

Day 2: Optional Discussion Questions

Sunday, January 31, 2021 1:32 PM



P_M
Reading ...

P&M Reading Questions for Day 2

Regarding “The Agile Manifesto”

1. What surprised you?
2. Which principles might you need more information about to buy into it?
3. What confused you?
4. What do you disagree with, and why?
5. What principles have you used in the past? Come with examples.
6. What principles would you like to take with you to your Experiment 1 team, and why?

Regarding “Why the Lean Start-Up Changes Everything”

1. In what way did the Lean start-up change everything, according to the author? Hint: what does the author mean when he writes that Lean start-up techniques “could ignite a new entrepreneurial economy.”
2. Did it, in your opinion?
3. If you had to explain to someone not in this class what a Lean start-up is, how would you—in your own words?
4. Why is a “perfect business plan” a fallacy? (What is a “perfect business plan,” anyway?)
5. How do existing companies and start-ups differ in their use of business plans?
6. Be ready to name and discuss the three key principles of Lean methods.
7. Why does a “get out of the building” approach matter?
8. In this class, we insist that, right away, you get out of the building (GOOTB) and engage with customers. Why do you think we want you to do that?
9. Is Lean the same thing as Agile development? How do those concepts relate to each other?
10. If you (yes, *you!*) were to start a start-up, might you first go into “stealth mode”? Why or why not?
11. Does Lean work for big companies, or just young ones?
12. What take-home message do you get from the GE Energy Storage example?
13. Imagine you will be starting a business this week. Let yourself be influenced by this article for a moment. What might you do first?

Regarding “Why Don't We Just Call Agile What It Is: Feminist”

1. In what way is Agile Feminist, according to the author?
2. Why does the author want to make this argument? What does she hope will result from this changing point of view on Lean-Agile?
3. How did you respond to the author's argument?
4. How does this argument impact your understanding of Lean-Agile? How does it impact your reading of the Steve Blank piece, “Why the Lean Start-Up Changes Everything”?
5. Look at the “feminine principles” in Jennifer Armbrust's diagram. What do you think of these different principles? Do you map these to femininity? How does this characterization relate to your understandings of gender?
6. The author asks, the following. Please take a moment and ask yourself these questions of a group you work with in your life (past or present). “How many of these principles might apply to a progressive group or organisation you know of or work with?” And she lists: Collaboration over hierarchy; Service-oriented; Experimental; Anti-authoritarian; Playful; Iterative; Supportive and anchored in relationship.
7. How might this article change your own work style?