**FINAL PROJECT MULTI PAGE PAPER:**

**Scrum-Agile: Sprint Review and Retrospective**

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**1.**     **Demonstrate how the various roles on your Scrum-agile Team specifically contributed to the success of the SNHU Travel project. Be sure to use specific examples from your experiences.**

**PRODUCT OWNER:** The Product Owner role on the Scrum-agile team contributed to the success of the SNHU travel project in many ways. The Product Owner plays a vital role in defining the project requirements of users and stakeholders. This defines the project's vision by deciphering and communicating the needs that need to be met. The Product Owner, along with the help of some other roles, obtains and uses user stories and makes plans for implementation based on necessity and difficulty level. Another thing the Product Owner does is maintain a well-organized and understood backlog. Along with the team's help, refinements are frequently made to the backlog to adhere to ever-changing project requirements, market trends, stakeholder feedback, and other essential factors to the project's goals and processes. The Product Owner is also responsible for managing the team's and stakeholders' goals and expectations. This helps ensure the project is achievable within the given timeframe and resources.

**SCRUM MASTER**: The Scrum Master role on the Scrum-agile team contributed to the success of the SNHU travel project in many ways. The Scrum Master plays a crucial role in creating and planning scrum events. They also help developers with their problems and struggles, attempting to develop smooth progress throughout the project. Some Scrum Events that the Scrum Master sets up are daily stand-ups, sprint planning, sprint reviews, and sprint retrospectives. These Scrum Events are key to having a successful, efficient Scrum process during development. Overall, the Scrum Master is in charge of ensuring that the team follows agile practices and acts as a coach for the team members.

**DEVELOPERS**: The Developer role on the Scrum-agile team contributed to the success of the SNHU travel project in many ways. The Developers play an important role by creating the program along with its features and functions according to ever-changing requirements. They also contribute to Scrum Events and help refine the backlog with the Product Owner. Their input can be crucial in the creation/interpretation of user stories, along with their possible implementations.

**TESTERS**: The Tester role on the Scrum-Agile team contributed to the success of the SNHU travel project in many ways. The testers play a pivotal role by ensuring quality through many layers of testing and providing feedback to the developers. They also attend scrum events, backlog refinement, and aid the developers with certain aspects of the user stories such as the acceptance criteria and success metrics.

**2.** **Describe how a Scrum-agile approach to the SDLC helped each of the user stories come to completion. Be sure to use specific examples from your experiences.**

The agile approach to the SDLC helped create and complete user stories by creating an iterative development process, allowing for quick adaptation based on user needs or ever-changing requirements. In the project, we made our user stories based on user feedback. We then had to upgrade our UI following the new stakeholder's requirements, which led to the new slideshow appearance and detox-focused locations. This agile process helped create a product that met both our users' and stakeholders' needs and adhered to the latest information about the detox vacation market trends. This highlights some agile aspects, such as flexibility and collaboration amongst different parties, which led to the product's well-rounded user-centric features.

**3.** **Describe how a Scrum-agile approach supported project completion when the project was interrupted and changed direction. Be sure to use specific examples from your experiences.**

The Scrum-Agile approach was highlighted during the project's interruptions and directional change towards detox and wellness vacation locations. Flexibility and communication are some of the critical aspects of agile and are seen with the late changes made to the project that everyone on the team must adapt to. During the meeting, not all team members seemed pleased, but they knew what must be done to restructure for these new implementation requirements of the product. With the new UI of the program, many things need to change or have adaptations, such as the product owner’s backlog, the developer's implementation and design of the program, and the tester's success metrics and procedures.

**4.** **Demonstrate your ability to communicate effectively with your team by providing samples of your communication. Be sure to explain why your examples were effective in their context and how they encouraged collaboration among team members.**

During this process towards the project's completion, I sent two emails requesting information from different roles than myself. My structure for the emails includes many distinct parts, such as:

* A subject line conveying the gist of the email.
* A greeting to the person I'm addressing and an overall explanation for the email.
* Separate mini-indented paragraphs with titles at the top, each for the questions I requested information for. This helps keep topics straight, to the point, and categorized.
* A farewell/conclusion message describing the necessity and importance of the requested information.
* My current role in the project and my name, so they know who sent the message.

One email I made was as the tester role. In this email, I requested additional test case information and error handling protocols from Product Owner Christy. I also addressed the importance of cementing the UI layout, look, and functions to make efficient acceptance/success metrics. I then suggested setting a time for a meeting to discuss those aspects along with the possibilities of features dedicated towards disabled persons. In this email, I focused on clarifying my purpose, using a collaborative tone, and including specific requests and questions so the roles I’m addressing can find the needed information. Overall, the goal is to create successful testing procedures and acceptance criteria to indicate the program is working without flaws.

