

BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAMS WITH A FUTURE IN AGILE FROM XU EXPONENTIAL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES



June 2021



CASE STUDY



THE UNIVERSITY

XU Exponential University of Applied Sciences, a University Partner of Scrum.org, qualifies students for tomorrow's job profiles by offering innovative, future-proofed degree programs.

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"Advancing digitization and emerging innovative and frequently disruptive technologies are transforming both our society and our working world, and are calling for entirely new digital skills," said Dr. Filipe de Castro Soeiro, President of the University "Consequently, our higher education institutions are challenged to deliver new answers that will sustainably ensure the education of the next generations."

XU Exponential University is Germany's first university with degree programs focusing exclusively on the developments of digitalization and up-and-coming technologies. At XU Exponential University, students are educated in Coding & Software Engineering, Digital Business, Digital Marketing & Social Media or Data Science. In order to ensure that XU graduates start their professional careers with market-current knowledge at the end of their academic education, XU Exponential University continuously screens and evaluates emerging digital trends, captures the latest developments and immediately integrates these into the curricula.

Therefore, XU Exponential University includes interactive Scrum seminars as a requirement for all of its degree programs, in which students not only acquire Scrum knowledge, but gain hands-on experience, allowing them to immediately start working on concrete assignments. In the process, they are accompanied by leading experts from industry and start-ups as well as the best minds from technology and research, sharing their experiences on key topics such as lean software development, design thinking, innovation management, and Scrum as a framework for agility.

XU Exponential University is one of the first universities in Germany with a professorship for agile and scaled agile topics that is involved in both teaching and research. Within the professorship, all relevant Scrum topics, based on the Scrum Guide, are covered and integrated effectively within the respective curriculum, providing students with profound insights into Scrum beyond the actual course content.

During the Scrum seminars, students work in small teams which allows them to apply their theoretical knowledge from the respective lecture into practical projects. In the process, students take turns stepping into the role of the Product Owner or the Scrum Master to gradually develop a comprehensive understanding of Scrum.

Halfway through the seminar and after successfully completing the first lectures, the students are organized into a Scrum Team with a concrete challenge set in the form of a case study, which they are expected to tackle and master by applying their learnings. Later in the process, the teams continue to address more advanced issues, collect metrics, learn to manage their flow, and identify Scrum anti-patterns.

Due to the fact that Scrum is an essential part of the study program, XU Exponential University encourages its students to take the Professional Scrum Master I (PSM I) or Professional Scrum Product Owner I (PSPO I) certification test from Scrum.org after the end of the course.

“Whichever bachelor’s degree program students choose, at XU Exponential University they always select a degree program for the future, one that prepares the next generation of talent 100% for the challenges of digitization and the digital transformation of business and society,” Dr. Stefan Hermanns, lecturer for Agile and Scaled Agility.



About Scrum.org

Scrum.org, the Home of Scrum, was founded by Scrum co-creator Ken Schwaber as a mission-based organization to help people and teams solve complex problems. We do this by enabling people to apply Professional Scrum through hands-on training courses, globally recognized certifications and ongoing learning all based on a common competency model.

Scrum.org supports people wherever they are on their learning journey from beginner to highly experienced practitioner, helping them to grow over time with ongoing learning opportunities and resources. Community members share knowledge and gain new insights from each other leveraging forums, blogs and more.