# Transcript: C769 Choosing a Topic with Candice Allen

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## Speaker (Candice Allen):

You're getting started with capstone and you're not quite sure what topic that you want to do for capstone. Well, hopefully my tips today will help you get started and find the topic that will fit your needs for your capstone.

The first thing we want to talk about is brainstorming. How do we go about brainstorming topics for capstone?

Well, you may want to look right in your own backyard. Yes, your community might be a great way to find projects. For me, I live in a very small town. There are a lot of businesses that aren't using current technology. You may want to visit a few places in your town and think about the world around you in terms of problem-solving. What problems might your community organizations be facing? How might you be able to solve them? Now, you want to pick a topic that is related to your degree emphasis, and you also want to find a topic that is in your wheelhouse. Try to stick to topics that you're fairly familiar with the topic or have a great deal of knowledge in, that'll make things a lot easier.

Don't be afraid to ask organizations in your community to get permission to do the capstone, utilizing them as an example, most communities would really like the help, especially if you can really implement the solution for them. But say you don't have an opportunity like that. That's okay. What about past experiences? You can draw upon projects that you've completed in the past. Think about projects that you were around, or maybe even projects that you've worked on. Maybe it's not going to be the exact project. But maybe you can spawn some ideas based off of the projects. Maybe it might look a little bit different, but as long as it's related to your degree emphasis and it's solving a problem using technology related to your degree emphasis, then it could be a good candidate. But what if neither of those items work?

What else can you do? Well. you could do a wish list item. This is the opportunity to dream big. Where would you like to work and what problem would you like to be solving for that organization? What technology would you like to be using to solve that problem? It's okay to dream big in this project. Make sure that you have information about that topic that is going to be easily utilized. You want to make sure there are plenty of resources for capstone, you need seven supportive resources. They can be blog articles, case studies, it could be product information. Just make sure that you do have enough resources and if you're not sure, feel free to ask your course instructors.

Now, another key thing is to be flexible. You may start off with one topic, but come up with or go down in different path and end up with a different topic. You want to try to figure these things out before you fill out your approval form. If you're not sure, feel free to reach out to the team and we'll help make sure that you have a topic that is going to fit for your degree emphasis.

I hope these tips help you and if you want to explore more, reach out to us, set up an appointment, we'll gladly help.

Now, take a moment and do a Google search. Try to find a company that has been facing a problem. Identify how it was solved, basis upon your degree emphasis. Say your degree emphasis in security. Look for trending security issues that companies are facing. Look for how did those companies go about solving their problem. This could end up being a resource for your project. I hope these tips helped you.

Best of luck with your capstone.