The various roles on the Scrum-agile team contributed significantly to the success of the SNHU Travel project. The product owner did a great job at creating the product backlog, which paved the way for the rest of the project and informed the rest of the team what needs to be completed by the end of the sprint. The scrum master helped organize the daily scrum and mediated the conversation each day. They helped to find other team members who could help solve problems that other team members were having and made sure the development team was making their way through the product backlog in a timely manner. The developers did an amazing job at picking items on the product backlog that they excelled at in order to make sure we worked through the product backlog in an efficient manner and were vocal about asking for help when needed. The testers made sure that all the items on the product backlog were implemented correctly and added items to the product backlog of issues they found that needed resolving.

The Scrum-agile approaches to the Software Development Life Cycle helped to bring each of the user stories to completion. The product owner listened to the needs of the customer and the users, and formed a detailed product backlog for the development team. The scrum master organized the product backlog and planned the sprint. The development team worked efficiently through the items on the product backlog, communicating frequently with each other to solve issues as they occurred, and provided real-time feedback on the product to allow for the most time for improvement. Without the Scrum-agile approach, I don’t believe we would have had the kind of success we had.

When the project was interrupted and changed direction, the Scrum-agile approach helped to bring the project to a successful completion, compared to how the typical waterfall method would have. The Scrum-agile method allowed the team to pick up new, different, and important items on the product backlog and solve and implement them into the project. The accessibility of having a functional product the entire way through the process meant that the team always knew they had a functional product to return to the customer in the end, no matter how drastic the changes and interruptions were.

The Sprint planning meeting allowed the team to gather all the inputs from the users and customer, and the product backlog created by the product owner, and organize it in such a way that they could meet the deadline while including the largest priority items, as well as getting as much as the product backlog completed as possible. The sprint planning ensured clear to all of the team members, so everyone knew what was going to be expected by the deadline, and also helped to filter out product backlog items that didn’t need to be on the current sprint.

The daily scrum meetings worked excellently to keep the entire team informed about each item on the product backlog, as well as what each team member was working on. It fosters safe and comfortable communication between team members, so they felt comfortable asking for help from other team members when they needed help.

Publicly located scrum boards played a huge role in keeping our team unified and informed, especially during the current work-from-home difficulties that were forced onto us by the pandemic. Our usual daily scrum meetings had to be held via video calling instead of in person in order to facilitate social distancing. The biggest hit we took was how our team members were unable to see the physical scrum board in the office. This is why we introduced a virtual scrum board, that all of our team members could view and interact with from anywhere, including from home. This helped to keep communication high and the scrum method active as we worked through the project during these difficult times.

There were some pros and cons to the Scrum-agile approach. We got lots of feedback from the team about how much they liked the new method. Some key points that were mentioned was the large amount of time that was built in for planning, and the safe and welcoming communication via daily scrum meetings. Team members seemed to like always having a functional product at any given moment, which relieved some of the pressure that usually built up towards the end of a project where a functional product was not created until the end. The only negative feedback we received was that the organization of the project had to stay very organized, which took a lot of effort from everyone on the team, but it paid off in other benefits that we gained.

I think the scrum-agile approach was the best for the SNHU Travel project. We saw many benefits come from this approach, and I would strongly recommend using it or more projects in the future. The SNHU Travel project was completed without stress, and inter-team communication was extremely high, which made a huge benefit to the successful outcome of the project.