

Course Objectives

To provide an understanding of software test management that goes beyond the ISTQB Foundation level. It provides test managers with a good level of knowledge that enables analysis of situations in order to present practical solutions. The information gained on the course provides a framework for test managers to build upon within their organisations. Spreadsheets, templates and utilities will be provided enabling managers to be more efficient and effective within their organisations.

Who Will Benefit

This 3-day course is appropriate for test managers, test team leaders, development managers, project managers and anyone wishing to gain the ISTQB Advanced Level Test Management Qualification.

Prerequisites

Delegates wishing to take the ISTQB Advanced Test Management Certificate must hold the ISTQB/ISEB Foundation certificate and have completed our Core Module ¹. If you wish to sit the course without taking the exam, there are no prerequisites.

Skills Gained

- Understand the various lifecycles and how to effectively apply them
- Create a firm foundation for the success of testing in your organization
- Estimate, plan, monitor and control testing on any project
- Understand how to manage distributed, outsourced and insourced test resources
- Build effective and highly motivated test teams
- Understand and apply test process improvement models

Course Content

Basic Aspects of Software Testing

This section will build upon those aspects introduced in the "core" module. The different testing lifecycles will be explored providing a detailed understanding of how to implement the most appropriate lifecycle. Specific systems, metrics and measures will be explained allowing relevant testing strategies to be produced.

Test Management

Test Management Documentation

This section explains the differences between a test policy, test strategy, master test plan and level test plan. Examples of different strategies are shown that could be used to meet defined policies.

Test Plan Documentation Templates

This section describes test plan content according to IEEE 829. We shall provide test plan templates and how they can be adapted depending on the organisation, standards and formality of the project.

Test Estimation

Many factors affect the estimates we produce for testing and this session will highlight considerations when estimating testing. Ten different estimation techniques are shown and how to communicate this information to management.

Scheduling Test Planning

This session explains the importance of test planning and highlights the benefit of iterative test planning.

Test Progress Monitoring & Control

We monitor testing to establish our project goals and delegates will understand different metrics to collect and their significance when creating test reports.

Business Value of Testing

Testing needs to deliver value to any project and benefits need to be understood by management. This session shows how testing can be measured in terms of value and efficiency.

Distributed, Outsourced and Insourced Testing

The need for clear channels of communication and trust is needed regardless of location. However, test teams based across multiple locations encounter further challenges. Some of these differences are detailed in this section and the impact if these difficulties are not addressed.

Failure Mode and Effect Analysis (FMEA)

FMEA is a very structured approach to understanding risk. Delegates will gain an understanding and experience of using this technique and assess the model's use in their organisation.

Test Management Issues

This section identifies test management issues for safety critical systems, systems of systems and showing the use and benefits of the Exploratory testing approach as well as other issues such as tackling non-functional testing.

Standards and Test Improvement Process

There are many standards and improvement models to highlight areas of change and become more effective and efficient with testing. This section highlights different sources and their usefulness; followed by various test improvement models such as Test Maturity Model (TMM), Systematic Test and Evaluation Process (STEP), Critical Testing Processes (CTP) and Test Process Improvement (TPI).

People Skills – Team Composition

This session looks at the skills of a tester and different ways to motivate test team members. We consider factors when identifying skills needed for an existing team and how test team dynamics can affect productivity. Finally we show different organisational structures for testing and the importance of independent test teams.

Exam

This course will provide the delegate with the necessary knowledge and skills to sit the ISTQB Advanced Test Management Certificate multiple choice exam. Delegates will be given the opportunity to sit the examination soon after completing the course.

¹ The ISTQB Advanced Level qualification is divided into three streams: Test Manager, Test Analyst and Technical Test Analyst. The course material has taken out the concepts that relate to all three streams into a separate 2-day "Core" module. The Core module must be completed by anyone wanting to attain the ISTQB Advanced Level Test Management Certificate.