

Test Planning Course Outline

General Description

The test manager or lead charged with planning a test effort must gather a lot of information to map out a successful test effort. What is the project context? What are the most important risks to system quality? How much time, money, and people will be needed to test for those potential problems? What other tactical issues must be addressed? Based *Managing the Testing Process, 2nd Ed.*, Rex Black will lay out a roadmap for creating a realistic, actionable test plan. This half-day course may be extended to a full day with hands-on exercises.

Learning Objectives

Through presentation, discussion, and hands-on exercises, attendees will learn to:

- Understand the context of the test effort
- Assess and prioritize the risks to system quality
- Accurately estimate the time, resources, and people required for testing against those risk
- Create a realistic, actionable test plan that deals with all the strategic and tactical issues

Course Materials

This course includes the following materials:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Description</i>
Course Outline	A general description of the course along with learning objectives, course materials and an outline of the course topics, including approximate timings for each section.
Noteset	A set of approximately 100 PowerPoint slides covering the topics to be addressed.
Bibliography and resources	A set of further readings, Web sites, tools and other resources to help implement the concepts.

The printed course materials are provided in a binder in a way which makes it convenient for course attendees to remove portions as needed for reference; e.g., during exercises.

Session Plan

Introduction: what is test planning?

Context: testing within the project

- Pervasive testing
- Testing and system development
- Testing and other projects

Quality: defining what you should test

- Quality
- Quality and usage
- Quality risk analysis

Test strategies: the test plan foundation

- Testing mission and strategies
- A survey of strategies
- Regression risk mitigation strategies
- Strategic considerations

Estimates: resources and time required

- Work-breakdown-structures
- Test execution time
- Rules of thumb

The test plan document: thinking and communicate strategies and tactics

- Developing test plans
- A test plan template
- Entry and exit criteria
- Test execution
- Planning risks for test plans
- Selling the plan

Recommended Readings

The class materials include a bibliography of books related to software testing, project management, quality, and other topics of interest to the test professional.