**Sprint Review and Retrospective**

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Throughout this project, I had the opportunity to rotate through different roles on an Agile Scrum team while working on the SNHU Travel application. Each week added something new to my understanding of what it takes for a team to be cohesive. Moving from Scrum Master in Week 2 to Product Owner, Tester, and Developer in the weeks that followed, I realized how important communication, flexibility, and setting clear expectations really are.

Every role provided me with a new perspective on the project. As Scrum Master, I focused on keeping daily stand-ups organized and meaningful, even if it was just on paper. Those quick check-ins helped break down the work into smaller, less overwhelming steps. As Product Owner, it became clear how essential it is to write user stories that match what the client actually needs. I also learned how complicated things can become when stories are too vague. Shifting into the Tester role made this even more obvious. Writing test cases showed me how much clear acceptance criteria matter, and how missing details can slow everything down. Finally, working as a Developer helped me experience how real-world changes affect a project. When SNHU Travel changed direction toward wellness travel, I had to figure out how to update features without feeling like I was starting from scratch. Across these roles, one thing stayed consistent: asking clear questions and communicating early made a huge difference.

Working in short sprints made the project feel much more manageable. Instead of trying to tackle everything at once, the team could focus on what needed to be done that week. When the project’s focus shifted toward wellness travel, we were able to update a few user stories, reprioritize, and keep moving forward without major setbacks. Having that structure in place made it easier to adapt without losing momentum. It also made me realize how important it is to keep the backlog updated and priorities clear to avoid unnecessary confusion later.

The biggest interruption during the project was the mid-project pivot to wellness-themed travel. It could have been overwhelming, but Agile practices helped us handle it without much stress. We revisited the backlog, adjusted user stories to fit the new direction, and stayed flexible with our sprint planning. If we had been using a traditional Waterfall approach, I believe the shift would have caused far more delays and frustration. Agile made it possible to adapt to changes as part of the normal flow instead of treating them as major setbacks.

One thing that stood out to me during this project was how critical communication is. Daily stand-ups kept everyone in the loop and made it easier to catch problems early. When I ran into things that were unclear, like whether a match percentage should be visible to users, I learned that asking targeted, specific questions helped get quick, useful answers. Even though we did not use tools like Jira directly, it is easy to see how they would have helped Agile teams stay organized and keep communication flowing. Overall, Agile communication is not just about giving updates. It is about making sure everyone understands the bigger goals and how daily work connects to them.

Although this project was a simulation, using Agile organizational tools made an impactful difference. A simple Scrum board showing "To Do," "In Progress," and "Done" helped make work visible and progress easy to track. Sprint Retrospectives provided space to think about what went well and what needed to change. Instead of rigidly sticking to a plan, we learned from each sprint and made small adjustments that helped the team work more smoothly over time. That ability to reflect and adjust is a major reason why Agile teams can stay effective even when project needs evolve.

Looking back, Agile was clearly the right choice for this project. Being able to adjust quickly, especially when SNHU Travel shifted its focus, made development much smoother than it would have been with a Waterfall approach. Having regular feedback loops and the ability to update the backlog as needed helped keep the project moving without major setbacks. It was not perfect. There were moments where balancing new priorities became difficult, but overall, Agile made it easier to adapt and stay focused on what mattered most.

Working through different Scrum-Agile roles during this course made me realize that successful projects are not just about technical work. They are about communication and the willingness to learn and adjust as things change. Even though this was a classroom project, taking it seriously and treating it like a real team environment made a meaningful difference. Moving forward, I will carry these lessons with me, especially the importance of clear communication and the idea that change is not something to fear. It is simply part of the process, and Agile makes it easier to navigate.