




Associate

Salesforce Consultant Academy



A synthesis of insights and
recommendations to develop 
Consultant Academy, based on workshops
conducted by Montage Learning.

Press Record



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Academy Mission Statement

What is our goal?

 needs consultants with experience **AND** skills capable of collaborating on projects, **BUT** it is difficult to source/recruit/train those who have the right background, **THEREFORE**  Academy is an opportunity for those that exhibit the right attributes to join , gain experience, and contribute to the client experience as an Associate Salesforce Consultant.

Montage uses the And, But, Therefore (ABT) model (developed by Randy Olson) to frame a goal, problem or obstacle in a story format.

Knowledge Buckets

Support Areas

Role Best Practices

Role Best Practices: Test Scripts

Role Best Practices: Blueprint

Role Best Practices: Build

Role Best Practices: Client Testing

Role Best Practices: Collect Client Feedback

Role Best Practices: Data Migration

Role Best Practices: Launch & Hypercare

Role Best Practices: Project Closeout

Role Best Practices: Taking Notes

Role Best Practices: Weekly Meetings

Role Overview: Associate Salesforce Consultant

Role Best Practices: Change Management

Role Best Practices: Working on multiple projects

Onboarding

Company & Culture

Getting Started (Setup)

PSA Time Tracking

How We Do Business

Systems & Tools Setup

The Hunley Way Overview

PSA Overview

O2

4 Areas of Focus

Consulting (Soft Skills + What it is)

Hunley Consulting Mindset

Integrated Soft Skills

Active Listening

Communication (Presentation Skills)

Communication Basics (Verbal)

Communication Basics (Written)

Communication: How to ask for help

Continuing Education (not taught by PS Principles)

Productivity (Time Management)

Teamwork (Collaboration)

Engagement (Empathy)

Engagement (Curiosity)

Feedback & Accountability

Consulting Fundamentals (PS Principles)

Managing client expectations and alignment

Being a Subject Matter Expert

Adapt to environment: customers are different from each other

Process alignment / getting on the same page

What does "done" look like

Acceptances at different stages of the project

Having difficult conversations (Prioritization - Eisenhower matrix)

Focus on client's outcomes

8 hours, 16 hours included discussion recorded - 4 hours (canned 4-5 hrs) = aiming for certification

Implementation: personal, program-level goal behavior (customer impact, cognitive recognition, discussion, writing), practice they do in the field (BOL, written reflection, guided activity, PSCC, PSCC2 (with evidence))

Dealing with tensions with the client

Speak their language

Customer's position in the market

Working within the scope & budget

Speed of delivery

The law of the triple constraints (scope, effort, time)

Escalations

Customer sense of pride - empathy, understanding, and resolution

Industry

Construction Overview

Intro to BPM

Intro to AEC

Hunley Products and Accelerators

BPM Specific Business Practices

AEC Specific Business Practices

Technical (Salesforce)

Automation: Workflows, PBs, Approvals & Flows

Create & Customize App

Custom & Standard Objects

Data Modeling

Security Structure

Commonly Used Apps at Hunley

Fields & Field Types

Formulas & Validations

Import/Export Data Basics

Lightning Experience

Use Case Examples

Environment management

Page Layouts

Platform Basics

Quick Actions/Global Actions/Buttons

Reports & Dashboards

Hunley Group Build Standards

Methodology

Blueprint 1 Getting Ready

Blueprint 2 Requirements Gathering & User Stories

Blueprint 3 Design & Plans

Blueprint 4 Estimating & Read Out

Sprint Demo

Intro to Project Tracker

Blueprint SubPhase Intro

Build

Client Testing

Data Migration

Sprint Planning

Internal Testing

Launch & Hypercare

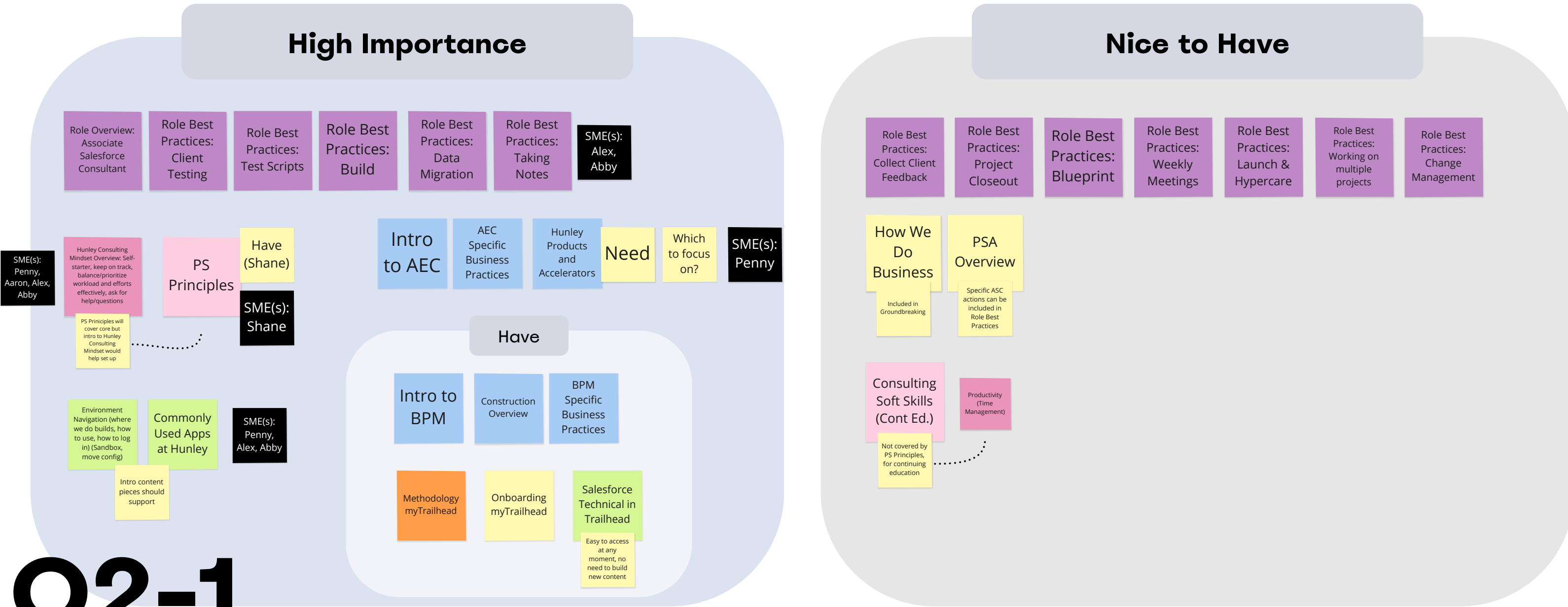
Project Closeout

Project Lifecycle (Methodology Intro)

