Agile Leadership Principles and Practices
Provider: University of Maryland (EdX)
Completion Date: August 23, 2025

Overview

This course focused on how Agile redefines leadership by moving away from command-and-control models toward facilitative, empowering approaches. It emphasized that in Agile environments, leadership is about enabling self-organizing teams, fostering creativity, and guiding decisions through collaboration rather than authority. The program highlighted how emotional intelligence, negotiation skills, and mindfulness strengthen Agile leaders in driving innovation and productivity.

Key Topics Covered

- Transition from traditional command-control to Agile servant leadership

- Building self-organizing, high-functioning teams

- Facilitating creativity and inclusivity through empowerment and play

- Decision science, cognitive biases, and human heuristics in leadership

- Conflict negotiation styles and techniques

- Delegation supported by constraint-based metrics and accountability

Practical Applications

- Motivating teams through empowerment rather than hierarchy

- Using facilitative leadership to accelerate decision-making

- Applying emotional intelligence and mindfulness to reduce bias

- Negotiating effectively across teams and organizations

- Designing environments where teams can deliver value quickly and sustainably

Personal Reflection

This course reshaped my understanding of leadership in Agile contexts. I learned how facilitation, empathy, and structured delegation are more effective than command-and-control approaches. These principles directly enhance my ability to guide cross-functional teams in cybersecurity and compliance, where collaboration, trust, and adaptability are essential for long-term success.