LEADING SAFe

Course Table of Contents

Indicative two-day curriculum

DURATION	2 days (approximately 16 hours)
AUDIENCE	Executives, managers, Agile coaches, Scrum Masters, Product Owners, Product Managers and transformation leaders

Course overview

This course introduces the principles and practices used to lead a Lean-Agile enterprise with the Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe). Participants explore the foundations of Business Agility, Lean-Agile leadership, team and technical agility, product development flow, Lean Portfolio Management and the steps involved in leading organizational change.

Detailed course outline

Day 1 – Building the foundation for Business Agility

Module 1: Adapting and Thriving in the Digital Age

- Understanding the Digital Age and market disruption
- Challenges faced by traditional organizations
- Business Agility and organizational adaptability
- SAFe as an operating system for Business Agility
- Seven Core Competencies of Business Agility
- Overview of SAFe configurations and the framework

Module 2: Building a Foundation with Mindset, Values and Principles

- Lean Thinking and Agile Development
- The Lean-Agile Mindset and the Agile Manifesto
- SAFe Core Values: Alignment, Built-in Quality, Transparency and Program Execution
- The 10 SAFe Lean-Agile Principles
- Systems Thinking and economic decision-making
- Applying the Lean-Agile mindset in leadership

Module 3: Establishing Team and Technical Agility

- Understanding Team and Technical Agility
- Building cross-functional Agile teams and organizing around value
- Understanding Agile Release Trains (ARTs), structures, roles and responsibilities
- Built-in Quality and technical excellence
- DevOps culture and the Continuous Delivery Pipeline
- ART events and synchronization

Day 2 – Delivering Value and Leading Transformation

Module 4: Product Development Flow

- Customer Centricity and Design Thinking
- Understanding customer needs and personas
- Value Streams and ART Backlog
- Prioritization using Weighted Shortest Job First (WSJF)
- Planning Intervals (PIs) and the purpose of PI Planning
- PI Planning: business context, vision, team breakouts, draft and final plans, management review, PI Objectives and confidence vote
- Executing the PI and the Inspect and Adapt workshop
- Develop on Cadence and Release on Demand
- Continuous Delivery Pipeline and DevOps

Module 5: Exploring Lean Portfolio Management

- Introduction to Lean Portfolio Management (LPM)
- Defining a SAFe Portfolio and connecting strategy with execution
- Strategic Themes, Portfolio Vision and Portfolio Canvas
- Business and Enabler Epics and Epic Hypothesis Statements
- Portfolio Kanban
- Lean Budgets and Guardrails
- Participatory Budgeting, Portfolio Flow and Value Streams
- Connecting strategy, funding and execution

Module 6: Leading the Change

- The role of Lean-Agile Leaders and leading by example
- Developing a Lean-Agile Mindset
- Creating an environment for innovation
- Leading organizational transformation
- SAFe Implementation Roadmap
- Identifying Value Streams and ARTs
- Creating an implementation plan
- Launching ARTs and sustaining continuous improvement

Module 7: AI-Empowered Business Agility and Leadership (where applicable to the adopted course version)

- Understanding AI as an accelerator for Business Agility
- Applying AI to improve organizational productivity
- Empowering teams through AI-enabled practices
- AI applications in Lean Portfolio Management
- AI-supported strategic decision-making
- Responsible adoption of AI in the enterprise

Module 8: Course Review and Certification Preparation

- Recap of key SAFe concepts and the Business Agility competencies
- Scenario-based discussions and practical application
- Practice questions and knowledge assessment
- Personal action plan for applying Lean-Agile principles

Suggested practical activities

Activity	Related module
Traditional vs. Agile organization comparison	Module 1
Lean-Agile leadership self-assessment	Module 2
Design an Agile Release Train	Module 3
Simulated PI Planning exercise	Module 4
WSJF prioritization exercise	Module 4
Portfolio Kanban simulation	Module 5
SAFe Implementation Roadmap exercise	Module 6
AI-enabled Business Agility discussion	Module 7

Suggested delivery approach

Use a continuous organizational transformation case study across the two days. Participants can take a traditional organization through the journey of understanding Business Agility, identifying value streams, forming ARTs, planning and delivering value, managing a portfolio and leading transformation.

Indicative time allocation: Day 1 – Modules 1 to 3; Day 2 – Modules 4 to 8. The facilitator should adjust sequencing and depth to the official courseware and the approved delivery schedule.

Note: This document is an indicative curriculum outline for planning and review. The official Scaled Agile course materials, current course version, learning objectives, duration and certification requirements should take precedence for an authorized course delivery.