Weekly Meetings



Knowledge Prioritization

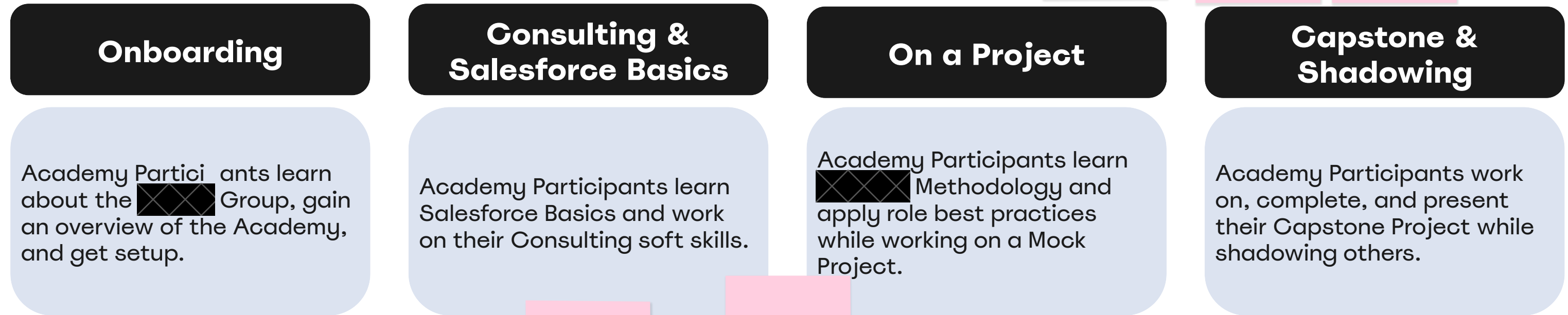


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Academy Phases

4 Phases that integrate the different Knowledge Buckets



Considerations in Design:

- Remote Environment
- Independent Work
- Opportunities to Apply & Practice

Length of Academy:

- 7 - 12 Weeks
- **Dependencies:** Content Priority, Time allotted for Capstone + Shadowing

03

Different project cycle

different process - need to define MS process (borrow some from PS)

Different flavors for discovery as example

borrow from PS processes

Academy Curriculum

4 Phases that integrate the different Knowledge Buckets

Curriculum Link

 [Academy Curriculum](#)

Learner Actions

Knowledge: Written content or media that learners can consume passively and independently.

Application: Learners take an active role in using recently acquired knowledge to solve a problem or reflect with guidance.

Practice: Learners utilize what they've learned in a "real world" scenario, a Capstone Project, leveraging known resources and teammates.

Academy Breakdown

Segments 1.1 - 1.5

Segment
1.1

Segment
1.2

Segment
1.3


Segment
1.4

Segment
1.5

- Remote environments require flexibility
- Allows facilitators to adjust curriculum based on candidates and circumstances

An Academy Day (Segment)

What does a day look like?

- Up to 6 hours of work each segment
- Breaks and lunch considered
- Daily Stand Up and Closeout
- Individual check-ins
- Consider Recommendations like Icebreakers, Coffee Chats, Lunch Breaks with  employees outside of cohort, Physical Exercises, etc

Day (Segment) Structure Example 1

Daily Stand Up
[Agenda for the Day & Questions]

Learner tasks

Individual check-in

Lunch

Instructor presentation

Group activity

Learner tasks

Daily closeout

Day (Segment) Structure Example 2

Daily Stand Up
[Agenda for the Day & Questions]

