

**Chuck Cobb**

## Mastering Agile Project Management

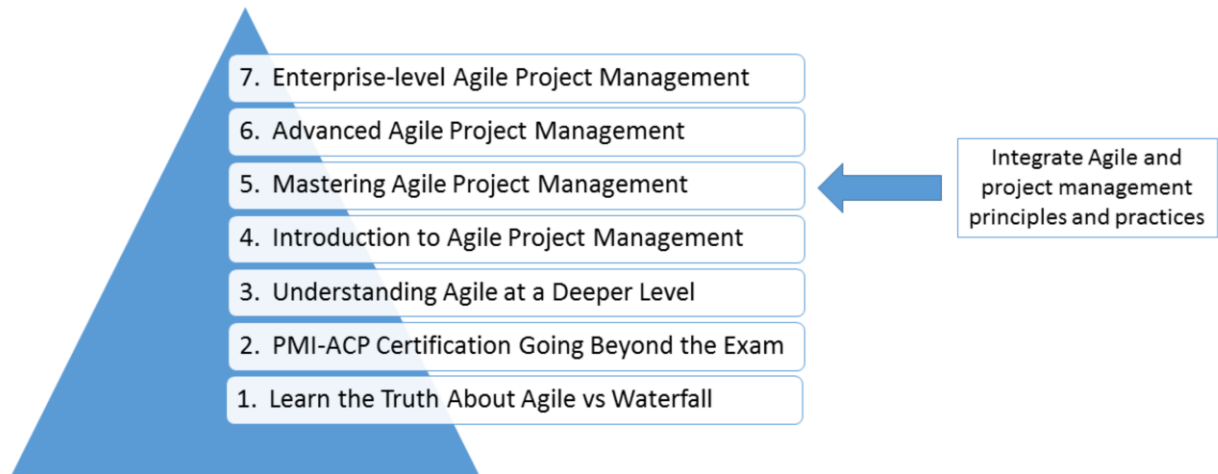
Learn how to blend Agile and traditional project management to create an adaptive approach to project management

PMI = Project Management Institute, Inc. ACP = Agile Certified Practitioner  
PMI-ACP® is a registered mark of the Project Management Institute, Inc.

Hi, My name is Chuck Cobb – I assume that you’ve taken one of my prior courses and know who I am so I won’t repeat my bio here.

Welcome to the Mastering Agile Project Management course. This course is designed to help you learn how to blend Agile and traditional project management in the right proportions to fit any situation.

# Agile Project Management Roadmap



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This slide shows where this course fits into the overall Agile Project Management road map that I've developed and the recommended prerequisites for taking this course.

I have developed a total of seven courses in this series on Agile Project Management; this is the fifth course in that series and it is to help you learn how to master Agile Project Management by understanding how to blend Agile and traditional project management in the right proportions to fit any given situation.

# Course Summary

Agile is causing a major transformation of the project management profession



A good project manager can no longer force-fit all projects to a traditional plan-driven approach

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Here's a brief summary of what we're going to discuss in this course.

Agile is rapidly causing a major transformation of the project management profession. Up until now, Agile and traditional plan-driven project management have been treated as separate and independent domains of knowledge with little or no integration between the two and many people think that there is a binary and mutually-exclusive choice between "Agile" and "Waterfall" and attempt to force fit a project to one of those extremes.

The right approach is to go in the other direction and fit the approach to the nature of the project and learn how to blend Agile and traditional, plan-driven project management principles and practices in the right proportions to fit a given situation. That requires a lot more skill but it definitely can be done and that's exactly what this course is about. It will teach you how to develop an adaptive approach to fit any situation.

# Course Objectives

1. Develop a deeper knowledge of Agile Project Management principles and practices



**"The agile movement forces project managers to consider a much broader range of 'recipes' and 'ingredients' to 'cook' with and requires a much more customized and tailored approach."**

ORIGINAL COOK VS. CHEF ANALOGY FROM BOB WYSOCKI

9/7/2017

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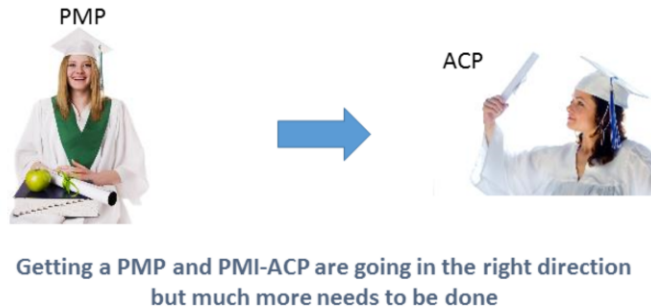
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In my book and my online training courses, I've used the analogy of a Project Manager as a cook versus a Project Manager as a chef...I think that analogy fits fairly well - a "cook" knows how to prepare a limited number of simple recipes by the book. A "chef" knows how to prepare a broader range of more exotic recipes, his/her knowledge is not limited to pre-defined recipes and he/she will often create new and innovative recipes for a given situation. That's the challenge for project managers today – to become chefs rather than cooks and that's the challenge this course is designed to help you address.

