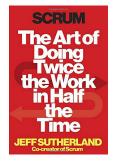
# Applying Scrum Principles to ER Instruction

Dr. Douglas E. Forster Japan Women's University Dr. Joseph Poulshock Tokyo Christian University It is 5PM. The meeting started at 3PM. And it is scheduled to end at 6PM, but it will go over. Your back and butt are starting to ache. What's worse, nothing is getting done. **It is actually a criminal waste of time.** 

You think to yourself, What if we sat in small groups of 3-4 and decided specific tasks to do? What if we briefly discussed the status of ongoing tasks and talked about how to improve the process of doing them? And what if we reported to each other about which tasks we finished? And best of all, what if this meeting only lasted 15 minutes?"

In other words, what if we did SCRUM?

### 1993: A new way of doing things



 In a nutshell: Small teams working towards a common goal produces favorable results more quickly.

## What is Scrum?

- Scrum is a way to manage projects.
- Organizations use Scrum to manage software projects: FBI, Microsoft, Silicon Valley
- Newspapers use Scrum to research and tell big stories: NPR
- Universities don't use scrum when they do long, inefficient, and boring meetings.

## What is Scrum?

 "At its root, Scrum is based on a simple idea: whenever you start a project, why not regularly check in, see if what you're doing is heading in the right direction, and if it's actually what people want? And question whether there are any ways to improve how you're doing what you're doing, any ways of doing it better and faster, and what might be keeping you from doing that."



## **Scrum Big Reading Project**

- With Scrum, teams break big projects into sets of little steps.
- In this class, we use Scrum to big reading (TADOKU).



# The CTO (Chief Tadoku Officer):

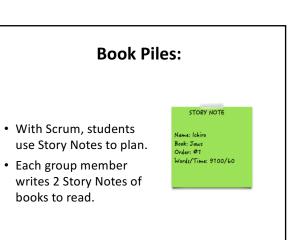
- Scrum projects have a CTO.
- CTO's give vision to Scrum teams.
- Teacher is the CTO of the Scrum Reading Project.
- VISION: Read big. Enjoy reading big. Believe we can succeed at reading big.

### Teams:

- With Scrum, students work in teams.
- Scrum teams have 3-4 members.
- The CTO helps students make their Scrum Team.
- Scrum teams meet in class 1-2 times per week.

#### Masters:

- Every Scrum Team has a Master.
- The Scrum Master helps the Scrum Team plan and manage reading goals.
- With the CTO's help, <u>students choose a Scrum</u> <u>Master</u> for their team.

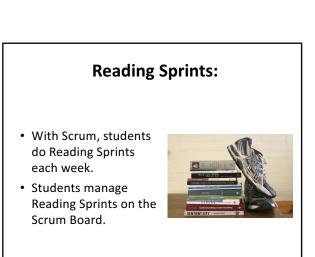


### On each story note, students write:

- Their name.
- A book they <u>WANT</u> to read.
- A number (1, 2 or 3) for the order they read their 3 books.
- The word count/reading time (based on their reading speed).



STORY NOTE

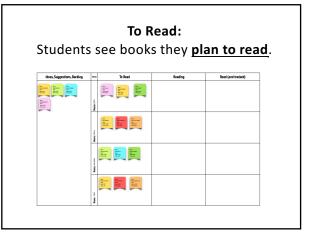


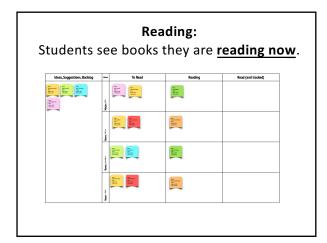
### How to use the Scrum Board:

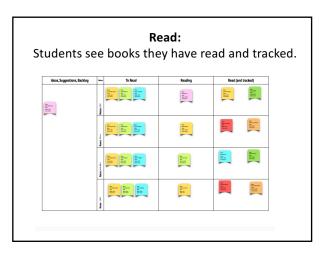
- Students write each Reader's name in the Reader column (on the left).
- Students put their 3 Story Notes for the week in the "To Read" column. These are Reading Sprint goals for the week.
- If student is already reading a book, they put it in the "Reading" column.

Ideas, Suggestions, Backlog	Kane	To Read	Reading	Read (and tracked)
Notes and the second se	Master: Aku			
Number Number Number Number   Marcine Marcine Marcine Marcine   Marcine Marcine Marcine <td>Name: Uko</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>	Name: Uko			
	Name: so-in-			
	Nare: Han			









Scrum Goals: During every Scrum, students ask 3 questions about their goals:

- What did you read last week?
- What will you read today and this weekend?
- What is slowing you down? How can you read and enjoy more?



#### **Review & Reflection:**

- Every 2 weeks, class does a Sprint Review.
- Teams report results to the Class.
- The CTO (Teacher) asks 3 questions:
  - 1. What went well?
  - 2. What could be better?
  - 3. How can we improve?



Attitudes Before and After Scrum				
Before/After	Confident can do ER	Confident can choose good books for ER.	After starting, confident can finish book	
BEFORE (N = 17)	6.1	5.8	7.0	
AFTER (N = 29)	6.3	5.9	6.9	

Opinions After Scrum (N = 27)			
1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 = Disagree; 3 =	Don't know; 4 = Agree; 5 = Strongly Agree		
SCRUM HELPED ME READ MORE	SCRUM INCREASED READING PLEASURE		
3.2	3.1		

BEFORE AND DURING	ALL WORDS AVERAGES
Advanced Before Scrum	34,811
Advanced During Scrum	43,048
Intermediate Before Scrum	24,236
Intermediate During SCRUM	49,715
All Before Scrum (N = 27)	28,670
All During Scrum (N = 27)	46,919

Yellow: Before Scrum	GRADED	ONLINE	ALL	TOTAL
green: During Scrum	READERS	STORIES	WORDS	WORDS
Advanced: n = 9, Inter. N = 18	WORD AVE	WORD AVE	TOTAL AVE	ALL SS
Advanced Before Scrum	30,357	4,453	34,811	452,538
Advanced During Scrum	37,893	5,155	43,048	559,626
Intermediate Before Scrum	21,157	3,079	24,236	436,241
Intermediate During SCRUM	45,443	4,271	49,715	894,864
All Before Scrum (N = 27)	25,015	3,655	28,670	888,779
All During Scrum (N = 27)	42,277	4,642	46,919	1,454,490

#### **Benefits of Scrum in EFL:**

- Students focus on one common goal and work as a team to reach that goal in the shortest amount of time possible.
- Students encourage each other to reach their common goal.

## Thank you!

• If you have any ideas for using Scrum in class, please let us know!

Douglas Forster dforster2000@yahoo.com Joseph Poulshock josephpoulshock@mac.com