Instructor presentation

Group activity

Capstone Project work

Lunch

Individual check-in

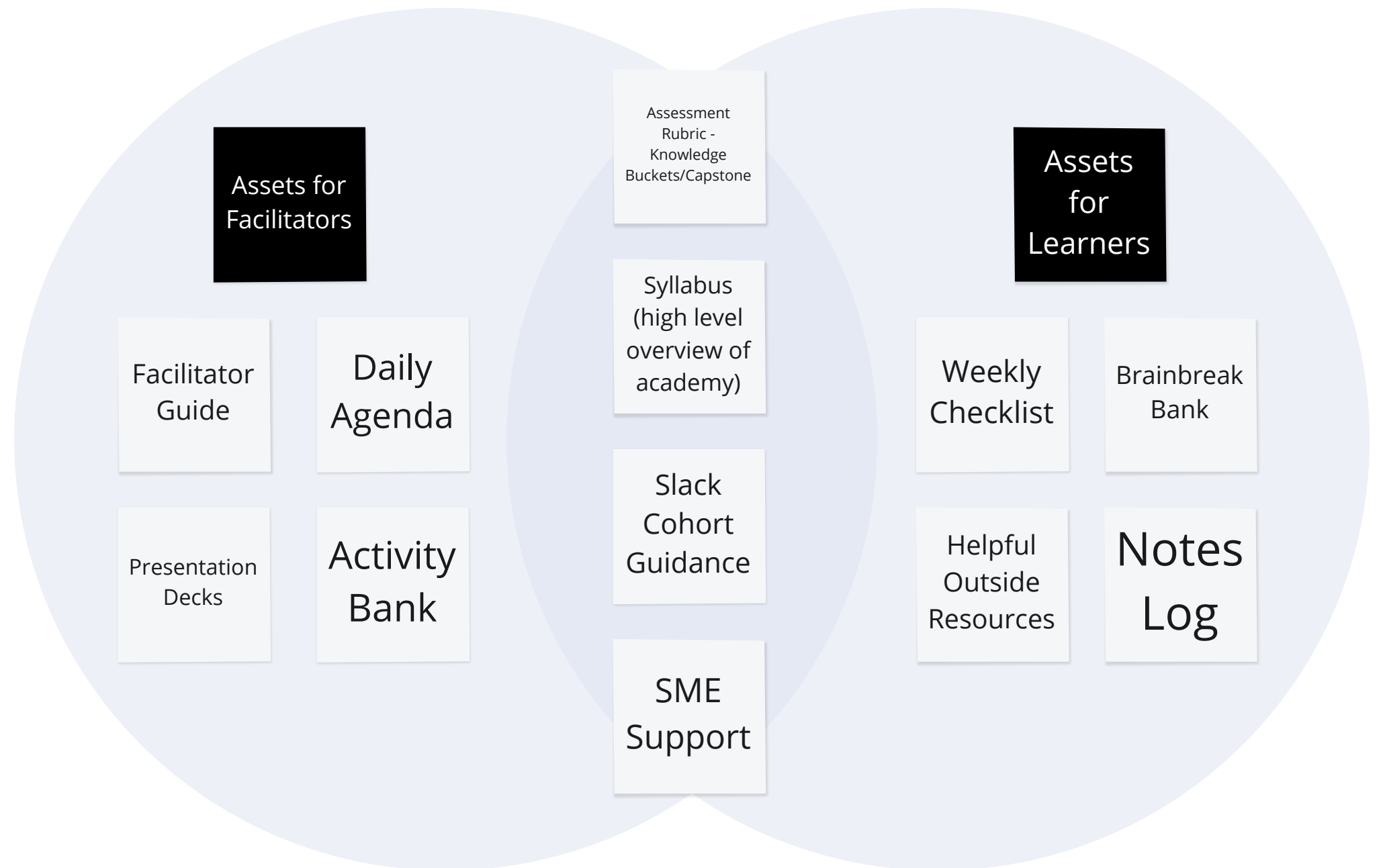
Shadowing

Daily closeout

Assets


What tools are needed?

In addition to content creation, there are also tools that are required to support both Facilitators and Learners in their roles throughout the Academy.



Recommendations

What are some other things to consider?


- Build Culture:
 - Icebreakers help break up the day and get to know each other (cohort connection, fun activities, virtual mixers)
 - Setup social events for the cohort to bond
- Stress Management
 - **Suggest physical activities (good for company overall)**
 - Incorporate fun competitions
 - Weekly/Monthly lunch/dinner meal budget
- Slack Channel for Academy Cohort
 - Slack Profile sharing
 - Polling in channel
- If possible, gather Academy participants for in-person kick-off for one or two days
 -  Internal Question: Who would need to be involved?
- Academy End Celebration - Capstone Project Presentations

06-1



Supports

Subject-Matter Expert

- Time required, dependency based on priority of content build
- Input on building Role Best Practices
- Capstone Mock Client creation
- Input on Consulting content
- Provide feedback on Facilitator Guide
-  Onboarding missing pieces (PSA overview, how we do business, etc)
- Review, edit and sign-off on content/activities
- SME support and availability for Facilitator during Academy (answer questions, presenter for specific topics, interact with Slack cohort)

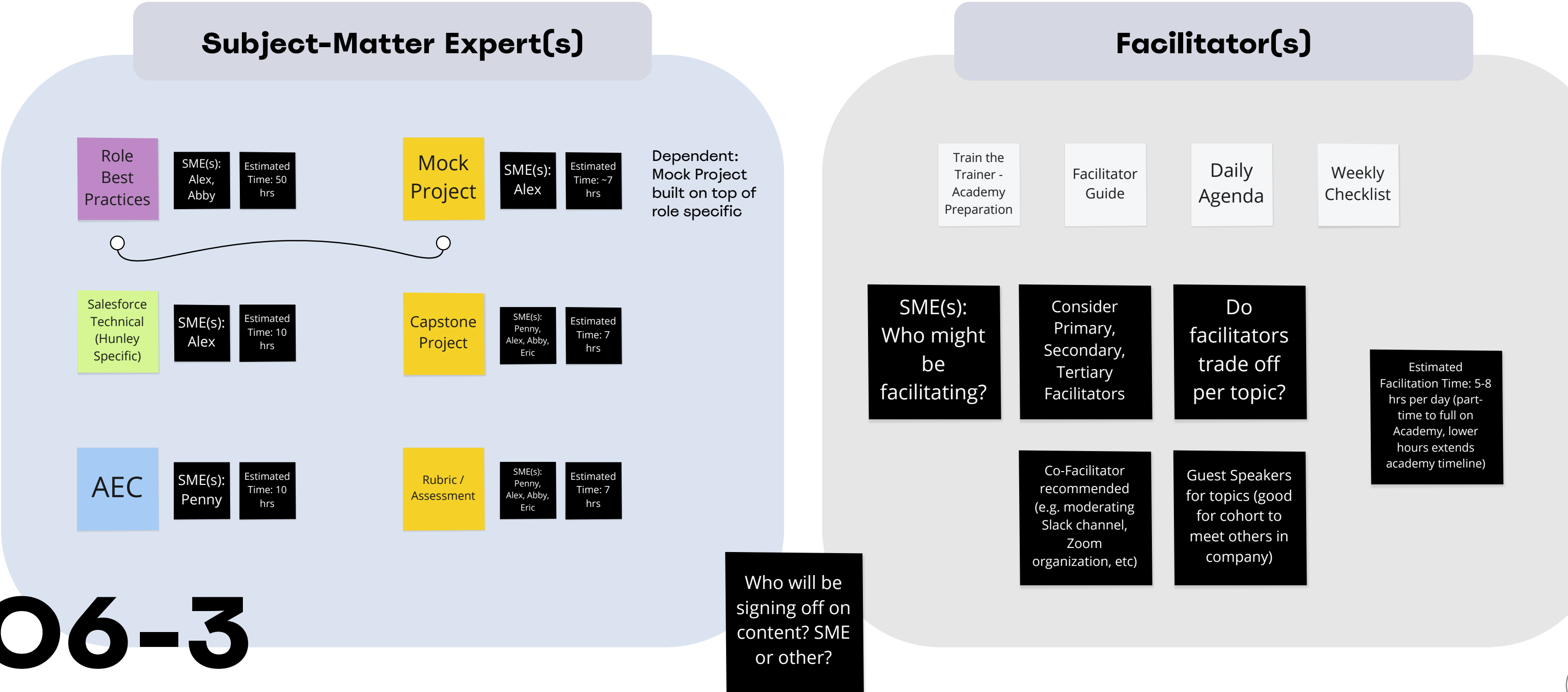
Facilitator

- During Academy:
 - Managing schedule
 - Creating agendas
 - Giving feedback & supports
 - Meeting 1:1 with learners during check-ins
 - Assessing projects & learners
 - Provide coaching
 - Initial assessment of additional curriculum needs
- Assume full time Academy work while in session
- Moderator for Slack cohort
- Facilitator should be one person but can have multiple supports

06-2



Supports




Mock Project

Outline & Implementation

- Integrated into the Role Specific knowledge area
- ASC completes tasks assigned to them
- Role Specific topics are introduced and reviewed using Instructor Led Presentations (A Hunley example to give context would help setup learners tasks)
- ASC Learner reviews tasks assigned and takes actions (Tasks can be assigned in Project Tracker, executed in a Sandbox)
- We can also build Short Simulations for specific actions or context that don't require Salesforce technical knowledge for learners to apply what they've learned

Checkpoint: Learners apply their Role Specific knowledge + Salesforce Technical Knowledge.