An Agile Project Manager needs to understand a much broader range of methodologies and in order to customize them and blend them together in the right proportions to fit a given situation, he/she needs to understand the principles behind those methodologies at a deeper level rather than just doing them mechanically by the book.

## Course Objectives (cont.)

2. Provide a foundation of knowledge to prepare project managers for taking the PMI-ACP® certification exam



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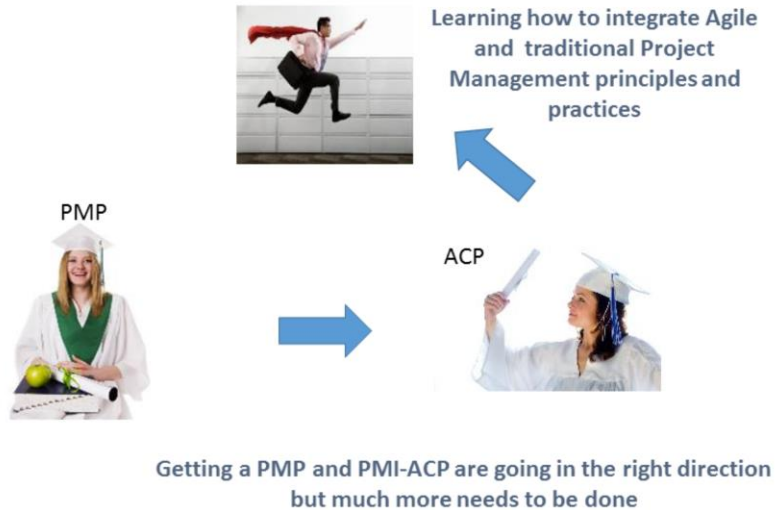
Another objective of the course is to provide a foundation of knowledge to prepare project managers for taking the PMI-ACP exam. I think certification exams are worthwhile if they are used in the right context. My own philosophy is that passing a certification exam should not be an end in itself but it is a useful way to validate the level of understanding you have of some selected knowledge.

Throughout my own career, that's the way I've used certification exams. I've done a lot of book reading, self-study, as well as coursework to with a goal of developing the knowledge and skills I thought were essential to play a given role. I've never crammed a bunch of material just to get through a certification exam, but I have used certification exams to validate that I really know what I think I know.

That's essentially the philosophy behind this course. This course is not intended to be an exam prep course to prepare you to take the PMI-ACP exam it is really oriented around giving you the knowledge and skills to assume a major leadership role as an Agile Project Manager; but, at the same time, it should also be excellent preparation to take the PMI-ACP exam.

## Course Objectives (cont.)

3. Provide the knowledge and skills to lead, mentor, and coach Agile project teams by developing a high level of understanding of Agile, Lean, and Scrum values, principles, and practices



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As I've mentioned in my previous courses, the PMI-ACP exam is a step in the right direction but it doesn't go far enough, in my opinion. It is mostly a test of Agile and Lean terminology and doesn't address the critical challenge that many project managers face of learning how to integrate Agile and traditional plan-driven project management principles and practices in the right proportions to fit a given situation.

That is another key objective of this course. The course is designed to help provide the knowledge and skills to project managers to enable them to effectively lead, mentor, and coach Agile project teams by developing a high level of understanding of Agile, Lean, and Scrum values, principles, and practices

## Course Objectives (cont.)

Develop an adaptive approach to project management that can be applied to any project



The principles and practices that you will learn in this course should make you a much stronger Project Manager even if you are never involved in a true Agile project.

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The key objective is to help project managers develop a much more adaptive approach that can be applied to any project (Agile or not). The principles and practices that you will learn in this course should make you a much stronger project manager even if you are never involved in a true Agile project.

## NEXT LECTURE...

### REVIEW OF TRADITIONAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT ESTIMATION PRACTICES

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In the next section of the course, we're going to start a new section on Agile Estimation and the first lesson in that section is a review of traditional project management estimation practices