The second email I made was as the developer role to Product Owner Christy and Tester Brian. This email requested detailed specs for the user stories and testing criteria for the new detox/wellness-centric design to aim my development goals in the right direction effectively. During this email, I focused on targeted communication by including labels and addressing the roles by name. I also focused on creating project alignment between our three very different roles, along with requesting a timeline for their responses to plan and facilitate smooth project progression.

Overall, between these emails and requests for information, I aimed to create open dialogue, goal alignment, and a responsive and inclusive collaborative environment for the involved team members.

**5.** **Evaluate the organizational tools and Scrum-agile principles that helped your team be successful. Be sure to reference the Scrum events in relation to the effectiveness of the tools.**

The organizational tool that I focused on for collaboration and communication was JIRA. Tools such as JIRA help in project management by delivering features that enhance team cohesion and all team member’s overall understanding of the project. These tools also come with real-time progress tracking for team members, enhancing collective understanding and transparency. JIRA also includes a customizable dashboard to reflect workflows specific to the project, which helps prioritize tasks. There is also a wide range of integration and dev tools to enhance information flow and reduce manual tracking errors. Many of these tools are highly applicable and usable in the context of Scrum-Agile methodology and Scrum-Events.

**SPRINT PLANNING:** Reporting features in JIRA can provide valuable insights into the sprint's progress, increasing decision-making efficiency and allowing for adaptive strategies. JIRA enhances sprint planning sessions with its backlog management system, allowing us to easily select and prioritize user stories and tasks for the upcoming sprint. It also allows us to visualize and organize workloads efficiently according to agile principles.

**DAILY STAND**-**UPS:** The task tracking feature inside of JIRA dramatically streamlines the process of daily stand-ups with its team member progress tracking. This feature gives a current view of task statuses, allowing for easy identification of roadblocks, delays, or other hurdles that may be preventing a task's progress from being completed. This helps the team's communication, alignment, and transparency between the different member's roles.

**SPRINT REVIEWS:** JIRA's effects on sprint reviews are borderline revolutionary with its sprint achievement reports that can aid in showing stakeholders the current progress of the project. It saves time by keeping track of progress instead of manually doing it and is an overall addition to the agile aspects of iterative development and frequent stakeholder feedback.

**SPRINT RETROSPECTIVES:** The data insights from JIRA are one of the most important features for enhancing the team's sprint efficiency and effectiveness. It allows a team and its members to assess its performance objectively. This allows for the opportunity to pinpoint and improve areas that are lacking by strategizing better approaches for the future. This greatly enhances the agile aspects of self-evaluation and continuous improvements.

**6.1**  **Assess the effectiveness of the Scrum-agile approach for the SNHU Travel project. Describe the pros and cons that the Scrum-agile approach presented during the project.**

**PROS OF SCRUM-AGILE APPROACH FOR THE PROJECT:**

There are many pros to changing to a Scrum-Agile methodology for the project. Flexibility to adapt to ever-changing user and stakeholder requirements is a positive that will help the final product achieve user satisfaction. Agile principles enhance the team's communication and collaboration. This can lead to a more unified group, resulting in cooperative approaches, solutions to problems, and suitable program implementations. These principles also increase the speed of delivery cycles, allowing frequent feedback from users and stakeholders to be incorporated into the project refinement and implementation. Lastly, the Agile methodology increases transparency and understanding between team members and increases stakeholder engagement to align the project to the required needs and requirements.

**CONS OF SCRUM-AGILE APPROACH FOR THE PROJECT:**

As with many good things, there are usually always some bad aspects or problems that can arise. With the flexibility of adaptation to the project, scope creep can occur, misaligning the project's progress with its desired completion dates. With its frequent meetings and abundance of communication, Agile methodology requires a high level of commitment and collaboration for all team members. Another negative aspect is the possibility of diminished quality due to the need for constant and frequent deliverables if not managed efficiently.

**6.2**  **Assess the effectiveness of the Scrum-agile approach for the SNHU Travel project. Determine whether or not a Scrum-agile approach was the best approach for the SNHU Travel development project.**

The Scrum-Agile approach was highly effective and was a good choice for the SNHU Travel development project. The agile approach aligned well with the constantly changing requirements of the travel industry. It also allowed the team to assess, adapt, and react to the new stakeholder feedback and market trends. The Scrum-Agile approach helped create an open, collaborative environment focused on user-centric feature implementation, ensuring the final product was relevant and usable.

**CONCLUSION:** Overall, the Scrum-Agile approach was highly suitable for this project due to flexibility, rapid development cycles, and frequent stakeholder engagement. Agile methods also allowed for adapting requirements and goals in response to its evolving scope. This helped ensure the final product met user and stakeholder expectations while adhering to current market trends.

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