 **Effort:**
What steps are needed to get this into sandbox?
Estimate of time?

Role Specific Course

Apply Learning to Tasks

Execution Assessed

Facilitator presents on Role Specific Best Practices for Test Scripts


Learner reviews tasks in Project Tracker and acts on them in Sandbox

Submits Tasks for Review

Facilitator reviews and assesses, gives feedback

Capstone Project

Outline & Implementation

- Each group is given a mock client, SOW, and use case (scenario outline) to work from
 - Mock client can either be written or previously recorded client meeting OR Facilitator/ Employees can role-play as a client
- Capstone Projects are non-guided practice opportunities
 - Learners have to manage tasks, the process, and the team
 - Facilitators can be asked questions but learners are asked to review resources or discover other resources
- 3 - 4 weeks

Live
role-
play?

Checkpoint & Milestone:
Learners apply their Role Specific knowledge + Salesforce Technical Knowledge to complete group project.

Project Phase
Introduction
Presentation
(~3 hours)

Teams work
on Project
together
(~6 hours)


End of
Capstone:
Teams Present
Project

Facilitator
presents on
project phase,
address
questions, and
ask learners to
share experiences

Learners work
as a team to
manage their
project to
completion

Project teams
use resources
and best
practices to
address project
issues

Facilitator
reviews and
assesses
projects, gives
feedback

 Effort:
What steps are
needed to get this
into sandbox?
Estimate of time?

Resource
Materials:
User Story
Bank

Different
Examples
needed for
ASC vs ACSM

Rubric Mockup

What might the rubric look like?

- Instructor assessment
- Self assessment
- Team assessment

Align levels
with
benchmarks?

Knowledge Area	Knowledge Topic	Emerging (1)	Developing (2)	Proficient (3)	Advanced (4)	Expert (5)	Score	Notes
Role Best Practices	Note Taking	<p>Know: Has trouble understanding the note-taking process and how to use template</p> <p>Apply: Uses note-taking practices inconsistently and relies heavily on resources</p> <p>Practice: Requires more opportunities to take notes in context to better understand how to apply</p>	<p>Know: Understands best practices</p> <p>Apply: Uses note-taking practices consistently with some errors or guidance</p> <p>Practice: Able to complete note-taking process in dependently but requires additional time and support</p>	<p>Know: Understand best practices and context</p> <p>Apply: Uses note-taking practices without error and can give feedback on the process</p> <p>Practice: Able to follow note-taking processes in context, but may need additional time to complete (time efficiency)</p>	<p>Know: Understand best practices, can explain the process and support others</p> <p>Apply: Uses note-taking practices without error and can give feedback on the process</p> <p>Practice: Completes note-taking process in a time efficient manner</p>	<p>Know: Understand best practices, and mentors others</p> <p>Apply: Improves on the note-taking process and innovates</p> <p>Practice: Completes note-taking process easily, innovates and standardizes new practices</p>	3	Can improve time efficiency on project tasks

Notes on Candidates

Who might be a good fit?

		Foundational Capabilities			
		Salesforce Expertise	Industry Knowledge	Consulting Skills	Hunley Methodology
Candidate Sources	Salesforce Partner	Strong	Minimal	Strong	Moderate/Related
	Non-Salesforce IT Consultant	Minimal	Minimal	Strong	Moderate/Related
	In-House Admin	Moderate to Strong	Minimal to Moderate	Minimal	Minimal/Related
	In-House Sales Ops	Minimal	Strong	Minimal	Minimal/Related
	Fresh Graduate	None	None	None	None
	Unrelated Business Professional	None	Minimal/Related	None	Minimal/Related
Salesforce Training Programs (VetForce, Climb Hire, etc.)		Moderate	None	None	None

Would industry include BPM or AEC or both?

For methodology does it mean they understand Hunley's, Industry, Salesforce? but haven't implemented?

Need more info: would this individual show interest in Salesforce or the industry?

Sales Ops may have more experience? Depends on opportunities given in last role - a lot of sales ops people have awesome Salesforce admin experience

Minimal to Moderate unless you can review the curriculum first

Consulting skills might be an emerging talent for this candidate (depending on background), more willing to learn something new, may have expertise in an unrelated industry (but might not have job experience or translatable skill sets)

All candidates, no matter level should be looking to grow and learn the Hunley way

What does minimal/related look like?



Candidate Goals

Expectations of Candidates after Graduation

How do you see
ASC adding
value to a
project after the
Academy?

Actively listen,
contribute and
review
requirements and
complete
declarative setup

Manage their
time efficiently
(complete tasks,
seamless hand-
off)

Own their
processes to
optimize, rinse
and repeat

Provide
perspective
and feedback
for projects

At the end of
their first year,
what do you
see them
achieving?

Contributing
consistently on projects
(e.g. SF
recommendations,
bring up red flags,
pitfalls, time to task
completion efficiency)

Strive for
certification
(potentially)

Choose a career
pathway based
on interests and
strengths

ASC SME: sense of
confidence and elegance,
presenting solutions
(owning a process and
presenting it, internal
facing), increased
independence, expert on
simple SF apps, able to
mentor new ASCs

Ideal: Admin
Cert (within
1st year)
(ASC/ACSM)

10-1

Recommended Ideal Candidates

Optimal

In-
House
Admin

Salesforce
Training
Programs
(VetForce, Climb
Hire, etc.)

