Ali Sytsma

Prof. Juan Arias

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Waterfall vs Agile

The Waterfall and Agile development methodologies are both very popular, yet very different. The Waterfall is the more traditional, linear approach whereas the Agile is a type of Rapid Application Development. In a Waterfall development project, you progress through each stage and cannot move to the next one until you finish the one before. This makes planning and designing more straightforward and it is easy to measure progress. However, if there is an error or you wish to add something, you have to go all the way back to the first stage. This wastes times and costs money. It is much more time consuming than Agile development. Agile is much more flexible and takes less time. You can make changes throughout the project and the customer is able to see the teams progress rather than just the finished project. It is much more user-focused than Waterfall development. However, it may also lead to frequent refactoring as the full concept is not laid out in the initial stages. This can lead to a lower quality product. Both Waterfall and Agile development have their perks and disadvantages, and it is up to each team to decide which is right for them.