Michael Wise CMPT 220 Lab #1 Short Essay

Agile development methodology is a better approach to the software development process than the traditional waterfall model. With agile development, you usually get higher-quality applications, better technical practices, and a more efficient development process. While the waterfall approach did keep a logical flow for projects, it did not allow for much communication between developers and customers after the few initial stages. As a result, a project could take a divergent path from what the user really wanted, as their requirements for a piece of software could rapidly change overtime. Communicating changes across the team and fixing code was both expensive and time-consuming. The rise of the internet did not help this at all. There were financial and competitive pressures to bring websites, applications, and new capabilities to market faster.

The biggest benefit to agile development was that it favored collaboration over documentation (previously companies would have to go through detailed documentation and sign-offs if they ever wanted to invoke a change in development). They also stress self-organization rather than rigid management practices. There was finally an ability to manage constant change rather than lock yourself to a rigid waterfall development process. With agile development, you don't have to define all the answers right up front as you do in the waterfall method, but rather break the problem into digestible components that you then develop and test with users. When something is not working as expected, another team member can easily try to contribute to the solution. As a result, it is much easier to adapt to things and get back on track to the task at hand.

Technology today is advancing faster than ever - so it is necessary for software developers/engineers and programmers to stay on pace with the market. Business owners always want to produce the **best**, **fastest**, and **smartest** products, but with that much demand, the waterfall process would not be suitable in today's society.