

Agile Techniques in a Traditional World

Whether you believe Agile is a fad, a trend, a best practice, a buzzword or just plain nonsense, one thing is for certain; if you are a practicing Project Manager or plan to become one then you will need more than a basic understanding of Agile principles. This will be true for at least the next four years because that is the frequency of updates to the Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide), the worldwide standard for the practice of Project Management. The sixth edition, released in 2017, has defined the genesis of an era of integration of Agile and Traditional Project Management techniques, methodologies, and guidelines.

The evolution toward more agility and value-driven project management is highlighted by the inclusion of Agile principles throughout edition six of the PMBOK® Guide as well as the publication of The Agile Practice Guide, a very useful guide to the principles of Agile which is the result of a first-time collaboration between The Agile Alliance and the Project Management Institute (PMI).

In Agile Techniques in a Traditional World, we will discuss how project managers often find ourselves caught between two worlds. The strategic levels of management need us to drive continuously improving results while providing accurate predictions of performance. To meet these challenges, we may select a development lifecycle that supports a change-driven environment while focusing on delivery of business value. We may choose an Agile approach. While managing an Agile team we need to provide traditional data and information, often in a traditional way. In this workshop, we will discuss these issues and learn to identify those areas that can be Agile, and those areas that should be managed in a more traditional manner. Finding new ways to customize and tailor your project management approach will help your teams to reach those goals! Discussions and exercises will include the following topics: value-driven delivery, stakeholder engagement and communications, risk management, team performance, tracking and reporting results.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand basic Agile principles, terminology and common methodologies
- Be able to identify areas where Agile techniques can and should be applied
- Learn to manage with a focus on early and continuous delivery of business value