# Sprint Review and Retrospective

# SNHU CS-250 SDLC – 7-1 Final Project

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## Applying Roles: Demonstrate how the various roles on your Scrum-Agile Team specifically contributed to the success of a project. Use specific examples from your experiences.

The Scrum-Agile roles of Product Owner, Scrum Master, Development team (of developers and testers) worked in conjunction on the Chada Tech Top Destinations project. Product owner was responsible for meeting with the stakeholders and relayed some updates mid-way through to allow changes to be made from top destinations overall to a more wellness-based destination focus. The development team handled the work, feedback, and insightful questions along with functional code that passed all test cases. The scrum master led the daily scrums and eliminated distractions and blockers the team faced during the sprint.

## Completing User Stories: Describe how a Scrum-Agile approach to the software development life cycle (SDLC) helped user stories come to completion. Use specific examples from your experiences.

The user stories were vital in the initial phases so the team could break everything down into testable features. User stories were then used for prioritizing the overlapping features and more important ones the most customer would use right away. We were able to break down the project into smaller pieces to then deliver value incrementally to the customer. For example, the need to save user preferences and search by keywords can be added later on, the initial focus was to provide a personalized list of top wellness destinations for the homepage.

## Handling Interruptions: Describe how a Scrum-Agile approach supported project completion when the project was interrupted and changed direction. Use specific examples from your experiences.

Luckily the changes needed didn’t entirely derail the project, they were minor changes to the actual code itself – it was more of a styling and content theme change. The product owner communicated the changes needed, the scrum master and the development team worked together to adjust the stories and the tests needed. The final product was not delayed, and end result is closer to what the customer wanted. The agile approach plans for interruptions and for error etc. and can easily pivot to adjust as needed. There will also be times when the interruption is handled by the product owner and scrum master directly – they will be able to add additional features and requests to the product backlog.

## Communication: Demonstrate your ability to communicate effectively with your team by providing samples of your communication. Explain why your examples were effective in their context and how they encouraged collaboration among team members.

I’ve provided sample emails in previous journals to members of the team, for the sake of brevity I will not copy and paste them here, I will provide the emails as an attachment for review. In addition to the emails themselves the team meets regularly for daily scrums, planning, and reviews. Communications sent should be courteous of the readers time, targeted to the audience, and allow for collaboration. We didn’t review the more immediate versions of communication for this course but another great way to collaborate is with Teams of Slack if you post something in a thread or a channel with a relevant update and tag the person or team you need to speak with – in my experience that can be helpful for maintenance and support requests.

## Organizational Tools: Evaluate the organizational tools and Scrum-Agile principles that helped your team be successful. Reference the Scrum events in relation to the effectiveness of the tools.

The scrum-agile scheduled meetings like Daily Scrums, sprint reviews, and retrospectives are built into the framework already and are extremely helpful with the initial planning and determining what when wrong and how to make everything better next time. For the backlog management, and to loop in the rest of the team with live updates on progress, the team can use tools like Jira board. The meetings align with the inspection and adaptation principle of agile, while Jira boards align with the transparency principle.

## Evaluating Agile Process: Assess the effectiveness of the Scrum-Agile approach for a specific project. Address each of the following:

## Describe the pros and cons that the Scrum-Agile approach presented during the SNHU Travel project.

The pros of agile for the sake of this project were the adaptability, quick delivery, and reduced risk. We were able to adapt mid-sprint to some changes from the product owner, we were able to provide a functional application with some of the features already built out already for more feedback and changes as needed. The risk itself was reduced, as we were able to adapt and not committed to a set project structure that wouldn’t have met the customer’s changing needs. The cons to agile as a whole are the increase in collaborative communication across teams and the need for participation (individual contribution) is high – more meetings and need for input from all parties can create delays. One other con that didn’t come up this time but could in the future is the increased flexibility can lead to scopes of the sprint changing if the product owner and scrum master are not protecting the sprint goals and updating the backlog as needed – that can lead to an unfair or misleading retrospective.

## Determine whether or not a Scrum-Agile approach was the best approach for the SNHU Travel development project.

The pros of Agile in a project like this one greatly outweigh the cons in my opinion. Since there was not a very good consensus on the actual requirements of needs of the customer initially – being flexible and “agile” was vital to the project’s success. We could have instead created a working application from the initial user stories and customer interviews – but the application wouldn’t have been as enjoyable for the customers and would not have met their existing needs. Since the requirements were unknown, we had access to feedback from the stakeholders, and a team that was flexible – agile-scrum was a perfect fit. That may not always be the case for every project but in this case specifically it worked out well.