Agile Course Syllabus

This Agile course teaches the core principles and fundamentals of Agile methodology. It suits project managers, product managers, developers, designers, business analysts, marketers and any project team member, regardless of background. Learn why Agile is the preferred way of working for product, marketing, and engineering teams. Agile has been rapidly adopted as an approach for multi-discipline teams collaborating on projects of all sizes. This Agile course is appropriate for those who manage or are part of a project team and requires no previous experience in Agile or Scrum.

In this Agile introduction course, you will learn:

- **T**he fundamental principles of Agile
- Benefits of Agile vs. traditional process and methods
- Different styles of Agile employed in working teams
- Agile vs. "waterfall" processes
- Key artifacts of Agile, including user stories, product backlogs, and sprints
- Agile team roles and configurations for teams of all types and backgrounds
- Planning exercises and sample 'sprints', including sprint planning
- Learn a strong Agile foundation that can be taken into a variety of projects, teams, and internal initiatives

Introduction to Agile

- Course goals and expectations
- Why Agile matters in today's business and technical environments
- Agile as a mindset and Agile as a methodology

Origins and Principles of Agile

- Historical context: Origins of Agile and iterative development
- The Agile Manifesto: values and principles
- Key characteristics of Agile methodology
- What Agile is designed to achieve (responsiveness, customer focus, adaptability)

Agile vs. Traditional (Waterfall) Methods

- Comparison to traditional project management approaches
- Pitfalls of traditional workflows: scope creep, shifting priorities, delays
- Benefits of Agile: adaptability, early value delivery, transparency
- The Time vs. Value curve
- Case study: Looking at a sample project in both Agile and Waterfall views

Agile Frameworks and Approaches

- Common Agile styles: Scrum, Kanban, Lean, XP
- When and how each approach is applied
- Project types that may benefit most from Agile
- Identifying pitfalls and wins in different Agile contexts

Visit the AGI website for dates and to learn more about this Agile course.

Agile Team Structures and Roles

- Cross-functional teams: characteristics and value
- Key roles: Product Owner, Scrum Master, Development Team
- Role assignment in cross-functional teams
- Variations of Agile team structures across organizations
- Team configurations

Core Agile Artifacts and Concepts

- Key artifacts: User Stories, Product Backlog, Sprint Backlog, Burndown charts
- The User Story: purpose, structure, and best practices
- Assigning story points and business value
- The Product Backlog: prioritization and grooming
- Advanced concept: Epics and Themes

Agile Ceremonies and Events

- Sprint Planning: choosing stories to work on
- The concept of team velocity and its importance
- The Daily Standup: structure, purpose, and common pitfalls
- Sprint Reviews and Demonstrations: delivering value and feedback loops
- Sprint Retrospectives: continuous improvement practices

Practical Agile Exercises

- Planning exercises and sprint simulation
- Hands-on team sprint planning
- Running a standup meeting
- Retrospective exercise: identifying improvements and wins

Scaling and Adapting Agile

- Adapting Agile for large organizations (SAFe, LeSS, etc.)
- Agile beyond software: business and design team applications
- Challenges in scaling Agile practices
- Building stakeholder alignment and support

Agile in Practice

- Applying Agile principles to real-world initiatives
- Building a strong Agile foundation that adapts to different projects and teams
- Course recap & Q&A
- Next steps for teams adapting Agile

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