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## Core Competencies For The Business Analyst

2 Days

*While specific functions of business analysts vary depending on the industry and on the size and structure of an organization, there are nonetheless core competencies required of the business analyst (BA) as he or she attempts to understand the business needs of stakeholders and determine solutions to business problems.*

*The International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA) is an international not-for-profit association for BA professionals. Its Business Analysis Body of Knowledge (BABOK) identifies best practices for the business analyst in six Knowledge Areas.*

*This course explores the BA role, core BA functions, and the BABOK. Practical tasks and techniques are presented to equip the BA with the skills and knowledge required to practice all the Knowledge Areas of the BABOK, from identifying potential future projects to validating implemented solutions.*

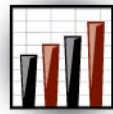
## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The course is intended to serve several audiences and meet a variety of needs. The material in the course is directed at both the novice looking to enter the field and the self-taught veteran looking to fill gaps in his or her skills or knowledge. Individuals who perform business analysis in organizations are known by various titles including business analyst, systems analyst, business/systems analyst, functional analyst, project manager, and tester. Individuals who will benefit from this course include:

- Entry-level business analysts and their managers
- Self-taught business analysts requiring a course that fills in the gaps and puts all the pieces together
- Systems analysts and programmers interested in expanding their roles into the business area
- Quality assurance professionals
- Project managers

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Describe what the BA does and how the BA interrelates with other roles and responsibilities of the organization.
- Participate in a structured brainstorming session to generate and prioritize ideas.
- Describe the BA's role within a range of lifecycle models including sequential (waterfall), iterative, and agile.
- Describe how the BA role contributes to organizational goals and strategic plans via Enterprise Analysis activities including the development of the Business Case.
- Analyze stakeholders and assess a requirements management plan to elicit, analyze, document, and communicate requirements to stakeholders.
- Understand the process steps and critical success factors of several requirements elicitation techniques including interviewing, brainstorming, requirements workshops, document analysis, observation, reverse engineering, surveys, focus groups, interface analysis, and prototyping.



- Plan and conduct an effective requirements elicitation interview.

## **LESSON TOPICS**

- Characteristics and applicability of sequential, iterative, and agile development life cycles
- Components of an effective Business Case
- Stakeholder analysis
- Requirements planning
- Configuration management and change control
- Traceability
- Requirements baselines
- Brainstorming
- Interviews
- Surveys
- Focus groups
- Requirements workshops
- Document analysis
- Interface analysis
- Reverse engineering
- Prototyping
- Requirements analysis techniques including business process modeling, object-oriented analysis, and structured systems analysis
- Context diagrams
- Use case diagrams
- Use case descriptions
- Activity diagrams
- Class models
- Entity relationship diagrams
- UML standards for analysis models
- Requirements reviews
- Quality control and quality assurance activities