

# The Art of Project Management

## **Duration**

2 days

## **Instructor**

Scott Berkun

## **Class Limit**

20 students

## **Prerequisite**

None

## **Price**

On-site

Please contact SPC  
for pricing (contact  
information on page 2)

Public Training

\$1,195 (2 days)

\*Discount available for  
early registration

## **Materials Provided**

- Student manual containing the course slides
- Student handouts with class exercises

Project management is both an art and a science. The tendency to overlook the “art” of project management is a key factor behind so many failed projects. In fact, why teams succeed or not has more to do with leadership and management instincts and approach, than knowledge of specific methods or tools. By developing an expertise in the art of project management, both managers and team members can increase the success rate for their projects, and will be better equipped to complete projects on time and on budget, without sacrificing quality.

The Art of Project Management, based on the best selling O’Reilly book of the same name, teaches attendees how to deal with the most common and challenging project leadership situations. The course methodology for this two-day seminar will enable participants to experience recurring project challenges and learn from the instructor and peers how to better handle and succeed in those situations.

The course places a strong emphasis on group discussion along with interactive exercises, and situation-focused learning where participants are encouraged to bring to the dialogue real events they’ve experienced and questions they need answered - smart detours encouraged.

Learning topics include:

- Interactive and challenging coverage of core project management topics
- Teach skills through exercises, discussion and active Q&A (lecture is kept to a minimum)
- Improve skills in core PM areas through exercises and discussion
- Focus on the important intangibles and perspectives rarely covered
- How to avoid common mistakes even smart people make
- Emphasis on lightweight and flexible approaches
- Focus on knowledge sharing and building community of practice

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# The Art of Project Management

## Instructor

Scott Berkun was a program manager on Microsoft Internet Explorer (v1 to v5), Microsoft Windows and MSN. He is the author of the best selling book, *The Art of Project Management* (2005, O'Reilly Media - <http://www.artofpm.com>). He was trained in group facilitation, instructional design and consulting while working in Microsoft's engineering excellence group (a central best practices consulting organization).

He has personal experience as a project manager and team leader on small, short cycle web and software development projects, as well as large multi-year operating system projects. Since 2003 he has worked as an independent consultant and trainer, writing about management, design and making good things. Scott writes about leadership, design and management on his website: <http://www.scottberkun.com>.

## Intended Audience

This course is ideally suited to all software professionals who are involved in projects either as a leader or team member, and who are interested in increasing their knowledge on this important topic.

## Outline

Day 1: Schedules, estimation and risk

- Why schedules fail and how to avoid this challenge
- Intense exercises with project scheduling tactics
- Understanding estimation challenges
- Fun exercises with estimation techniques
- Risks and crisis: What to do when things go wrong
- Summary / Additional Q&A

Day 2: Leadership, decision making and relationships

- Leading without authority
- How to make good decisions
- Managing positive change
- Building trust and relationships
- Learning from mistakes
- Summary / Additional Q&A

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For more information on this or other SPC Springboard courses, please visit [www.spcspringboard.com](http://www.spcspringboard.com) or e-mail SPC at [info@spc.ca](mailto:info@spc.ca)

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