



Managing the Team and Program Backlog

3 Days | Onsite or Virtual

On an agile team, the backlog is key. The project scope lives through your backlog; the scope is broken into manageable user stories. The backlog is the list of all the work to be done to solve problems, pursue opportunities, and deliver business value.

This course will lead you through the steps it takes to effectively manage your backlog and changes to that backlog using workshops and real-life examples.

Learning Objectives

- Learn the basics of product backlogs
- Understand creating an initial backlog based on product vision
- Break down epics and themes into consumable user stories
- Learn how to value and prioritize stories and create minimum viable product
- Practice taking user stories from raw to ready
- Learn an approach for tracking progress
- Learn how to introduce transparency and visibility via Kanban
- Understand the differences between product and program backlog
- Learn effective management and leadership skills for agile teams

Intended Audience

This course is designed for product owners, program managers, business analysts and scrum masters or any other team member responsible for delivering business value on projects.

Prerequisites

None

Learning Topics

Introduction to Managing the Team and Program Backlog
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is Agile?• Fundamentals of the Agile Manifesto• Business and the Backlog• Basics of an Agile Team• Basics of a Program Team• Why are we here?
Components of the Backlog
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine Themes and Epics• Break down to Features

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- Further Break down to User Stories
- Use the Four Rs to get Stories to Ready
- Initial Story Sizing
- How to prioritize and Value Stories
- Building a Story Map
- Sprint and Release Planning
- Other types of Stories

Manage the Team Backlog

- Number One R: Raw Stories
- Number Two R: Rough
- Number Three R: Refine
- Number Four R: Ready!
- How to Detail Your User Stories
- Determine User Story Acceptance Criteria
- Understand Architectural Runway
- Take advantage of your Retrospectives
- Use Radiators and Kanban to promote Visibility and Transparency
- How to Track Progress

Program Backlog Management

- Programs Defined
- Who is Responsible for the Program and Solution Backlog?
- Using WSJF to Manage the Backlog

Other Management and Leadership Techniques

- Four Principles of Lean Management
- How to Manage Variability and Change
- Maximizing Resource Efficiency
- How to Deal with Resource Scarcity
- Mapping your Strategy to the Product
- Expectations Management – Dealing with Stakeholders

Apply to Your Organization

- Discuss your challenges
- Brainstorm responses to the challenges

Develop Your Action Plan

- Course summary
- Develop an Action Plan with next steps on students' current project

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