Hannah Dougherty

Software Development

Professor Juan Arias

22 December 2017

Agile Development

Agile development is a team based approach to development which emphasizes quick

applications in whole functional components. Instead of creating tasks and schedules, all time is put into segments called “sprints”. These sprints have a set duration time with an on-going list of deliverables which is planned at the beginning of the sprint. As it is completed it can be reviewed and analyzed by the project team and client. Agile development relies on a high level of client involvement in the duration of the project but, specifically during these reviews. Some advantages of agile development are that the clients have several opportunities to see the work evolving and can makes changes as needed.

In comparison to the waterfall approach to software development, agile development is more advantageous to the customer. Many times with the waterfall approach deadlines are not met, the software is not complete, and the project does not meet all of the requirements set. The waterfall approach is considered to be the more traditional approach. Developers and customers need to decide early on what will be delivered in the development lifecycle. Progress is clearly measured because all of the work can be seen in advance. The possibility that the customer will not be satisfied with the work is at higher risk since all of the work is done at once and progress cannot be seen step by step. The effectiveness of the requirements also usually lacks. Understanding what the customer is looking for exactly is one of the most difficult part of software development.