

Assignment 1: COMP 8081

Overview:

Steve McConnell writes that **rapid development** is a “generic term” (p. 2) and is not a development methodology. Therefore, rapid development is an approach and a philosophy for software projects rather than a specific development process methodology. The concepts of Agile and “waterfall” development are different. The goal of Assignment 1 is to **research, summarize and compare the Agile Scrum methodology and one of the waterfall development approaches from McConnell Ch.7 to each other and to McConnell’s Rapid Development approach. Use your conclusions to analyze a real-life project that you are familiar with.**

Due Date:

Sunday February 11th

- The assignment is due in **D2L Sunday February 11th no later than midnight**

Total Marks:

- Each assignment is worth 15% of your total grade for the course
- This grade for this assignment will be calculated from a total of 50 possible points according to the table below:

Component	Points
Research and Summarize	10
Compare and Contrast	10
Conclusions	15
Application	15
Format	0
Totals	50

Academic Honesty

As we discussed in our first class Academic Honesty is a critically important topic. Plagiarism is unacceptable. It will be caught and dealt with according to [BCIT policies](#) regarding academic integrity. Penalties could include a grade of zero for an assignment or for a whole course, or even expulsion from the institute.

Please ensure that you meet the following minimum guidelines:

- The final submission for this assignment is your own original work
- Collaboration is encouraged but the final submission must be in your own words
- All resources **must be cited** and correctly referenced

There are many resources available for you to reference on referencing if you are unclear on the details of how to properly cite your sources for an academic deliverable:

- The BCIT Library has a resources page of [Citation Styles](#) – you can use [APA style](#) for this assignment
- There is a short [video](#) to help you make sense of the issues
- You can speak to a Librarian
- **Microsoft Word** includes built-in tools under the **References** ribbon to help automate the process of citation – it couldn’t be easier

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If you have any questions or concerns about referencing and academic honesty please do not hesitate to ask a librarian or your instructor.

Format

The written report captures your research, analysis and conclusions.

- Deliverable submitted to D2L in PDF format
- Cover page that includes the title of your report, your name and student ID numbers and the date
- Content covering no more than 5 pages (minimums: 10 pt font; 1"/2.5cm margins, 1.5 line space)
 - o Neither the cover page or reference page(s) are counted in the page total
- All **references must be included** using [APA](#) style - when in doubt, cite it

The detailed format of the final submissions is up to you, although it will be helpful to your instructor if you consider the readability and organization of your work.

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Instructions

You are to develop an individual research report that touches on the following topics:

Instructions	
Research and Summarize Investigate the Agile Scrum methodology, and one of the waterfall development approaches from McConnell Chapter 7 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Summarize the key principles of these two development approaches, e.g.:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o What are the key concepts someone would need to know in order to have a basic understanding of these development approaches?- Summarize McConnell's guidelines for Rapid Development from the text book<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Very succinctly state what defines "Rapid Development" for McConnell	10 points
Compare and Contrast Compare and contrast these two development approaches with each other and with McConnell. Following from your Summary (above), consider <i>at least</i> the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- What are the main differences/similarities between Agile Scrum and the Waterfall methodology you have chosen?- Are either of these two a Rapid Development approach, based on your summary of that concept? Why, or why not?	10 points
Conclusions Draw some conclusions about these approaches. Following from your Summary and Comparison, consider the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Under what conditions would an organization: (a) use either approach; and (b) not consider using one or either approach?- To what extent do both approaches correspond (and/or not correspond) to McConnell's Four Pillars of Rapid Development?	15 points
Application <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Identify an actual software development project – either one that you have worked on or one that you can find detailed and referenceable info about- Provide a very succinct summary that touches on the following topics: what was the goal (or goals); were the goals reached; what were the main challenges?<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Identify which development approach was <u>actually</u> used, if any- Thinking of that project, discuss the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o <u>Identify</u> which of the two formal development approaches you analyzed would have been the best fit for that project, and why?o <u>Explain</u> the <u>key</u> reasons why that development approach would have been the best fit, making sure to reference the specifics from the case as you shared in your summary – and also explain why the other development approach (the one you didn't select) would not worko <u>Explain</u> whether or if that project was a Rapid Development project	15 points
Format <ul style="list-style-type: none">- No marks are assigned directly for formatting- However, if your document does not include one or more of the required formatting elements marks will be deducted up to maximum of 5 points	0 points
Totals	50 points