**Sprint Review and Retrospective Report**

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**Introduction**

Throughout this course, I had the opportunity to participate in an Agile development project for SNHU Travel. This report is a personal reflection on my experiences using Agile methodologies, my involvement in different sprints, and how the Scrum framework helped shape the outcome of the project. I’ll share the challenges I faced, how Agile helped address them, and the lessons I learned that I can apply to future software development projects.

**Sprint Review**

**My Role and Contributions**  
At the start of the project, I wasn’t fully familiar with Agile, but as the sprints progressed, I gained more confidence in my role and responsibilities. My contributions included developing user stories, creating/collaborating on coding tasks, and continuously refining features based on feedback. I was involved in testing and debugging, which helped me understand the iterative nature of Agile and how small adjustments can lead to better results.

**Challenges and Solutions**  
One of the biggest challenges I faced was adapting to changing requirements. As the client provided new feedback, I had to shift priorities and adjust tasks, which was initially overwhelming. However, I quickly learned how to use backlog refinement and sprint reviews to adapt to these changes without losing focus on the bigger picture. Time management is also critical, especially when balancing multiple tasks in a sprint. But through better sprint planning and prioritizing critical tasks, I was able to manage my workload more effectively.

Another hurdle was coordinating with team members who were responsible for different aspects of the project. At times, communication barriers made it difficult to align our work. Regular stand-up meetings and using task boards like Trello helped us stay on track and address any issues in real time. These experiences taught me the importance of clear and continuous communication within an Agile team.

**Retrospective Analysis**

**Reflecting on Agile and Scrum**  
Agile’s flexibility really stood out to me throughout the project. The ability to adjust and adapt quickly to changes allowed us to stay on track and deliver features that met the client’s needs. I realized that Agile isn’t just about working faster; it’s about working smarter together and being flexible with the development process. The Scrum framework, with its focus on collaboration, helped us divide tasks and focus on incremental progress. The Scrum framework, as outlined by Schwaber and Sutherland (2020), provides a structured yet flexible approach to project management through iterative cycles, clear roles, and continuous feedback.

**Comparing Agile**  
Looking at the Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC), I see now how Agile integrates into it differently from the traditional Waterfall method. While Waterfall follows a linear, step-by-step process, Agile breaks the project into manageable cycles, allowing for constant feedback and iteration. I appreciate this flexibility, as it made it easier to catch issues early and adjust quickly, something that’s not as easy with Waterfall’s rigid structure.

**Lessons Learned and Personal Growth**

**Key Takeaways**

* **Adaptability**: Agile taught me how to be flexible in response to feedback and change. It showed me that being open to change can lead to better results, especially when working with evolving client needs.
* **Communication**: Clear and consistent communication became vital to my success on the project. I realized how important it is to stay connected with my team and make sure we are all aligned on the same goals.
* **Incremental Development**: Breaking tasks into smaller, manageable pieces helped reduce the risk of project failure and made it easier to deliver continuous value. This was a big lesson for me, as I tend to think of projects in terms of big objectives.

**Recommendations for Future Projects**

* **Improved Sprint Planning**: Going forward, I want to focus more on setting clear, measurable goals during sprint planning to ensure we stay focused and deliver on time.
* **Collaboration Tools**: I believe that using more advanced tools like Jira could enhance our workflow and tracking.
* **Client Engagement**: More frequent feedback from clients would help us stay aligned with their expectations and avoid miscommunication. Changing feedback is essential to the success of the project, so establishing more regular check-ins could help.

**Conclusion**

Looking back on this project, I can confidently say that Agile and Scrum significantly improved my experience with software development. The iterative approach, continuous feedback, and emphasis on collaboration made the project more dynamic and aligned with client needs. I’ve learned a lot about adaptability, communication, and working efficiently within an Agile framework. These lessons will definitely help me in my future software development projects and in my career overall.

**References**

Schwaber, K., & Sutherland, J. (2020). *The Scrum Guide: The Definitive Guide to Scrum: The Rules of the Game*. Scrum.org.