Sprint Review/Retrospective

It has been an enlightening journey to get to experience each of these roles. I think Agile encompasses the idea of teamwork and building a solid unit. It makes it more than just “working”, it gives each member a platform to contribute and be a part of the project.

* **Demonstrate how the various roles on your Scrum-agile Team specifically contributed to the success of the SNHU Travel project**.

The layout of the Scrum team is what attributes to its success. Each role is crucial and specific to the project. The project manager oversees managing the direction and overall product that the team is building. Ensuring that the vision of the stakeholders/users is properly translated to the team. The Scrum Master leads the team meetings and ensures everyone on the team has anything and everything they need to be successful. Also, they oversee managing the backlog and progress board as we did with the SNHU project. The developers oversee production and ensure that the requests (user stories) are successfully brought to life. In the SNHU project, we successfully implemented code to produce specific results. They work very closely with the testers to make sure that the product produced is held to any standards set.

* **Describe how a Scrum-agile approach to the SDLC helped each of the user stories come to completion**.

The scrum approach has a very organized way of dealing with user stories. First, the scrum master analyzes the requests and puts them in order by priority. These are then split into individual tasks (stories) for the developers to work on. This ensures that the most crucial part of the app is prioritized and that no story is left unfinished. In the SNHU project, I prioritized which stories should be done first, leaving the less-important stuff for when we have time.

* **Describe how a Scrum-agile approach supported project completion when the project was interrupted and changed direction**.

Since Agile is a constantly changing development cycle, it adapts to change very well. We were at the beginning of a sprint and when the changes were brought to us in the daily standup meeting, we all dispersed and discussed the workload and adjusted. The Scrum master re-prioritized the backlog and the product owner communicated with us on the changes. While it was an easy fix, the agile approach ensured that the minimum amount of time was lost on the project.

* **Demonstrate your ability to communicate effectively with your team by providing samples of your communication**.

The main principle that makes agile so successful is the communication between all parties involved in development. The Project manager properly listens and takes down all the concerns/requests from the company/stakeholders. Then they take that information to a scrum team and discuss the inner workings of the project with everyone. This produces a flexible timeline and gets production started quickly. The scrum master and team communication in the daily standups and what is going to be worked on that day. The devs and testers communicate that the proper tests and code is being produced. This constant communication ensures everyone is held accountable and creates a solid team dynamic. This I exactly why agile is so successful.

* **Evaluate the organizational tools and Scrum-agile principles that helped your team be successful**.

With this being a one-person team, I will explain the organizational tools I used throughout my experiences. One main program we used is Microsoft Excel. This was used to manage our storyboard and communicate stories. We learned of other applications like JIRA, Azure Boards, or RTC for managing teams in a scrum environment. Tools like information radiators can be used as a constant form of communication and in an area visible to all. These, paired with scrum events such as daily standups, sprint reviews/planning, and other unique events will ensure that software development goes smoothly.

* **Assess the effectiveness of the Scrum-agile approach for the SNHU Travel project**.
  + Describe the pros and cons that the Scrum-agile approach presented during the project.

The benefits of a scrum approach on the SNHU project are quality, speed, communication, and productivity. It is a fast-paced environment, so the stories are usually completed quickly which ensures overall progress. The code is broken up into stories and managed individually to ensure that nothing is left out. With this project specifically, I think that using the scrum approach made sure that the vision of the stakeholders was communicated to the team properly throughout the project. The short intervals called sprints are what keep agile so flexible. If this was a waterfall project, any sudden change can halt all production.

The problems with scrum relating to this project are that I think that this project was a little small. It can be easy to muddy the details trying to analyze a project of this size. This is also a team effort, so if any member left or didn’t hold up their weight, the rest of the team would suffer.

* + Determine whether a Scrum-agile approach was the best approach for the SNHU Travel development project.

While I would say that in just about any project, I would prefer Agile over waterfall. In this instance, I think either would have been acceptable. There wasn’t a tight deadline and the changes that were introduced weren’t major. So, to specifically answer the question; yes. Scrum-agile would be preferable on this project.