ScrumAdemia: How to organize your PhD using iterations and a team.

Abstract

Doctoral Researchers face various challenges including receiving training on research methods, regular supervision and feedback, and loneliness.

While research institutions provide methods training, supervision depends on the individual PhD-advisors, and information on PhD-organization is often limited on introductory self-help guides. Experiences of loneliness due to the lack of working in a team can also lead to mental health issues. Additionally, the long-term prospect of a huge project such as a dissertation provides only few rewarding moments on the way. Thus, the struggles of day-to-day work organization are generally overlooked.

Scrum provides a solution to some of these issues by introducing a team structure, regular meetings, and an iterative work style with short-term achievements. Originating from software development, Scrum needs to be adjusted to the very particular academic context. This is why we came up with: **ScrumAdemia!**

We will introduce you to the principles of ScrumAdemia and share with you the experiences of our Scrum Team.

At the end of this session you will have the tools to structure your own PhD-project in an agile style and build your own supportive team.

Désirée Reder is a Doctoral Researcher at the German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and the University of Marburg. Her PhD-project investigates how democracies legitimize violent repression of peaceful protests.

Jan Klenke is a Doctoral Researcher at the German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and the University of Hamburg. His PhD-project investigates the roles of Brazil, India and China in international climate change negotiations.

Désirée and Jan are certified Scrum Masters and part of a Scrum-Team since January 2020.

Please note

This workshop cannot be credited as qualification measures at the Department of Mechanical Engineering. However you are welcome to participate.

This course will be held in English.

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