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Monday 2022-08-29

Today´s lecture and exercise provided a well-rounded introduction to the course as well as some hands-on experience regarding some of the tools and concepts we will be using throughout the course itself.

Some of the concepts that were introduced in the lecture seemed confusing to a certain extent merely because of a lack of experience in their usage. Some examples of this are the scrum methodology, the concept of a product owner, the definition of done, a sprint, a backlog, etc. It comes as no surprise that these concepts caused some confusion since they were mostly new to most students.

However, the evening exercise provided some very well welcomed relief as it showed that when these concepts were put to use their value and potential became apparent. Even such a simple task as laying a 25-piece puzzle benefitted from the structural and organizational advantages the scrum methodology provides. Perhaps the fact that the task at hand was such a simple one also contributed as most of the effort went to applying these new tools rather than completing the task.

Tuesday 2022-08-30

Today was further proof that putting the concepts this course introduces to use decreases the perceived uncertainty in how to use them. The task carried out in sprints during this exercise consisted in building a city with Lego.

This exercise proved to be incredibly effective in showcasing how crucial communication with the product owner is, how important keeping track of a team's backlog is as well as illustrating how the definition of done can be used as an advantage rather than being a burden during sprints.

Wednesday 2022-08-31

Today´s lecture provided some useful insight into good user stories by introducing the notion of INVEST. Some further clarification into certain concepts was also provided, for instance scrum roles, scrum backlogs, backlog items, acceptance criteria vs. DoD, Backlog tools, estimation techniques.

One slide shown during the lecture was especially enlightening in my opinion. The slide showed a whiteboard illustrating the workflow scrum provides. Backlogs were shown as post-its on the whiteboard and my impression was that this showed a much clearer representation of scrum.

Some clarifications regarding software quality and testing were also provided during the lecture.

Thursday 2022-09-01

Today was the team´s first meeting ahead of the project start. A social contract was written, which all team members approved of. Some further planning into next week was also done. It felt productive!