

Introduction to Agile Testing

1 Day



Course Overview

Learn how to address the challenges and reap the benefits of testing in an agile project. Through four key workshop sessions, gain:

- a better understanding of what is meant by 'agile' and how testing fits into this approach;
- insight into the many options available for agile development and testing and guidance on selecting the optimal set for your project;
- an awareness of the skill set required and how to manage team-work challenges for agile testing;
- an understanding of the key factors that make agile such an attractive proposition and guidance on its introduction.

Who Should Attend?

This course is for test analysts and test, development & project managers who are expecting to be involved in agile projects and want to know what to expect and for current agile team members who want to know how testing should be performed on agile projects.

Four key Workshop Sessions

- 1. Introduction to Agile Development and Testing:** What is the philosophy behind agile and how does it differ from traditional approaches? What are the attributes of an agile project? What are the expectations and benefits from applying an agile methodology? What is Scrum and how is it applied on a typical project? How does agile change our approach to testing? Do specialist testers have a role in agile projects? Is independent testing still needed or possible? Agile methods and testing will be introduced in an agile project: who does it, how they do it, and the contrasting challenges for test independence and collaboration for fully agile projects.
- 2. Options in Agile Projects:** The choice of approach for implementing agile depends on constraints and factors at both the organisational level and the project level. They will include your reasons for choosing agile, your organisation's norms and values, your team, and their technical and competence constraints. This session will examine each of the options, their pre-requisites and their expected consequences with the aim of identifying the optimal set of options for a given project. We shall include blended approaches and outsourcing, for testing undertaken by developers, customers and specialist testers.
- 3. Managing Agile Teams:** People are the most important component of a successful agile project and, as such, special attention must be paid to getting the right mix of skills and personalities on your agile team. Team leadership is especially important in an environment so dependent on team-working, co-operation, trust, respect and direct communication. We will identify the skills and capabilities required for working on agile projects, how these differ from those required on a traditional project, and how agile team roles affect the motivation of both agile developers and testers. We will also consider why communication may be different in traditional and agile projects, and how to introduce ways of working as a team to enhance communication and optimise performance.
- 4. Making the Case for Agile:** Despite its growing popularity, those advocating an agile approach still need to be able to provide evidence to justify its take up to higher management. This session will provide data on the take-up and success of agile projects in the industry as a whole and guidance on how to identify appropriate projects for agile development (initially for a pilot project and subsequently for mainstream agile development).