In-House
Sales
Ops

Acceptable

Unrelated
Business
Professional

Fresh
Graduate



User Persona

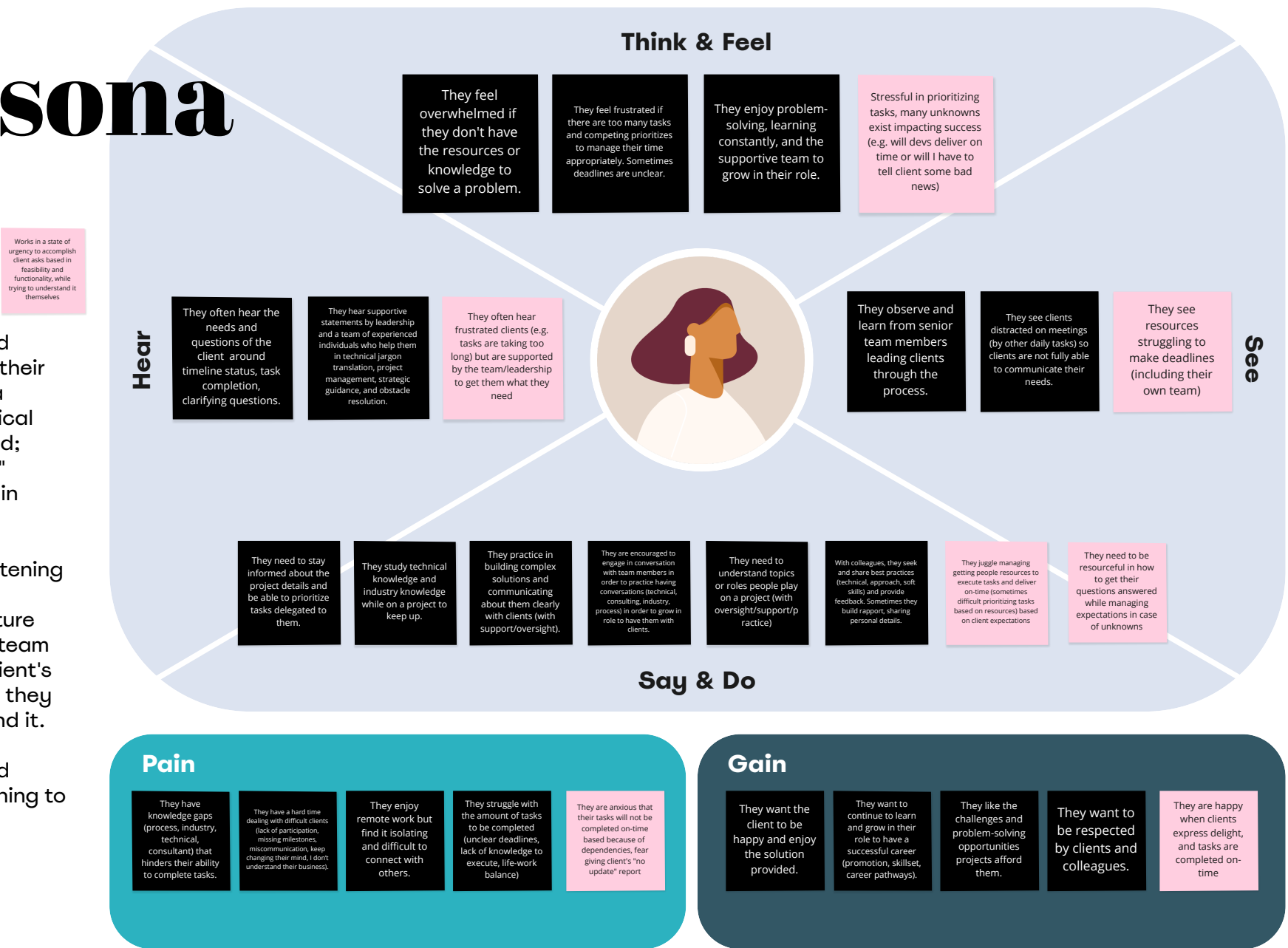
Hi, my name is Taylor

Taylor is our Consultant.

They work remotely, individually and/or collaboratively with a team, to engage and identify a client's business problem. Using their technical skills, they support the build of a Salesforce solution. They have solid technical aptitude and may have technical command; they may have been an "accidental admin" and/or may come out of a Salesforce Admin course.

On a project, they may find themselves listening into and sometimes participating in conversations by actively listening to capture takeaways. They ask questions with their team to clarify/define/synthesize/analyze the client's needs in order to build the best solution. If they don't know something, they research to find it. This can be challenging in the moment in navigating project nuance, ambiguity, and juggling deadlines. They have to keep learning to maintain or excel in their role.

10-2



Topics

continued learning

being part of team

problem solving

best practices

time management: multiple competing priorities (distractions)

managing a customer (through the process, communication, difficult conversations, realities vs. ideals, expectation setting)

build expertise: desire to be an expert (motivation, candidate definition of consultant)

ASC vs ACSM

same across ASC and CSM (not directly working with the client, need senior support)

Teamwork: ASC larger team vs ACSM working directly with one team member (senior support)

"They offer client education about the process." For ASC, others on team do this like SA/PM vs For ACSM, senior level guides this

On projects, ASC has the team as support, ACSM needs to find resources (what do they need to get job done)

ACSM - more routine problems/solutions

Resources

language (technical, industry)

taking notes, capture user stories (add to bio/actions)

standard note taking (template, process)

Growth in Role

candidate note: chosen path to go ASC: no experience but have tech aptitude

How can the role scale? communicate well with clients, craft a solution, speak to the client about it

