Amy Pitts
1/26/17
Software Development 1
Lab 1

Agile Software Development vs. Other Development Processes

Software development is a multistage process that is set up in multiple steps that enables programmers to create web based programs to solve problems. The process is set up in a very straightforward linear way starting with requirement specification moving all the way down to testing. The start of the process involves identifying a problem and seeking a web based solution. This step involves close interaction between user and programer to make sure the product produced is the best it can be. The next two steps are system analysis and design. This is where the input and outputs are identified and a blueprint is created to ultimately be able to produce the correct input and output. The blueprint is then implemented into code and tested thoroughly to work out any kinks or bugs. This formulaic process enables software programmers to got through a step by step process to produce an usable software. This process provided a well structured broad based system that enables users to produce software in a formulaic timely manner.

However, this is not the only software development process out there. Another process is Agile software development which is a broad term for a couple different kinds of iterative software development methodologies. This technology has been around for years but gained increasing public attention in the late 1990's. The term agile was chosen to highlight the software's ability to respond to changes and succeed in a turbulent environment. It uses old methodologies as well as new to allow users to develop software better. Some popular

methodologies include Scrum, Extreme Programing, Crystal, and a couple others. All these softwares abide by a set of methods and practices that are written in the Agile Manifesto. One similarity they all share is a common vision and core values. This includes continuous feedback that helps the software system become more refined. This aspect makes agile development better for trial and error making it more flexible. They also all include aspects that allow the user to continuously plan, test, and integrate information. Agile development also highly encourages collaboration and solutions that often evolve through teamwork.

These two different processes both produce a template that enables the user to produce a theoretically workable software program but neither process is perfect. The more traditional ideology discussed provides a structured template that some consider to rigid. The Agile techniques address that critique and makes its process very flexible with lots of trial and error options. This process usually, however, can take more time than predicted.

Both processes do have their difference and shortcomings but as a developer myself, I prefer the more traditional textbook route. Even though it's not as flexible as agile, it has the ability to follow a step by step process to create a program. Even though it doesn't really promote that trial and error format like agile does the more traditional way definitely has the option to incorporate trial and error though its testing period. Also, the ability to have a broad template also enables new developers like myself to follow a guide to make sure the program is more likely to be successful. This template can also speed the process of development up so the product can be produced in a timely manner. Both techniques are equally as good and programmers should be aware of both to be more well rounded.

Cites:

"What Is Agile Software Development?" *Agile Alliance*. N.p., 07 Nov. 2016. Web. 24 Jan. 2017. https://www.agilealliance.org/agile101/

"Agile 101: Back to the Basics." *VersionOne*. N.p., n.d. Web. 24 Jan. 2017. https://www.versionone.com/agile-101/

Liang, Y. Daniel. "2.16 Software Development Process." *Introduction to JAVA Programming: Comprehensive Version*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2007. 59-61. Print.