

Agile for Process, Project, and Program Control

Provider: University of Maryland (EdX)

Completion Date: August 3, 2025

Overview

This course explored how Agile improves project control and risk management compared to traditional methods. It emphasized transparency, measurable outcomes, and continuous improvement through practices like standups, clear definitions of done, iterative testing, and retrospectives. The program also addressed scaling Agile across teams and portfolios while applying anti-fragile principles to organizational decision-making.

Key Topics Covered

- Transparency through daily standups, iterative testing, and retrospectives
- Clear “definition of done” for stakeholder alignment
- Measuring performance with working solutions vs. estimates
- Agile systems engineering and integration
- Managing people, processes, and products with empowered teams
- Scaling Agile processes across programs and portfolios
- Aligning strategy and portfolio optimization with simple metrics

Practical Applications

- Using performance data instead of estimates for project control
- Driving continuous improvement through retrospectives
- Enabling empowered teams to deliver integrated solutions
- Simplifying portfolio management with real-world constraints
- Building organizations that adapt under uncertainty

Personal Reflection

This course reinforced the importance of transparency and measurable outcomes in Agile environments. I gained insight into how definitions of done, iterative testing, and retrospectives increase confidence and reduce project risk. These practices strengthen my ability to support cybersecurity compliance through measurable, adaptive, and aligned processes.