any challenges we may be facing of how we can overcome hurdles in their way. I also make sure to create some sort of group chat/ communication that we can use if we need to quickly communicate information. Lastly, I make sure that we have a group picknick or meal at my house at the start of the semester. This helps to bring people together and get them more comfortable with each other. The hours are long, and the work is tiring. Keeping the group focused on how we can improve and looking forward helps everyone maintain a positive attitude.

**Organizational Tools: 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.**

The tools that helped us succeed were the daily scum meetings where we were able to address the tasks of the day and identify obstacles. We were also able to move a conversation to a different type of meeting in order to keep the daily scrum on task. We also were able to listen to the client and the users to create user stories that allowed our developers to come up with a working product. We were able to communicate via emails in order to clarify a few of the tasks for the development and testing teams that moved the product forward correctly. Lastly, by embracing change we were able to take the new requirements of the client and put them into the tasks that we were already working on.

**Describe the pros and cons that the Scrum-Agile approach presented during the SNHU Travel project.**

The only real con that I can think of is that this approach takes nearly 100% buy-in from the workers and requires a lot of communication. Some people prefer to put their head down and work rather than collaborate with a group and this can quickly cause the group to be resentful if they are not participating in the change to the Agile approach. Other than that, all I can see are positives. I love the emphasis on communication and that each person and group has a role that they are performing for the betterment of the group. I really hope that I can work somewhere that follows this style.

**Determine whether or not a Scrum-Agile approach was the best approach for the SNHU Travel development project.**

I think that this was the correct approach. The Scrum-Agile approach allowed the group to intake the proper vision and information, adjust when needed, and provide a product that will both make the consumer and the client happy.