

Agile and Scrum Foundations

Provider: IBM (Coursera)

Completion Date: July 17, 2025

Overview

This course introduced the Agile philosophy and Scrum framework, emphasizing adaptive planning, iterative development, and continuous improvement. It highlighted how small, cross-functional teams deliver value faster and with higher quality. Hands-on practice was completed using GitHub Projects and ZenHub to simulate Agile workflows.

Key Topics Covered

- Agile mindset and philosophy of adaptive planning and iteration
- Scrum roles: Product Owner, Scrum Master, Scrum Team
- Scrum events: Sprint Planning, Daily Standup, Sprint Review, Sprint Retrospective
- Scrum artifacts: Product Backlog, Sprint Backlog, Done Increment
- Story points, velocity, and burndown charts for measurement
- Backlog refinement, sprint closure, and continuous improvement
- Agile anti-patterns and team health checks
- Organizational impact of Agile adoption

Practical Applications

- Creating user story templates with acceptance criteria
- Building and refining a product backlog in GitHub Projects
- Planning and executing sprints using Kanban boards
- Moving stories through workflow states (To Do, In Progress, Done)
- Setting up burndown charts to track sprint velocity
- Completing an optional ZenHub final project to demonstrate Agile planning at scale

Personal Reflection

This course reinforced how Agile and Scrum drive collaboration, accountability, and faster value delivery. The labs provided practical experience in backlog management, sprint execution, and burndown tracking with real tools. I gained confidence in applying Agile principles to real-world project planning and execution.