Anthony Dushaj

Professor Arias

Software Development

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Agile Software Development Compared to the Waterfall Model

The Agile Software Development process originated in the mid-1990's, and is a vital tool used by many major departments and corporations to affect business landscape in a positive way. Some common approaches to the development process consist of primarily Scrum and Kanban, and sometimes extreme programming. There are many key features that the development process includes. One feature is Iterative development cycles, which are also called called "sprints," where work is broken down into tiny, breakable chunks and requirements are needed frequently. These sprints differ from the Waterfall Model phases which only receive aid at the last step. Another feature includes a Highly collaborative team working style as characterized by daily "scrum meetings." . In Waterfall teams are separated and often don't work with each other, compared to Agiles cross-functional teams which constantly collaborate. There is also a transparent process due to open communications with stakeholders and the project management approach in the Agile Development. In addition, reviewing products and services frequently throughout the Agile development process is common, which result in an "inspect and adapt" type of approach.

The process of Agile is more flexible compared to to the Waterfall Model, as once the Waterfall Model starts, you do not test the program until it is finished. Waterfall Model focuses intensely on planning, as Agile does not. Furthermore, the Waterfall model displays a project

mindset and lays its focus strictly on the completion of project development, while Agile introduces a product mindset that focuses on ensuring that the developed product satisfies its end customers, and changes itself as the needs of customers change. In conclusion, the Waterfall model is best suited for projects which have clear requirements and in where there is no room for change, while Agile development supports a process in which the requirements are expected to frequently evolve and change.. Lastly, if you are planning to develop a software that would require frequent service and has to keep up with the technology landscape and customer requirements, Agile is the best approach to follow.