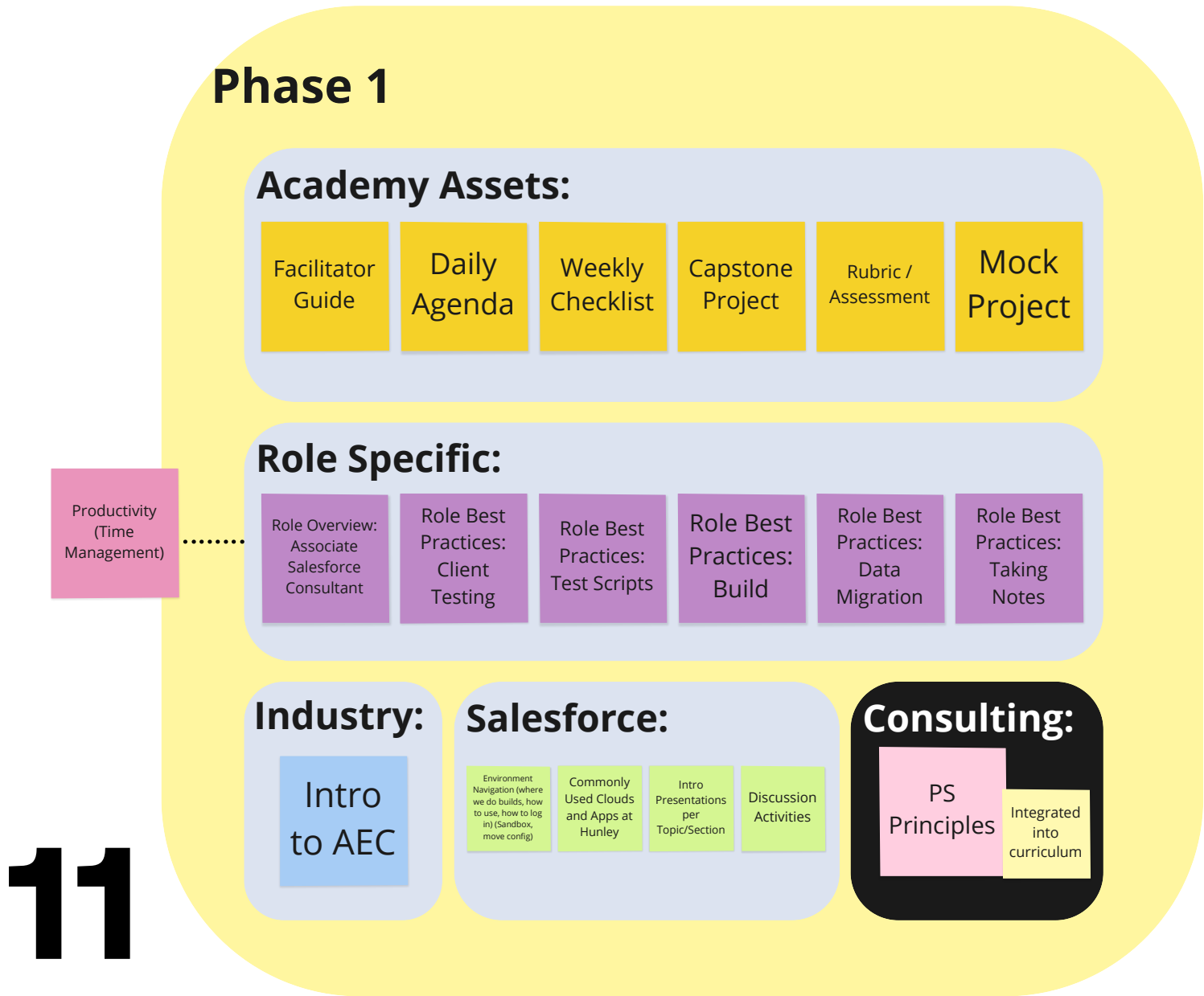
They play the role of detective, asking open-ended questions to help uncover client's problems and needs.

When something is unclear, they need to navigate ambiguity with the client to gain clarification and/or confirmation. Sometimes this is a difficult conversation to have.

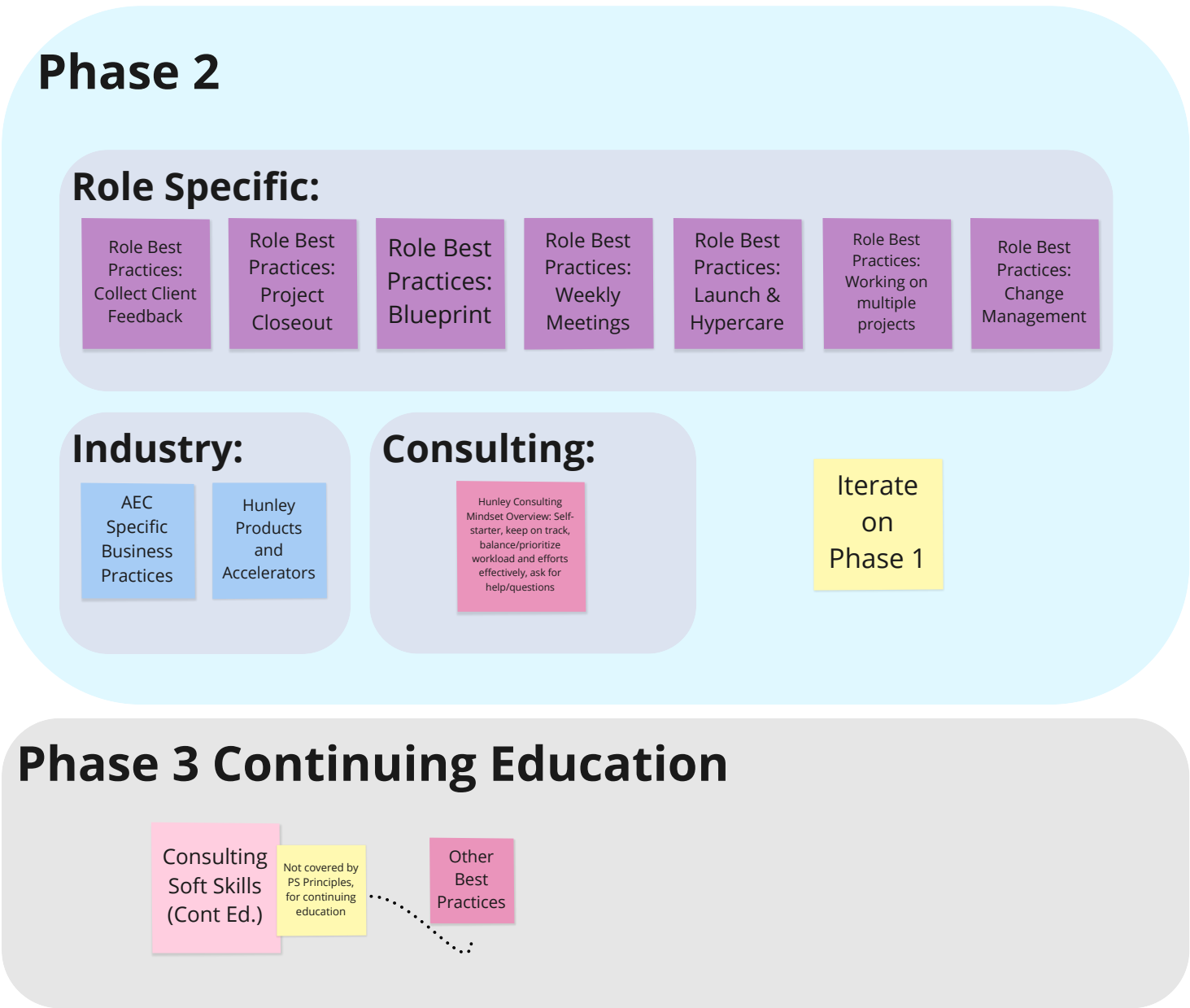


Build Phases

What needs to be built?

