The Agile Mindset

User Stories for Agile Teams

User Stories for Agile Teams is a highly interactive full-day course that takes participants through the rationale of User Stories, how to write good User Stories, and how to use them within the context of Agile ways of working.

Why this course?

- Learn how to write effective User Stories - the most common method of populating Product Backlogs
- Based on the trainer's practical experience, participants will learn how to:
  - Identify User Personas
  - Gather User Stories using a variety of techniques
  - Write excellent, well-formed User Stories
  - Split stories in a variety of ways so they are appropriately sized
  - Increase the quality of deliveries with User Stories
  - Control project scope with User Stories
  - Avoid the common pitfalls with User Stories

Are there any prerequisites?

There are no prerequisites for the User Stories for Agile Teams course; however, students are expected to complete the pre-course reading required

How should I prepare?

Attendees will be required to complete the pre-course activities and reading before attending the User Stories for Agile Teams class.

What you'll come away with

After attending the User Stories for Agile Teams course, you'll come away understanding User Stories in real depth. You won't just know how to use them, you'll understand how and why they work – and how to apply them effectively. In other words, this course will equip you with the knowledge and experience to write and use genuinely effective User Stories

Participants will gain sufficient knowledge about User Stories to:

- Immediately put them into use with confidence on their projects
- Use User Stories effectively
- Be able to explain how they are used with Scrum and other Agile Frameworks

What the course includes

High-quality instruction from a highly experienced trainer with many years of experience in training User Stories and, very importantly, implementing User Stories in the real world

- Course materials and, for virtual courses, access to our Learning Management System and online content created during the course
- Certificate of completion
- 8 Scrum Education Units (SEU's)

What topics are covered?

- It's a communication problem
  - What problems do User Stories address
- What are User Stories
  - What a User Story is and isn't
  - The 3 C's
  - The structure of a User Story
  - Why User Stories
  - Drawbacks
- Identifying Roles
  - User role modelling

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    - Refining roles
    - Consolidating roles
    - Personas
    - Extreme characters
- Gathering User Stories
    - Trawling for User Stories
    - User interviews
    - Questionnaires
    - Observation
- The User Story writing workshop
- INVEST
    - What is INVEST
    - Applying INVEST to User Stories
- Adding Details to Stories
    - Splitting User Stories
    - Strategies to split User Stories
- Acceptance Criteria
    - What are acceptance criteria
    - Adding User Story details as acceptance criteria
    - Using acceptance criteria to define scope
    - Applying acceptance criteria to User Stories
- Stories in Relation to a Product Backlog
    - Epics
    - Themes
    - The Product Backlog
    - The Product Backlog iceberg
    - DEEP
    - Guidelines for good User Stories
    - User Story smells
- Apply your Learning
    - Write User Stories
    - Write Acceptance Criteria
    - Split User Stories
    - Add details to User Stories
    - Build a Product Backlog

Who is this course suitable for?

This course is ideal for project teams, customers, business analysts, Product Owners and system users, or anyone who is required to write, use, or interact with User Stories.

Attending the course as a full team offers a real opportunity for the entire team to experience and learn how to write effective User Stories and be able to use them on their projects; it creates an excellent foundation for them to move forward.

What do our students say?

"Superbly organised and delivered course, with a very experienced trainer guiding you through the sessions. The organisation of the pre-course materials was detailed and complete." - Phillip Ingham

"The small, intimate team made discussions open and safe and Tom was brilliant at answering every question at each stage." - Leighton Fernandes

What about exams and certifications?

There are no exams for this course. Attendance will provide 8 Scrum Education Units, and all delegates will receive a certificate of attendance

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