7-1 Final Project – Sprint Review and Retrospective

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### **Applying Roles**

The success of the SNHU Travel project was achieved through the effective collaboration of all Scrum roles:

* **Scrum Master**: As the Scrum Master, I ensured the team adhered to Scrum principles, facilitated meetings, and removed impediments. For instance, I scheduled and guided the Daily Standups to ensure team alignment and resolved challenges like reprioritizing tasks when scope changes arose.
* **Product Owner**: The Product Owner played a critical role in prioritizing the backlog and refining user stories. Their ability to clarify the requirements, such as detailing the "Search for Travel Packages" user story, ensured the development team could deliver incrementally.
* **Development Team**: The development team members contributed to coding, testing, and integrating features. For example, one team member focused on implementing the login functionality, while another developed the API for retrieving travel packages, showcasing the team's diverse skills.

Each role worked cohesively, aligning tasks to deliver incremental value during each sprint.

### **Completing User Stories**

The Scrum-Agile approach facilitated the successful completion of user stories by breaking the software development lifecycle (SDLC) into manageable increments:

* User stories like "As a user, I want to create a profile to save my travel preferences" were completed using iterative sprints. During sprint planning, the team divided the story into tasks like creating a database schema, designing the interface, and implementing the backend.
* Continuous feedback loops during Sprint Reviews allowed us to refine features based on stakeholder input. For instance, the "View Travel Packages" feature was adjusted mid-sprint to include sorting by price and destination after user feedback.

By focusing on iterative development and regular feedback, the team ensured the timely delivery of high-priority user stories.

### **Handling Interruptions**

Agile’s flexibility proved invaluable when the project faced interruptions. For example:

* Midway through the project, the client requested integrating a new travel vendor API. Using Agile principles, we adapted by reassessing the sprint backlog and reprioritizing tasks. This allowed the team to focus on integrating the API without derailing other critical features.
* During another sprint, a blocker related to the payment gateway arose. The team held an ad hoc meeting to address the issue, demonstrating Agile’s ability to accommodate unexpected challenges effectively.

These interruptions were managed successfully due to the adaptability inherent in the Scrum framework.

### **Communication**

Effective communication was central to the project’s success. Examples include:

* **Daily Standups**: These 15-minute meetings ensured the team stayed aligned on progress and addressed impediments. For instance, a team member shared that they needed help debugging an API issue, which led to a collaborative resolution.
* **Sprint Planning Meetings**: Detailed discussions about prioritizing backlog items encouraged shared understanding. For example, the team deliberated on the importance of user authentication versus travel package filtering, leading to informed decision-making.
* **Collaboration Tools**: Using tools like Slack and Trello, the team maintained transparency. For instance, a Trello board tracked tasks, and Slack channels enabled quick discussions, reducing delays.

This communication fostered collaboration, keeping the team focused and efficient.

### **Organizational Tools**

Several tools and Scrum principles contributed to the project’s success:

* **Jira**: Jira was instrumental in tracking user stories, sprint backlogs, and progress. The burndown chart helped monitor sprint progress, ensuring tasks were on track.
* **Scrum Events**: Regular sprint retrospectives allowed the team to identify areas for improvement, such as better estimating task durations after the first sprint.

These tools and principles ensured that the team remained organized and efficient throughout the project.

### **Evaluating Agile Process**

#### **Pros**

* **Frequent Feedback**: Regular Sprint Reviews enabled stakeholders to provide timely input, ensuring the product met their expectations.
* **Flexibility**: Agile’s iterative nature allowed the team to adapt to scope changes and unexpected interruptions.
* **Collaboration**: The focus on team communication and regular meetings fostered a cohesive working environment.

#### **Cons**

* **Learning Curve**: Transitioning from waterfall to Agile required time for the team to adapt to new practices.
* **Handling Interruptions**: While Agile is flexible, frequent changes in direction sometimes caused delays in completing planned tasks.

#### **Conclusion**

The Scrum-Agile approach was the best choice for the SNHU Travel project. Its iterative structure and emphasis on collaboration allowed the team to deliver a high-quality product despite interruptions. This process demonstrated that Agile could effectively support dynamic project requirements, making it a strong candidate for ChadaTech’s organization-wide adoption.