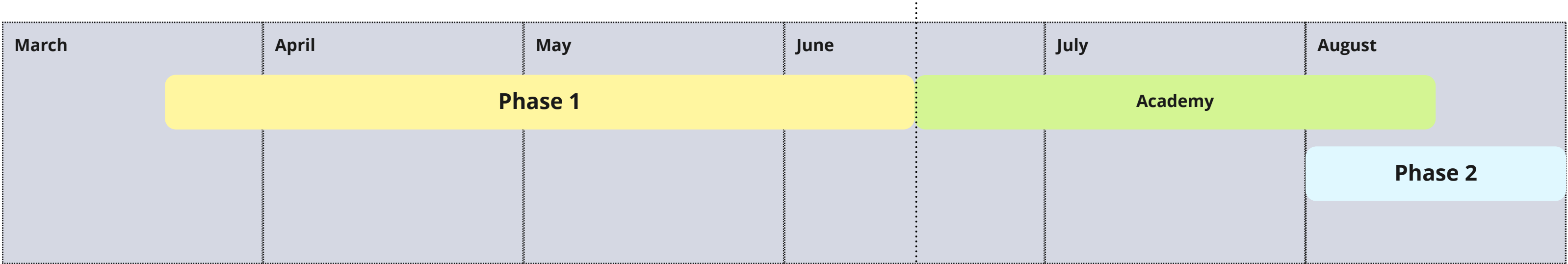


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Build Timeline

When will things be built?

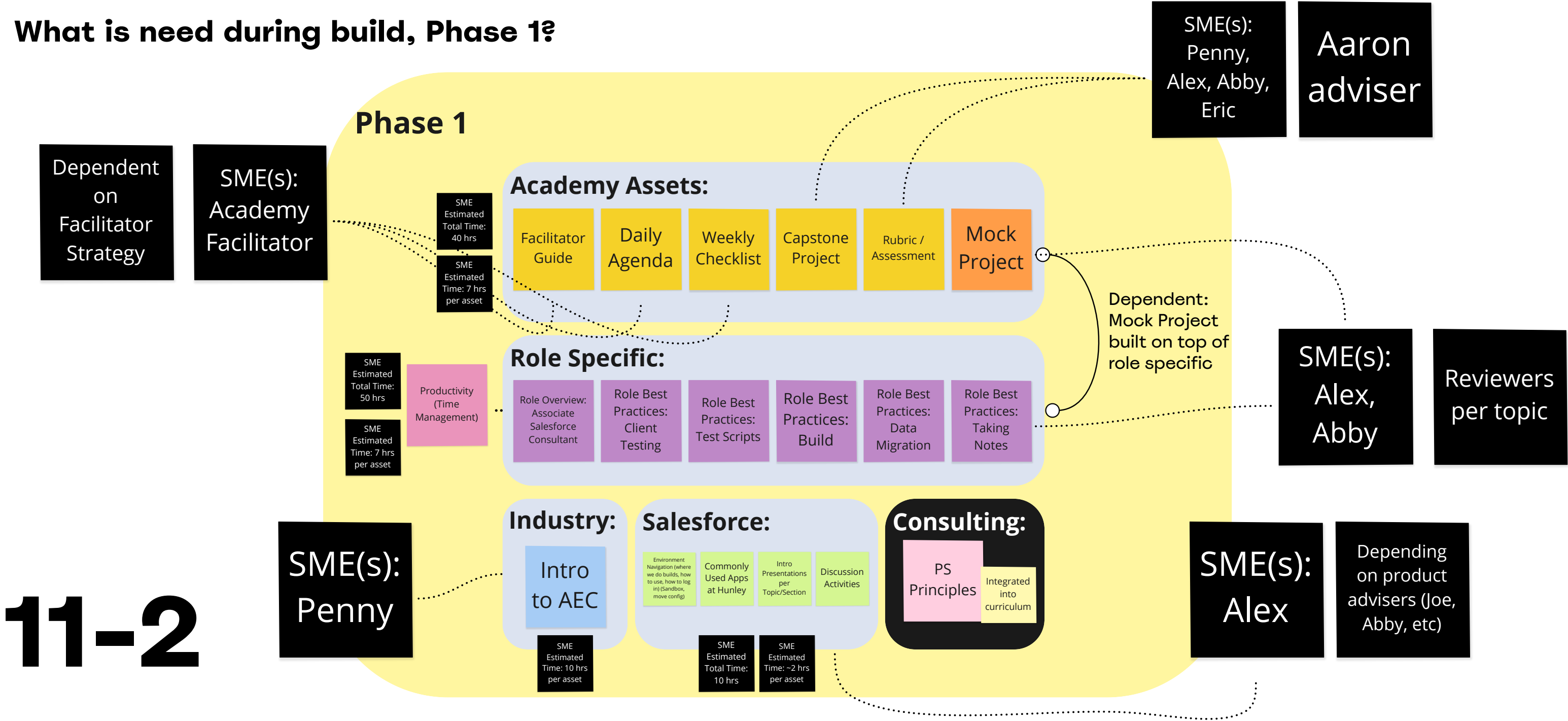


First Academy



Build Requirements


What is need during build, Phase 1?



ACSM Academy Phases

4 Phases that integrate the different Knowledge Buckets


Onboarding

Academy Participants learn about the  Group, gain an overview of the Academy, and get setup.

Consulting & Salesforce Basics

Academy Participants learn Salesforce Basics and work on their Consulting soft skills.

Processes & Client Management

Academy Participants learn  ACSM processes and how to apply client management best practices in scenarios.

Mentoring & Shadowing

Academy Participants are assigned and support senior CSMs on simple project tasks and have the opportunity to shadow on more complex projects.

