**7-1 Final Project Submission: Review and Retrospective**

Matthew Tyson

Southern New Hampshire University

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Vianelis Martinez, MSIT

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Throughout this project, we utilized a Scrum-agile approach to the Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC), which helped us to achieve success in the development of the SNHU Travel application. For the purposes of this review and retrospective, I will be taking on the role of the Scrum Master. First let’s go over how each member contributes to a Scrum team.

**Applying Roles**

Each member of our Scrum-agile team contributed to the success of the SNHU Travel project in unique ways. Our Product Owner was responsible for creating and prioritizing the product backlog and ensuring that each user story was completed within the sprint. Our Development Team worked together to develop the application, with each member taking on different tasks and collaborating to ensure the successful completion of each user story. Finally, as the Scrum Master, I facilitated the Scrum events, removed any impediments to progress, and ensured that the team was adhering to the Scrum-agile framework.

The Product Owner played a crucial role in the success of the project by creating a prioritized product backlog that allowed the Development Team to work efficiently and effectively. For example, the Product Owner identified the highest priority user stories at the beginning of each sprint, allowing the team to focus their efforts on the most critical features. The Development Team was also instrumental in the success of the project, as they worked collaboratively to develop the application. Each member brought a unique skill set to the table, which allowed us to complete each user story in a timely and efficient manner.

**Completing User Stories**

The Scrum-agile approach to the SDLC helped each of the user stories come to completion by providing a framework for efficient and effective development. During each sprint, the team would work collaboratively to complete each user story within the sprint timeframe. By adhering to the Scrum framework, we were able to prioritize the most critical features, focus our efforts on completing those features, and ensure that the end product met the needs of the customer.

For example, during one of our sprints, we focused on developing a feature that allowed users to search for destinations based on specific criteria. By breaking down this feature into smaller, more manageable user stories, we were able to complete the feature within the sprint timeframe. Additionally, the Scrum-agile approach allowed us to continually refine and improve the feature based on feedback from the Product Owner and end-users. This allowed us to pivot on a dime when the project requirements changed from “Top Destinations” to “Detox and Wellness Destinations”. This brings us to the greatest strength of Agile development, handling interruptions.

**Handling Interruptions**

The Scrum-agile approach supported project completion when the project was interrupted and changed direction by allowing us to quickly adapt to changing requirements. For example, during one of our sprints, the Product Owner requested that we add a new feature to the application. By using the Scrum framework, we were able to quickly adjust our priorities, add the new feature to the product backlog, and complete the feature within the sprint timeframe.

Welcome changing requirements, even late in development. Agile processes harness change for the customer's competitive advantage. (Cobb, 2015)

One of the key principles of Agile methodology is to welcome changes in requirements, even if they occur later in the development process. This means that the Scrum framework is designed to be flexible and adaptable, so that changes coming from the Product Owner or other stakeholders can be incorporated without causing significant disruption to the project. Ultimately, this approach allows Agile teams to harness change for the customer's competitive advantage, rather than being hindered by it.

**Communication**

Throughout the project, effective communication and collaboration were critical to our success. As the Scrum Master, I facilitated regular Scrum events, including daily stand-ups, sprint planning, sprint reviews, and retrospectives. Also, I believe that leaving a personal Zoom meeting open for team members to jump in and out if they have questions to be greatly beneficial. It’s like having an office door always open for team members to go to if they have any immediate needs. Additionally, we utilized collaboration tools such as Trello and Slack to keep everyone on the same page.

**Organizational Tools**

*Trello Application*

Graphical user interface, application

Description automatically generated

*Note.* Trello brings all your tasks, teammates, and tools together (*Manage Your Team's Projects From Anywhere | Trello.* 2023)

The organizational tools and Scrum-agile principles that we utilized during the SNHU Travel project were critical to our success. Specifically, the use of Trello to manage our product backlog was incredibly helpful. We were able to create, prioritize, and organize our user stories in a way that allowed us to easily track progress, identify blockers, and adjust priorities as needed. The use of Trello also facilitated communication among team members, as everyone could easily see what tasks were assigned to whom and where each task stood in the development process.

We also found that daily stand-up meetings, sprint planning meetings, and sprint reviews were essential to keeping everyone on the same page and ensuring that the project stayed on track. The daily stand-up meetings allowed us to quickly identify any issues or roadblocks and adjust our priorities as needed. The sprint planning meetings helped us to set realistic goals and determine what we could realistically accomplish during each sprint. The sprint reviews provided us with an opportunity to assess our progress, identify areas for improvement, and adjust our approach as needed.

Overall, we found that the Scrum-agile approach was incredibly effective for the SNHU Travel project. It allowed us to quickly respond to changing requirements, collaborate effectively as a team, and deliver a high-quality product that met the client's needs. While there were certainly challenges along the way, we believe that the Scrum-agile approach ultimately helped us to be more efficient, effective, and adaptable in our development process.

**Evaluating Agile Process**

As with any development methodology, the Scrum-agile approach had both its pros and cons during the SNHU Travel project. Some of the key benefits of the Scrum-agile approach included:

* Flexibility: The Scrum-agile approach allowed us to respond quickly to changing requirements and adjust our development priorities as needed.
* Collaboration: The Scrum-agile approach facilitated communication and collaboration among team members, which helped us to identify issues and resolve problems more quickly.
* Transparency: The Scrum-agile approach provided a high level of transparency into the development process, which allowed us to identify issues and adjust our approach as needed.

However, there were also some potential drawbacks to the Scrum-agile approach. For example:

* Learning curve: Some team members were initially unfamiliar with the Scrum-agile approach and needed time to adjust to the new development methodology.
* Time management: The Scrum-agile approach required more frequent meetings and communication among team members, which could be time-consuming if not managed effectively.
* Lack of structure: While the flexibility of the Scrum-agile approach was a benefit, it also meant that there was less structure in the development process, which could be challenging for some team members.

**Was Scrum-Agile the Best Approach for the SNHU Travel Project?**

Based on our experiences during the SNHU Travel project, we believe that the Scrum-agile approach was the best approach for this particular development project. The flexibility and collaboration provided by the Scrum-agile approach allowed us to quickly respond to changing requirements and deliver a high-quality product that met the client's needs. Additionally, the transparency provided by the Scrum-agile approach helped to ensure that everyone on the team was on the same page and working towards the same goals.

Of course, every development project is different, and there may be situations where a different methodology would be more appropriate. However, for the SNHU Travel project, we believe that the Scrum-agile approach was the most effective and efficient way to develop a successful application that met the client's needs.

References

Cobb, C. G. (2015). *The Project Manager's Guide to Mastering Agile : Principles and Practices for an Adaptive Approach*. Wiley.

*Manage Your Team's Projects From Anywhere | Trello.* (2023). <https://trello.com/en>

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