Chada Tech

SNHU Travel Project Review

Ethan Menchaca

Southern New Hampshire University

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Professor Tarik Iles

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SNHU TRAVEL PROJECT REVIEW

**SNHU travel: Scrum-agile team roles**

Throughout the length of this course, I have assumed many different agile roles in order to understand the responsibilities of each. Below is an in-depth analysis of each role which consisted of a Scrum Master, a Product owner, and a team of developers and testers. This analysis will draw from my experience in each role and aims to present the strengths of each in relation to their contribution to the SNHU travel project.

**Scrum Master**

The scrum master was the bridge of communication between the Product owner and the team of developers. The scrum master is essentially the team’s coach, acting as a guide to others on the principles of the agile framework. The scrum master is responsible for commencing daily stand-up meetings, facilitating sprint planning sessions, partaking in sprint reviews, and maintaining communication with the product owner. With constant communication between the product owner and the development team, the scrum master can ensure that the development team is working towards the goals of the end user. Open communication through the scrum master also ensures that the product backlog is up to date.

**Product owner**

The product owner has many responsibilities within the agile framework, which include defining product backlog, maintaining communication with stake holders and end users, and defining user stories. As a product owner, it was my responsibility to define user stories to aid the development team by clearly stating what the end user was after. For example, the user stories for the SNHU travel project listed what the end user was looking for in the travel site, such as having customized pricing, customized vacation recommendations, tracking previous travels, etc. By creating user stories, the developers had a better picture of what their end goal was which in turn resulted in a more satiating end result. The product owner must maintain constant communication with the stakeholders to clarify end goals which in turn help define sprint goals.

**Developer/Tester**

As a developer for the SNHU travel project, it was my responsibility to turn the user stories into a functional working product. For SNHU travel project, this meant creating a site which met the requirements listed in the user stories. The site consisted of a user profile which listed the user preferences in relation to price and vacation spots. As a developer, we were also responsible for updating the site with changes as they came up. For example, The SNHU travel site needed to be updated towards the end of our project to include wellness destinations, which had become popular recently. As developer, it was our job to implement changes based on popular demand as they come up. As a tester, it was our job to ensure that the code was functional and passed all the industry standard best practices.

**SNHU Travel: User Story Completion**

The scrum-agile approach helped bring about user completion by implementing a few different methodologies. The first method which is the most important in bringing about user story completion is implementing weekly or monthly meetings with end users and stakeholders. This allows the product owner to get a clear picture of what the end user is after and what needs to be put into the product backlog. For the SNHU travel project, this was when the product owner met with the stakeholders and was updated about what the end users were after. For the SNHU travel project, this entailed creating a user profile which could track previous travels and base recommendations off of details set in the user profile. From there the Product owner took that information and logged it into user stories, which was accessible by the development team and the scrum master. From there, the next arguably most important agile step was implemented, which was daily scrum meetings. This was where sprint iteration was discussed, and the goals of each sprint iteration were defined. From that point on it was simply a matter of maintenance and perseverance as the developers worked to create an end result which met the requirements listed in the user stories. Daily scrum meetings kept the developers updated on any changes and opened up communication between different teams. The end result was an entire team working together in digestible sprint iterations which in turn brought each of the user stories to life in an end result which met all of their needs.

**SNHU Travel: Changes**

The scrum-agile approach supported flexibility and adaptability by breaking down the project into smaller sprint iterations, and by tasking different goals to different teams of people. When you have separate self-governing teams working on separate goals in sprint iterations, changes are easily able to be integrated into the final project because each team is working independently of one another. The sprint iterations work in small increments, so any changes in the goals can simply be worked into the next iteration. An example of this as it relates to the SNHU travel project is when the project was updated to include and focus specifically on wellness travel.

**SNHU Travel: communication**

Throughout this project, effective communication was key to ensuring project success. An example of this was when I was in the role of a developer and had to communicate to the product owner via email. The goal of this email was to clarify any changes the product owner had made. Below is the email I sent.

Dear Product Owner,

I’ve heard that the client has recently made changes regarding what they are after as an end goal. Would you mind listing specifically what is required of us now that there have been alterations to the end goal of our project? I would like the requirements to be clearly stated so that I can ensure that I am meeting the expectations of the client. To the tester, I request that the test cases are made in a way to accurately reflect what the client is seeking, so that I may make the clients end goal more suitable to them.

Thank you,

Ethan Menchaca

**SNHU Travel: Organizational tools**

One tool which I found helpful for the completion of the SNHU travel project was Azure boards. This agile tool increased efficiency by listing every aspect of the project on a virtual board. With Azure boards, product backlogs, sprint iterations, queries and delivery plans are all listed in an orderly fashion. One benefit to using this tool is that changes can be made known to developers and other team members instantly, rather than waiting for the information to discriminate amongst the group through the daily meetings. However, daily scrum meetings were still integral to the project’s success. This agile principle allowed for clarifying questions to be asked by differing team members which in turn created a clearer picture of what the end goal was. This also allowed teams to share progress with one another.

**SNHU Travel: Review of agile process**

The scrum-agile approach is more effective when compared to more traditional models in a number of ways. The first is that the agile approach is more flexible and adaptable which was able to be seen during the SNHU travel project. By splitting the work up into different teams and sprint iterations, changes were able to be made relatively easily. More traditional models aren’t able to adapt changes as easily since these approaches attempt to account for multiple changes at the start of the project, and then work developmentally in one long stretch. The result is a stiff model which can be crippled by unexpected changes. Another benefit of agile as compared to other more traditional models is that one team works on one aspect of the project, but maintains communication with other teams through daily scrum meetings This avoids the problem of individual expertise which is common amongst more traditional models, and improves communication amongst team members. Concurrently with this, speed and efficiency are also increased due to having an entire team working on a project instead of one person. The benefits of Agile far outweigh the benefits of waterfall and more traditional approaches.