

# ALEA Course Catalog



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## Agile & Lean Essentials

*Agile and Lean Essentials* is a 2-day comprehensive course and workshop that addresses the most important practical aspects of Agile and Lean methods and practices and other methods to a lesser extent. The course teaches specific methods and techniques that support the improvement of product and software development through the application of simple practices, relevant principles, and professional techniques. *Agile and Lean Essentials* provides important insights and includes the “what” and “why” details that are often omitted in other courses. The course is the first step in understanding why these practices are so valuable to the success of a project, and how they are applied during project planning, initial implementation, and throughout a project’s lifecycle.

Students of *Agile and Lean Essentials* will learn the Agile and Lean techniques that strengthen effectiveness of execution, and how to be more effective through acts of simplicity and transparency. Throughout the course, there will be an extensive amount of “learning by doing,” and every aspect of the course engages students within a relaxed, learning environment.

*Agile & Lean Essentials* is recommended for project team members, program and project managers, project support personnel, new and experienced Agile and Lean coaches, new and experienced Product Managers, Product Visionaries, Product Owners, Scrum Masters, DevOps Engineers, analysts, software developers, DBAs, testers, and other stakeholders interested in successful project implementation—that is, everyone involved directly or indirectly with a project using Agile and Lean practices.

## Project Management Using Agile & Lean

*Project Management Using Agile & Lean* is a 2-day course that identifies the challenges that project managers face when working on Agile and Lean projects and their environments. It is imperative that project managers understand Agile and Lean methods, practices, and values on projects, but they do not have to fully understand how to implement their processes. Students will learn about the impact that Agile and Lean methods and practices can have and has had on new product development, the values and the principles that drive project management, as well as the essential practices that exemplify the values and principles that deliver optimum results.

The goal of the *Project Management Using Agile & Lean* course is to emphasize the critical need by the project for the project manager, the strategic importance of this role to the organization, and how the role serves as a conduit between the development team and the greater organization. The course is recommended for program and project managers, project sponsors, and organizational leaders from supporting activities and domains.

NOTE: Before taking the *Project Management Using Agile & Lean* course, it is recommended that all new and experienced Product and Project Managers take the *Agile & Lean Essentials* course to ensure a thorough understanding of the Agile, Lean, and Scrum values, principles, and practices, and the terminology commonly used by the practitioners of all three methods.

## **Agile & Lean Scrum Master**

*Agile & Lean Scrum Master* is a 2-day course that addresses the attributes of the Scrum Master, and how this person integrates with team members, key stakeholders, and organizational leaders to assure a project's success. Students will learn what it means to be responsible for championing the needs of the team to the organization and for championing the needs of the organization to the team. The Scrum Master is the team's enabler and facilitator who assures that the team functions within the agreed-to Scrum practices while acting as a mediator and negotiator between the team and the greater organization.

The goal of this course is to provide new and experienced Scrum Masters with a significant body of knowledge and enhanced skills to perform this important role throughout a project's development lifecycle. The course explains in detail many of the concepts and techniques introduced in the *Agile & Lean Essentials* course.

*Agile & Lean Scrum Master* is recommended for new and experienced Scrum Masters who seek ways to improve their Scrum Master skills, and Scrum practitioners who aspire to become new Scrum Masters. New Agile Coaches and experienced Agile Coaches with less than 3 years coaching experience will also benefit from taking this course.

NOTE: Before taking the *Agile & Lean Scrum Master* course, it is recommended that all new Scrum Masters with less than two years of Agile experience take the *Agile & Lean Essentials* course to ensure a thorough understanding of the values, principles, and practices of Agile, Lean, and Scrum, and the terminology commonly used by practitioners of those methods.

## **Agile & Lean Product Owner**

*Agile & Lean Product Owner* is a 2-day course that covers myriad activities of the Product Owner. This person is responsible for the successful development of product and its delivery. The Product Owner creates and establishes the product vision, product roadmap, product backlog, and release schedule, and collaborates closely with the development team, key stakeholders, users, and the customer to transform the vision into an end product. The Product Owner is the product visionary who leads the development team through product development, who makes critical decisions going forward, and who maintains a close relationship with the customer.

