



Project Management Associate: Practical Skills

24 – 28 January 2027
Chicago

Project Management Associate: Practical Skills

Ref: 103600558_106044 **Date:** 24 – 28 January 2027 **Location:** Chicago **Fees:** 12000 Euro

Course Overview:

The Project Management Associate Training Course is a practical, entry-level program designed to equip participants with the essential skills required to effectively contribute to and support projects in various industries. This course focuses on real-world application, providing participants with the tools and knowledge they need to manage and contribute to both traditional plan-driven and Agile project environments.

Participants will gain a deep understanding of project planning, scheduling, stakeholder coordination, risk management, and requirements handling. Through practical examples, hands-on exercises, and interactive discussions, they will learn how to apply tools such as Work Breakdown Structures WBS, basic scheduling techniques, Agile iteration planning, and effective communication within project teams.

By the end of the course, participants will be able to support project teams, contribute to project execution activities, and understand how projects deliver measurable value to organizations.

Target Audience:

- Entry-level professionals interested in project management
- Project coordinators and junior project team members
- Fresh graduates seeking a career in project management
- Business professionals working on projects across departments
- Administrative staff involved in project support roles
- Engineers, IT staff, and operations personnel transitioning into project environments

Targeted Organizational Departments:

- Project Management Office PMO
- Operations & Business Support
- Information Technology IT
- Engineering & Technical Teams
- Human Resources HR
- Finance & Administration
- Strategy & Planning Departments

Targeted Industries:

- Government & Public Sector
- Construction & Engineering
- Banking & Financial Services
- IT & Digital Transformation
- Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals
- Telecommunications

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Define and differentiate between projects, programs, and operations
- Explain project lifecycle stages and delivery approaches
- Apply basic project planning techniques including scope, schedule, and resources
- Construct and interpret Work Breakdown Structures WBS
- Understand and apply both predictive and Agile project approaches
- Identify stakeholders and apply effective communication strategies
- Participate in requirements gathering and validation processes
- Monitor project performance and support reporting activities
- Recognize risks, issues, and apply basic mitigation techniques
- Contribute to project execution and closure activities

Training Methodology:

This course uses a highly interactive and practical approach to ensure knowledge is applied effectively:

- Real-world case studies from multiple industries
- Group discussions and guided exercises
- Scenario-based problem solving
- Practical demonstrations of project tools and techniques
- Agile simulation exercises and iteration planning activities
- Continuous reflection sessions to reinforce learning outcomes

Course Toolbox :

Participants will gain hands-on exposure to:

- Work Breakdown Structure WBS creation techniques
- Basic project scheduling concepts including critical path awareness
- Stakeholder mapping and communication frameworks
- Risk identification and simple risk registers
- Agile tools such as backlogs, user stories, and iteration boards
- Project reporting and performance tracking basics
- Requirements gathering tools interviews, workshops, use cases

Course Agenda:

Day 1: Foundations of Project Work & Organizational Context

- **Topic 1:** Projects vs Programs vs Operations in Organizations
- **Topic 2:** Project Life Cycles & Delivery Approaches
- **Topic 3:** Key Project Elements: Scope, Risk, Assumptions & Constraints
- **Topic 4:** Project Planning Fundamentals
- **Topic 5:** Roles & Responsibilities in Project Environments
- **Topic 6:** Problem-Solving Tools & Techniques
- **Reflection & Review:** Applying Core Concepts to Real Project Scenarios

Day 2: Structured Project Planning & Delivery

- **Topic 1:** When to Use Structured Plan-Driven Approaches
- **Topic 2:** Project Phases & Process Flow
- **Topic 3:** Work Breakdown Structure WBS & Task Definition
- **Topic 4:** Scheduling & Critical Path Fundamentals
- **Topic 5:** Cost & Schedule Tracking Basics
- **Topic 6:** Project Documentation & Control Tools
- **Reflection & Review:** Managing a Structured Project Environment



Day 3: Adaptive Project Execution & Agile Practices

- **Topic 1:** When to Use Adaptive Agile Approaches
- **Topic 2:** Agile vs Plan-Driven Delivery
- **Topic 3:** Iteration Planning & Task Structuring
- **Topic 4:** Agile Frameworks: Scrum, Kanban, XP
- **Topic 5:** Agile Tracking & Performance Visibility
- **Topic 6:** Prioritization & Value Delivery
- **Reflection & Review:** Applying Agile in Real Work Environments

Day 4: Business Needs, Stakeholders & Requirements Management

- **Topic 1:** Stakeholder Identification & Role Mapping
- **Topic 2:** Communication Strategies for Project Success
- **Topic 3:** Requirements Gathering Techniques
- **Topic 4:** User Stories, Use Cases & Backlogs
- **Topic 5:** Product Roadmaps & Release Planning
- **Topic 6:** Validation, Acceptance & Delivery Readiness
- **Reflection & Review:** Aligning Projects with Business Objectives

Day 5: End-to-End Project Execution & Professional Practice

- **Topic 1:** Executing Work Across Different Project Styles
- **Topic 2:** Monitoring, Control & Change Management
- **Topic 3:** Risk, Issues & Stakeholder Management
- **Topic 4:** Reporting & Performance Communication
- **Topic 5:** Project Closure & Lessons Learned
- **Topic 6:** Professional Skills: Leadership, Ethics & Communication
- **Reflection & Review:** Full Project Simulation & Application

FAQ:

What specific qualifications or prerequisites are needed for participants before enrolling in the course?

No specific qualifications or prior project management experience are required. This course is designed for beginners and professionals transitioning into project-based roles.



How long is each day's session, and is there a total number of hours required for the entire course?

Each day's session is generally structured to last around 4–5 hours, with breaks and interactive activities included. The total course duration spans five days, approximately 20–25 hours of instruction.

What is the difference between predictive plan-driven and Agile adaptive approaches in project management?

Predictive approaches follow a structured, sequential process with defined plans, timelines, and deliverables, while Agile approaches are flexible, iterative, and focus on continuous delivery and adaptation based on changing requirements.

How This Course is Different from Other Project Management Courses:

This course is designed to bridge the gap between theory and real-world execution. While many programs focus heavily on terminology or certification preparation, this training emphasizes practical skills that participants can immediately apply in their jobs.

It combines structured project management approaches with Agile methodologies, ensuring participants can operate effectively in both traditional and modern project environments. The course also integrates business analysis concepts, allowing participants to understand how project outputs align with organizational goals.

Additionally, the program uses real-world scenarios from industries such as oil & gas, government, and corporate sectors, making it highly relevant for professionals working in dynamic and complex environments.