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CS-250 Software Development Lifecycle

Final Project

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During the completion of the SNHU Travel project multiple positions on the team contributed to the success of the project. The scrum master, me, helped create collaboration of the team, remove any obstacles that came about, and ensured the adherence to the SCRUM principles throughout the project. The product owner helped to prioritize the user stories which in turn helped to keep the alignment with the goals we were trying to achieve. For example, when the product owner wanted to change part of the site, she let us know quick in advance and it was not something that was going to be a big change she simply wanted to create the site to focus more on wellness and detox. She made it very clear that it was something that they really wanted and were happy with everything else that had been done. She made it clear that she was ok with deprioritizing the other stories and wanted this to be top priority and wanted to keep the same dates. The development team applied their skills and ensured that there was high-quality code and functionality. The testers helped to make sure that everything ran the way it was supposed to and if there were any parts of the site that needed to be fixed or adjusted, they went to the development team and made sure that it was corrected and worked along side the development team to make the necessary adjustments and tweaks that needed to be implemented.

The Scrum-agile approach was very helpful when it came to completing each of the user stories. Sprint Planning was helpful because it allowed us to breakdown each user story and estimate/prioritize each one to ensure where our focus should be first. This was later changed due to the product owner wanting to make some changes, but we were able to deprioritize other aspects to make sure that the product owner was happier with the result. The daily standups were vital for regular communication of the team and helped to ensure that everyone knew where the project was and if anything was running behind schedule or ahead of schedule. This way if anything was behind, we could find some resolution to help get it back on track. Sprint review also played a vital role in getting feedback from the customer during reviews. This helped provide any insight we may need, and we could then make the necessary adjustments needed to enhance the user stories. This was vital for when the product owner informed us of the change of the top five destinations they wanted changed,

Using the scrum-agile approach allowed for the adaptability for any changes in requirements or adjustments the customer wanted to make. When the product owner came to us and wanted to change the top five destinations to wellness/detox locations we were able to prioritize it over the other user stories and make the necessary changes. If we were not using the agile approach, we may have been done with the project and had to go back and make multiple changes but thanks to the sprint reviews and daily standups we were able to easily change the priority of the user stories easily and implement what the product owner suggested.

The use of daily stand-up meetings, sprint reviews, and any extra sessions help to create and open communication and collaborative environment in the team. This allowed us to come to the team with any new ideas about how to create this site as well as any problems that came up and we could discuss this as a group, and everyone could put in their own suggestions so that it was not on just one person to figure out the answers to the problems they had. This encouraged collaboration with the team and helped to make sure that we stayed on schedule and if we became behind on schedule for some reason then we came together as a team and came up with the solutions and made sure that the work was evenly distributed. This was very important since it allowed for creative problem solving within the team since everyone was constantly aware of any changes that needed to be made as well as any problems.

The use of scrum events and other tools such as sprint reviews, daily standups, Jira, and charts helped the team stay organized and on schedule. Jira and Burndown charts helped to keep track of backlogs and keep the team organized and focused. The scrum events helped to keep structure on the approach which in turn helped to lead to an effective project management.

I believe the agile approach for the SNHU travel project was the best choice to use since the project needed changes and kept evolving to what the product owner needed. The agile approach allows for these changes to be implemented more seamlessly than any other. There are a few pros to it as well as some cons. The pros are that it allows for easy adaptability, the product owner and customers are involved more, and there is continuous feedback that in turn helps improve the products quality and relevance. Some cons are that there is a need for a skilled scrum master the need for continuous product owner availability which in turn could cause some impact to the time frame and thus slow down the completion of the project and the seamlessness of the implementation of any changes needed. Overall, I think that the project was a success due to the implementation of the agile approach.