For this final week of the course I thought I would do the individual reflection a bit differently. Seeing as we are currently no longer working in a sprint I think that this week's reflection could be best used to write an individual reflection on a bit of everything that has transpired during the course. What I've learned, how I feel about my contribution, what I wish I'd done differently, etc. I think that this course has been really valuable in a lot of different ways and I am really glad that I enrolled in it. I've heard from a lot of my friends who are working in tech that knowing how to work in an agile team is super valuable. So, to start off I would like to elaborate a bit about what I take away from this course.

Many courses I've taken contain assignments where I've been expected to create some sort of product. The size of the product has of course varied both between courses but also within them. We're always taught what to develop and a bit about how to develop it but not much has been taught on how to properly organize the workload. This is seldom a problem with smaller projects as you can usually just wing it and it will work out well anyway. But for the larger project a lot of time and energy has been put into solving various issues that arise when a handful of people work on something big over an extended period of time. This course has really provided me with great tools and principles to properly structure and prioritize larger projects to maximize value and progress. From the definition of done to help with determining what is considered sufficient work to sprint planning to portion the most important work for the immediate future. The best thing about working agile is of course that it is so agile. Need to reprioritize in the middle of the development process? No problem! Just take it up at the next sprint planning and we'll figure it out. Got stuck on your task? No problem! Just take it up with the group on the next daily scrum. I'm excited to apply what I've learned in future academic endeavors (especially my bachelor's thesis).

Now that the course has come to an end, I can honestly say that I feel good about my contribution to the team. I don't necessarily feel great about it but I'm definitely pleased with my effort. My work, at least for the first half of the course, was mainly focused on working on the domain/class model for the application and also UI work. I have felt a bit inferior to the rest of the team when it comes to programming. I don't have an issue with it seeing as we come from different backgrounds, but it has made me prioritize working with things where I feel strong and comfortable. I have of course done some programming as well but the vast majority of my contributions lie in the UI and application software design. I have also tried my best to be an active part of the team management part of the course where I am very proud of my effort. I have been the one to communicate with our supervisor outside of our regularly scheduled meetings and I have also played a big role in our work around the more administrative agile parts (definition of done, sprint planning, acting as scrum master, reworking our KPIs, etc).

When I get the opportunity to work agile again there are a lot of things I wish to do differently. Mostly there are a lot of things I would do right from the start now that I understand them better. For example, in our group we didn't really understand how to work with the KPIs until like the later half of the course. We eventually decided to rework them because we didn't like them nor did we actually use them apart from briefly talking about them on our sprint reviews. We also didn't quite understand how to properly write epics and user stories. We wrote them from the perspective of a software developer before we realized we should write them from the perspective of a realistic product owner or a user. The whole working from a distance also made it a bit clunky to do things like daily scrum and sprint review. I also feel like the studying from home situation has affected the communication between course holders and course takers (and not just in this course). To summarize, I am excited to work in an agile team where there will be a dedicated product owner and scrum master and where I'll know how to execute all of the different scrum rituals right from the get-go.