The goal of this course is to teach new and experienced Product Owners the importance of close collaboration with business stakeholders, how to recognize and understand business opportunities, and learn to manage the expectations, values, principles, and practices of Agile, Lean, and Scrum.

The *Agile & Lean Product Owner* course is recommended for Product Managers, new and experienced Product Owners, domain stakeholders, and program and project managers.

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NOTE: Before taking this course, it is recommended that all new and Product Owners with less than 2-years experience in an Agile and Scrum environment take the *Agile & Lean Essentials* course to ensure a thorough understanding of Agile, Lean, and Scrum values, principles, and practices, and the terminology commonly used by practitioners of all three methods.

### **The Critical Need for Agile Project Planning**

Project planning is the first and most critical activity of any project whether using Agile or traditional methods. On a traditional project, the more common term, “Initial Project Planning”, is often used. *The Critical Need for Agile Project Planning* is a 4-hour, eye-opening discussion that provides critical topics that often are overlooked and that lead to failure. Poor or inadequate project planning and preparation frequently occurs in many projects. This presentation addresses the pitfalls of hurried or inadequate project preparation important to a project’s execution that often results in the poor allocation of resources, and numerous other inadequacies including budgeting, training, establishment of critical environments, well-defined and developed requirements, and people who lack the appropriate skills.

*The Critical Need for Agile Project Planning* presentation will provide insights into the techniques of Agile and Lean that strengthen effectiveness and simplicity of planning. The presentation will provide key points in a project’s readiness including establishing critical environments, infrastructure, and tools, the conduct of Agile and Lean training for core team members and key stakeholders, the identification of the project’s Product Owner and Scrum Master, recurring training that extends into the greater organization, creation of the product vision, product roadmap, and initial product backlog, developing an initial release plan, and more.

*The Critical Need for Agile Project Planning* presentation is recommended for senior and mid-level management, sponsors, program and project managers, Scrum Masters, Product Owners, Product Visionaries, DevOps Engineers, and other key stakeholders. In other words, it is essential that anyone involved with planning, managing, or controlling a project should attend this discussion.

### **Introduction to Agile & Lean**

*Introduction to Agile & Lean* is a 90-minute primer for project teams and organizations that plan to use Agile and Lean methods and practices. The objectives of the presentation are to provide a brief overview of Agile and Lean, the benefits the methods offer, how the practices can help increase a company’s competitive advantage, and realize an improved return on investment (ROI) as early as the first production release.

Agile software development is not a set of tools or a single methodology, but a mindset and philosophy that was documented in 2001 by 17 of the industry’s leading software development experts. Agile is a significant departure from the heavyweight, document-driven software development method traditionally termed *Waterfall* that was and still is in widespread use. While the publication of the *Manifesto for Agile Software Development* did not start the migration to the use of Agile methods,

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which had been going on for some time, it clearly signaled industry-wide acceptance of an Agile philosophy.

*Introduction to Agile & Lean* is recommended for most line and staff managers, DevOps Engineers, system engineers, and others who support project teams.

## **Agile & Lean Overview for Executives**

*Agile and Lean Overview for Executives* is a 60-minute presentation that offers an insightful introduction to the concepts of Agile and Lean and the critical steps necessary for an organization to adopt these principles and practices. *Agile and Lean Overview for Executives* explains how the software development dilemma impacts business costs, the importance of attaining agility, how Agile and Lean can reduce a product's time-to-market, how quickly a company's return-on-investment (ROI) can be improved, how Agile and Lean practices provide significant business value, and how adoption across the enterprise can accelerate the speed and quality of company operations and competitive edge. Attendees will learn about the critical roles needed to lead transformation and the critical challenges that must be addressed before deciding to adopt these methods.

*Agile and Lean Overview for Executives* shows how Agile software development has evolved from a team-based practice to a business- or enterprise-wide activity. A recent survey has shown that more and bigger companies are embracing Agile and Lean methods and practices as part of the larger vision to deliver software and other products faster, easier, and smarter. Some of the more relevant metrics disclosed by the survey will be presented. Agile and Lean methods have expanded beyond software development and into many areas of manufacturing and product development.

*Agile and Lean Overview for Executives* is recommended for executives, senior managers, and organizational leaders, who want to understand the concepts of Agile and Lean and the critical steps necessary for adoption.