Considerations in Design:

- Remote Environment
- Independent Work
- Opportunities to Apply & Practice

03

Needs to Identify:

1. Who is the ideal candidate (is it the current ACSM (best buy) or somebody more experienced in specific area?)
2. How do you the ACSM adding value after the academy, after 30, 60, 90 days?
3. Importance of missing content (methodology, best practices, commonly used clouds/apps, consulting, hunley processes)
4. What tangible skills from CSM attributes (SF skills, project mgmt, account mgmt) do you want them to come out of / be proficient with after the academy?

Length of Academy:

- TBD Weeks
- **Dependencies:** Process definition, Time allotted for Mentoring + Shadowing time, Group activities



ACSM Knowledge Buckets

★ Stars label dependencies needed to build Academy

Support Areas

Role Best Practices

Should role best practices focus on client types and how to interact? ★

Role Best Practices: How to manage clients during Discovery

Onboarding

Company & Culture

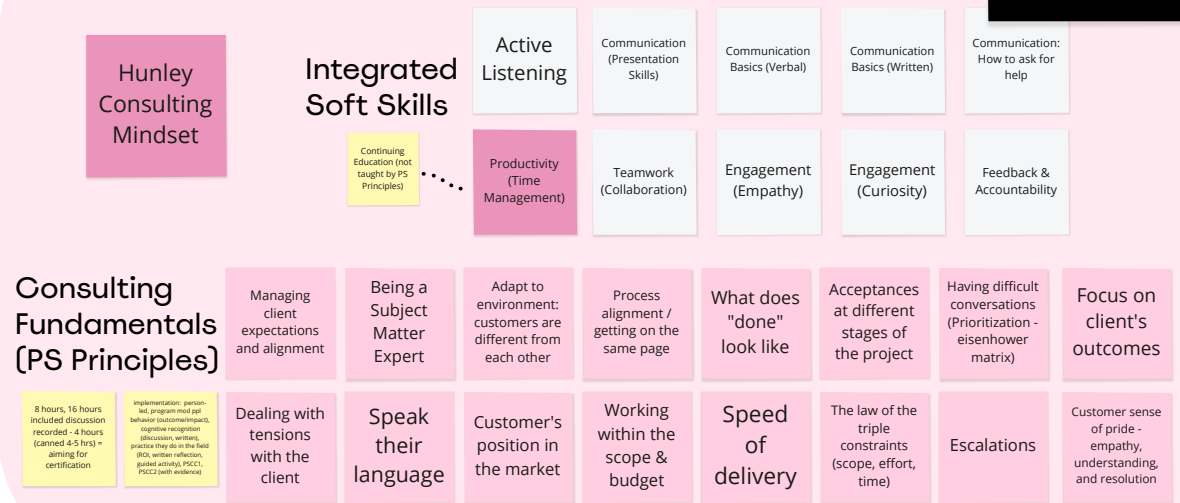
Getting Started (Setup)

PSA Time Tracking

Systems & Tools Setup

4 Areas of Focus

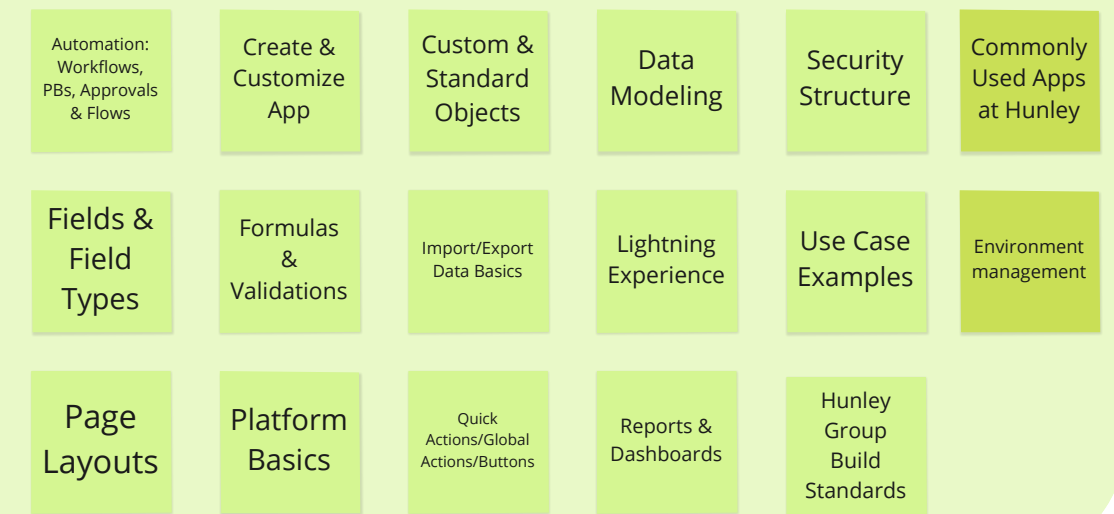
Consulting (Soft Skills + What it is)



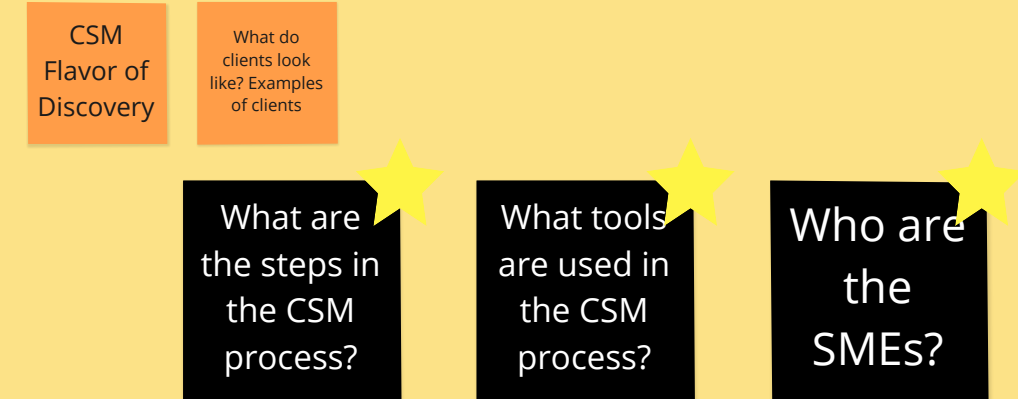
Industry



Technical (Salesforce)



CSM Processes



ACSM Build Phases

What needs to be built?

