Final Project

During the SNHU Travel project, I have been able to learn about and take the role of different members of the Scrum teams. As the Product Owner I was the one who kicks off success by having the first meeting with the customer and establishing the project and details needed to be successful. It was my responsibility to develop a relationship with the customer. I was the one who developed the Product Backlog and worked closely with the members of the team to address changes, redefining, and feedback from the client. We saw this with the SNHU Travel project when we had a meeting about a change that was going to be added. When I was the Scrum Master, I was the one who encouraged the members of the team for success. I would care of all external affairs. It was my responsibility to know that I would need to remove any impediments. I made sure to establish a Daily Scrum meeting that took place every day at 7:30 AM in the main hall. As the Scrum Master, I set up meetings and address any issues during the Sprints. The testers and the developers work hand in hand. They are in small teams to work together on the stories and features required while also making sure the features work with no bugs. All these roles have contributed to the success of the SNHU Travel project due to the flow of self/team reflection, organization, and communication.

By having Sprints and Daily Scrums, our team was able to have an organized approach to our project. By having a time-boxed event where we set goals and pick user stories from our Product Backlog that we can achieve in each Sprint, we were able to successfully meet our goals during the end of each Sprint. It allowed us to reflect on what needs to be done still and how much time each user story would take in a real evaluation. Our Sprint Reviews were an important part of our process due to us being able to look at our progress and change our Product Backlog if needed. The final event that is being incorporated into the Scrum approach is this Sprint Retrospective where we reflect on the entire process and learn from our experience to better our future Sprints.

The Scrum approach has allowed change to not throw a curve ball in our entire project. We have had to add user stories in our SNHU Travel project when the customer wanted to incorporate healing and detox vacation packages. The success of our project even with changes comes from the ability to communicate effectively with our Product Owner. We can move around, add, or remove user stories in our Product Backlog. By reprioritizing the Product Backlog during our Daily Scrums and our Sprint Reviews, we were able to continue working on the project in a timely matter.

One of the most important aspects of the Agile method is the effectiveness of teamwork and communication. I have been able to ask other members questions or get clarity on something. This is due to being able to email our Product Owner, testers, developers, or Scrum Master. This is also done during our Daily Scrums, Sprint Reviews, and any other conducted meeting. They are all time-boxed and allow for filler conversations to be minimalized. An example of my communication would be if I did not understand something I was developing. During the Daily Scrum I mentioned my concern with the question, “How did the customer want vacation packages to preview on the webpages? I have almost completed this user story and finished the code for displaying vacation packages based on the user profile but was not sure if I took it in the way that the client expected.”

During our SNHU Travel project, by incorporating the Scrum values, we have been led to remarkable success in completing a project that provides high-value delivery. This has been a long journey of learning with success and failures. We were courageous enough to admit failure and learn from it instead of pointing blame or letting it bring us down. Failure is a part of succeeding. Having our Sprints, Sprint Reviews and Daily Scrums, we had focused goals that were more easily met. All our Scrum events have provided us with an opportunity to be open with each other as well as respecting each other as our team members. We have been able to know that we are all individuals, but we come together as a team. It has become a moment of being committed to each other and our project. A successful team is a team that is committed to achieving shared goals while also achieving their own individual goals. Something that has helped us succeed is Azure Boards. Azure Boards was a software that organized all our progress and listed the meetings we were to attend and more. It allowed for everything involved in our Sprint to be posted right there for everyone to see in front of them.

The Scrum-Agile approach was the best method for us to take when it comes to the SNHU travel project. The SNHU travel project is very much a customer of a customer-based project and made for a greater chance of changes to be brought to the table. Customer needs change daily and if there was something that the client saw in the trend for their business, it was much easier to add or delete a feature with a Scrum-Agile approach without having to redo the entire project. The advantages of this approach were the communication, team orientation, adaptability, the quick delivery of our project and the client-team relationship. I will say that a disadvantage was that sometimes it had a lack of cohesion, sometimes when you have so many time-boxes and such a diverse group of team members. I do believe this could have been better handled if the Scrum Master were able to get everyone on the same page and helped members get the confidence to believe they can achieve their goals.