# MILESTONE

Providing Stepping Stones Along the Path to Success



GATHERING AGILE
REQUIREMENTS

Over the years, Agile has become increasingly popular. In many projects, the entire scope is not known before it begins, which makes it difficult to use a traditional methodology. Projects need to have the flexibility to adapt and make changes as the scope becomes clearer. While the complete scope isn't always known up front, it is vital to have detailed requirements for what is known.

Regardless of the project management methodology used, requirements gathering is the foundation needed to lead to success. Understanding the customer's desires, the project's scope, and the target outcomes is needed to know the direction the project is going. Accurately detailing these requirements will reduce scope creep, reduce rework, and deliver the solutions necessary to complete the project.

In Agile, since all requirements are not known upfront, the team will gather high-level requirements and then continually refine them with input from the customer and other stakeholders. Keeping the customer involved ensures that the highest priority features are always being worked on first. When teams discover requirements iteratively, they can more easily adapt to changes. After each iteration, the customer can quickly inform the team of any changes that need to be made.

There are several methods used to gather requirements in Agile. The team must determine which technique best fits the project based on its size, complexity, and customer dynamics. Some common techniques are:

#### Story Maps

Story maps show the overall breakdown of the iteration. It is shown on a large board to show visually the progress of the project. A story map is broken down through disaggregation. The component stories do not need to add up to 100% of the original story, nor do estimates need to add up to the original story.

#### **User Stories**

A user story is all the details of the product feature or functionality desired by the customer or end user. They are created by the customer and then the project team prioritizes them. The difference in Agile compared to traditional is that neither the component stories nor their estimates are required to line up perfectly to the initial story. User stories are documented on index cards to allow the customer to consistently re-plan or reprioritize the product backlog or features of the project.

#### **Prototypes**

A prototype is used to better understand the functionality of the final product by creating a simple, interactive model. A prototype encourages feedback and a better understanding of the requirements. This feedback will be used as the basis for planning and elaboration of future deliverables.

Utilizing iterative and incremental requirements gathering approaches will reduce waste through short feedback loops, frequent adaptation of processes, reprioritization, regularly updated plans, and frequent delivery.

#### <u>UPCOMING FREE</u> WEBINAR

MASTERING AGILE SUCCESS: THE ART OF CRAFTING EFFECTIVE AGILE REQUIREMENTS

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1 PDU
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## SATISFIED CLIENT OF THIS COURSE

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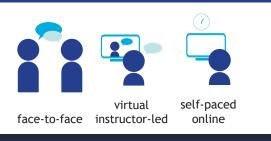
Southwest Missouri PMI Chapter

# AGILE PROJECT MANAGEMENT - 2 DAY SUCCEEDING IN A PROJECT FILLED WITH UNCERTAINTY AND CHANGE

**PDUs - 13** 

#### PMI's Talent Triangle Breakdown

Ways of Working - 12.50 Power Skills - 0.50



Course Description: Agile Project Management officially began in 2001 and has become a popular project management approach. This two-day course will examine the focus of energizing, empowering, and enabling project teams to provide customer value in a strong Agile framework. Participants will examine the value and process to actively involve the customer in delivering features and functionality throughout the duration of the project. This course will explore actions which reinforce the ability to respond to a changing project environment while focusing on delivering high customer value in every project.

#### **Course Objectives:**

#### Objective 1: Define Agile Project Management and the Agile manifesto

Compare why traditional projects struggle and fail
Discuss criteria on when to use the Agile methodology
Discuss when and how to use the hybrid approach to utilize traditional Project Management and Agile Project Management
Identify the success factors of Agile Project Management

Identify the principles of Agile Project Management Compare predictive planning and adaptive planning Discuss the rights and roles of the Agile business case

#### Objective 2: Define user stories, story mapping, Kanban boards, and burn down charts

Examine the usage of product vision box and product backlog Discuss the characteristics of a time box

#### Objective 3: Review how to use daily stand up meetings successfully

Examine the role and core skills of the project manager in Agile Project Management
Examine the role of the culture to support the project team in Agile Project Management
Examine the engaging role of the customer in Agile Project Management
Discuss customer value in Agile Project Management

#### **Objective 4: Examine strategies of Agile Project Management**

Examine Agile modeling Discuss the characteristics of the cone of uncertainty

Describe value stream in Agile Project Management

#### Objective 5: Discuss the positives of co-location, information radiators and team space

Analyze the planning processes of initiating, iteration, control, and closeout
Analyze estimating in Agile Project Management such as size, iteration, and releases
Analyze scheduling in Agile Project Management
Analyze tracking and communication in Agile Project Management
Analyze risk and changes in Agile Project Management
Examine types of contracts that work best with the Agile framework





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  - Customer Service
- Supervisory Leadership
- Hybrid Project Management

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