Agile for Business Analysts

Duration: *2 Day(s)*

Course Overview

As more organizations are moving to agile delivery, it is becoming increasingly important for business analysis professionals to understand how to adapt their current skills to support different delivery frameworks. Even when organizations have not fully embraced agile, research shows that many teams are embracing 'some' agile practices. Traditional waterfall business analysis skills are still important, but so is professionally developing to understand how to adapt your processes and skills as delivery frameworks evolve. Project success is dependent on effective business analysis, therefore business analysis professionals must continue to evolve their skillsets to keep up with the needs and expectations of agile teams. Many traditional project teams run into trouble when they try to define all of the requirements up front. The reality is that stakeholders often cannot articulate their requirements and the best design is not known until some prototypes are built. Every project and program can benefit from adopting some agile practices. **Agile for Business Analysts Course Overview:** In this course, you will develop your understanding of agile business analysis and the role of the business analyst on an agile team. You will learn how business analysis on an agile project is 'the same' and 'different' than business analysis performed on waterfall projects. You will understand how the business analysis role changes on an agile team. A number of business analysis techniques suited for supporting agile teams will be introduced as will the various standards available to the community to help teams and organizations transition. Since few organizations are pure agile, you will also learn about delivery approaches that use a combination of practices from waterfall and agile and will also be introduced to the important concept of business analysis tailoring – the key skill used to adapt business analysis skills to all environments – regardless of the delivery life cycle selected. **Added Bonus – Support for Pursuing your IIBA®AACTM Certification** Since demonstrating your agile competencies is important when pursuing your next role on any agile team; this course introduces the newest agile analysis certification in the marketplace IIBA-AAC. The IIBA-AAC credential enables you to identify yourself as someone who has mastered a firm understanding of agile business analysis and who has obtained a few years of experience in the process. You will obtain important information that defines the credential, explains the experience required to apply for the exam, the exam structure, its costs, and a thorough overview of what the exam covers and what you need to understand to sufficiently prepare to take the exam. You may not have considered obtaining an agile certification before, but should you decide, this course will provide you all the information you need to successfully begin your studies.

Review this course online at https://www.alta3.com/courses/BA08

Objectives

- Understand the role of a business analyst within an agile team.
- Explain differences between agile and waterfall business analysis.
- Learn techniques for integrating business analysis in agile environments.
- Prepare for IIBA-AAC certification to advance your agile career.

Who Should Attend

- Business Analysts transitioning to agile
- Project Managers adopting agile methodologies
- Product Owners on agile teams
- Professionals preparing for IIBA-AAC certification

Prerequisites

No prerequisites - This course is suitable for novice and experienced practitioners who are responsible for business analysis activities on projects using iterative or adaptive (agile) delivery methods. It is recommended that participants complete the BA01 – Business Analysis Essentials course prior to enrolling or have equivalent experience.

Course Outline

Module 1 – What is Agile?

1. What is agile
2. The Agile Manifesto
3. Agile principles
4. Agile benefits
5. Hands-on activity

Module 2 – State of Agile

6. The current state of agile
7. Agile trends
8. Agile skills
9. Value proposition
10. The business case for agile
11. The BA role changes on an agile project
12. Hands-on activity

Module 3 – Project life cycles

13. Project life cycle
14. Product life cycle
15. Incremental versus Iterative
16. Hybrid approaches to delivery
17. Choosing a project life cycle

Module 4 – An in-depth look at Agile

18. The agile development life cycle
19. A sequence of iterations
20. Essential concepts
21. Inside each iteration
22. Iteration goal
23. Iteration planning
24. Sequence of tasks
25. Work period
26. Testing
27. End of iteration activities
28. Evaluation and feedback
29. Structured walkthroughs
30. Evaluation guidelines
31. The BA role in structured walkthroughs
32. Scripting scenarios

33. Defect list
34. Retrospectives
35. Hands-on exercise

Module 5 – Types of Agile Delivery Approaches

36. The flavors of agile
37. Scrum
38. Scrum roles
39. Extreme Programming (XP)
40. Dynamic System Development Method (DSDM)
41. Feature Driven Development (FDD)
42. Testing
43. Best practices used by FDD
44. Kanban
45. Kanban Boards
46. Agile Unified Process
47. Scaling Frameworks

Module 6 – An Introduction to Agile Business Analysis

48. What is business analysis?
49. What is agile business analysis?
50. Framework for agile business analysis
51. Business analysis components
52. International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA®)
53. Project Management Institute (PMI®)
54. Context to business analysis
55. Our industry BA standards
56. Our industry Agile BA standards
57. Product Owners
58. What stays the same
59. What is expected to change
60. Agile requirements deliverables
61. Lightweight documentation
62. Requirements repository
63. Where business analysis fits in
64. The BA workload
65. Hands-on exercise

Module 7 – Business Analysis Tailoring

66. Business analysis tailoring (defined)
67. Tailoring considerations
68. What tailoring looks like

69. The PMI Guide to Business Analysis
70. Determining the ‘best’ BA approach
71. Methodology vs Standard
72. Why use methodologies
73. Determining your methodology
74. Business analysis impacts

Module 8 – Tools and techniques for agile business analysis

75. Agile BA techniques
76. Backlog refinements
77. Behavior Driven Development (BDD)
78. Burndown chart
79. Collaborative games
80. Definition of done
81. Definition of ready
82. INVEST
83. Iteration planning
84. Kanban board
85. Minimum marketable features (MMF)
86. Minimum viable product (MVP)
87. MoSCoW
88. Narrative writing
89. Persona analysis
90. Product roadmap
91. Progressive Elaboration
92. Prototyping
93. Purpose alignment model
94. Retrospectives
95. Story slicing
96. Hands-on Exercise

Module 9 – Prioritization Techniques

97. Requirements prioritization
98. Prioritizing on agile projects
99. Prioritization criteria
100. Business benefit
101. MoSCoW
102. Pair-choice comparison
103. Setting priorities with multi-voting
104. Cost to acquire and operate
105. Determining business value
106. Story point estimating
107. Planning poker

108. Project velocity
109. Hands-on activity

Module 10: Preparing for the IIBA-AAC

110. IIBA-AAC Explained
111. The IIBA-AAC Exam
112. 7 Agile Principles Guiding Business Analysis
113. Scope of the Exam
114. Planning Horizons Defined
115. Exam Blueprint
116. The IIBA-AAC Exam Process
117. Agile Mindset
118. Required Proficiency Level
119. Strategy Horizon (Explained)
120. Level of Proficiency Required in Strategy Horizon
121. Initiative Horizon (Explained)
122. Level of Proficiency Required in Initiative Horizon
123. Delivery Horizon (Explained)
124. Level of Proficiency Required in Delivery Horizon
125. IIBA-AAC Terminology
126. IIBA-AAC Techniques
127. Are you Ready for the IIBA-AAC?

Module 11: Course wrap-up

128. Making the transition to agile
129. How my role will be different
130. Course summary
131. Retrospective
132. Questions