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ThoughtWorks®

Course Wrap-up

Training

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Course Wrapup

Session Objectives

By the end of this session students should ...

- Begin thinking about how to apply OBC on their next project.
- Feel a sense of closure around OBC

Session Overview

Activity
Review & Retrospective
Futurespective
Close

Session Notes

Review & Retrospective

Ask the students if they feel differently about object oriented programming now? How?
What surprised them the most in the course?

Conduct a retrospective on the entire Object Boot Camp course.

Futurespective

During this futurespective the class will look ahead at their next project given what they have experienced in OBC. Students are encouraged to consider successes and challenges (with ideas to overcome them). The goal is to start students thinking about how to apply or incorporate their experience in OBC into their project work. It will be challenging so this is an opportunity to become aware of the challenges and brainstorm around them. This is also an exercise in envisioning success.

Imagine you have stepped into a time machine and have teleported to a time just after the completion of your next project. The project has been a success and its sponsors are keen to do a project retrospective to learn from the experience.

(Draw a timeline on the board and hand out colored post-its.)

As the project was a success there will undoubtedly be successful events. Write things that went "well" on the green post-its. However there will undoubtedly be things that "didn't go so well". Write these on the red post-its. Since we know you always managed to overcome any difficulties (the project was a success) - these events should be followed by amazingly successful actions that overcame the difficulty.

When students are ready to put things on the timeline encourage them to start with positive green items first. Then introduce some of the "not so well" items, but ensure that people counter these by amazing green events that overcome the problem

Sample challenging post-its:

- I had an existing codebase with huge classes and no tests
- My coworkers didn't want to pair
- My coworkers didn't understand the value of encapsulation
- People checked in broken tests which made it hard for me to keep a green bar
- My manager told me to stop writing tests because the deadline was too close

This may lead to some interesting conversations:

- What to do with an existing codebase.
- If only some of the students' coworkers have attended OBC (or agreed with OBC) there will be challenges around introducing, persuading and teaching the OBC concepts to those that haven't attended.
- Continuous Integration / CruiseControl to help keep those bars green.

Mine the timeline for captured information (optional):

- What did we do well? (that if we don't discuss we might forget)
- What didn't we do well? (What should we do differently next time?)
- What did we learn?
- What still puzzles us?
- What actions should we take for any upcoming projects.

Close

Give the students any final handouts that they haven't yet received.

Goodbyes

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