3 DAYS

Agile Facilitation and Iteration Management

Intended Audience

This Advanced level course is for:

- Anyone working on an Agile project, especially project managers, Scrum Masters, or Iteration Managers.

Prerequisites

This is an advanced Agile course which is not suitable for people new to Agile practices.

Participants need to have completed formal Agile training (such as IC Agile accredited, Agile Fundamentals course) and have at least 12 months experience working in an Agile team. If you are unsure as to your eligibility for attending please contact us to discuss.

Certification

This course covers the first step in the Agile Coaching Track of the IC Agile Pathway and covers all the learning objectives of the Agile Team Facilitation Certification (ICP-ATF). This ICP-ATF Certification is granted on the successful completion of this course.

Overview

This ICAgile accredited course provides an in-depth understanding of how collaborative workshops can be planned, organised and run, and how each member can contribute to the team achieving maximum effectiveness, while identifying potential pitfalls (smells) and how to avoid/address them. The course also assists Iteration Managers in addressing aspects of their role to build capability across the team.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the value of facilitation skills in collaborative work environments
- Understand how to apply a variety of tools and techniques and the context in which they are useful
- Understand how to facilitate the various Agile work practices
- Understand the role of the Iteration Manager / ScrumMaster and how it can help collaborative teams on their agile journey.

Content

- **The Mindset and Role of the Agile Team Facilitator**

The purpose of this topic is to understand the most fundamental functions of an Agile Team Facilitator / Iteration Manager including facilitating the Agile practices, fostering collaboration amongst team members and generally supporting a self-organised team.

Facilitation is about leading by example and the facilitator needs a deep understanding of how their attitudes and behaviours influence their teams as role models and mentors.

- **Facilitation Tools and Techniques**

Understand the tools you can use in your role as a facilitator in the context of an Agile team. Facilitators grow their skills by facilitating various team practices, through exploration of advanced facilitation concepts, facilitating larger or more diverse groups, and facilitating deeper conflicting issues.

This topic provides the participants with the tools and techniques they need to facilitate meetings, collaborative conversations and team decision making sessions for small or large groups.

- **Facilitating the Agile Practices**

The primary role of the Agile team facilitator / Iteration Manager is to empower the Agile team toward a successful outcome. This requires identifying common hurdles to the implementation of key Agile practices, as well as helping teams overcome their own hurdles and successfully execute the practices.

This topic delves deeply into applying the general facilitation techniques to the key Agile practices, covering chartering, planning in the large and small, day-to-day iteration activities, showcases and retrospectives.

The overarching theme is how to be an effective facilitator in a self-organising, collaborative team environment, and how to nurture team effectiveness.

- **Iteration Management in Context**

While the role of an Iteration Manager within an Agile team is rewarding, it also poses a unique set of challenges for everyone intent on supporting their collaborative team to improve efficiency and effectiveness by introducing agile practices.

This part of the course is highly practical, participant-led module which allows experienced Iteration Managers as well as those only starting out in the role to share their experiences, learning and knowledge within a safe, facilitated environment. This module also provides the opportunity to receive tips and tricks from experienced agile practitioners, discuss observed anti-patterns and smells and identify possible tools and techniques to help the team overcome these.

Note: This module is not part of the ICAgile learning objectives for Facilitation and Coaching.