Welcome to C769!

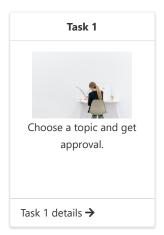
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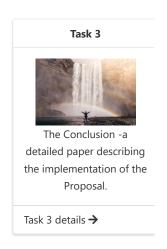
Welcome! The IT capstone is a written project demonstrating competency in your field through communicating the planning and implementation of an IT solution to a business problem.

The capstone includes three parts:

- 1. **Task One:** Get course instructor topic approval -a preliminary step to ensure you started in the right direction.
- 2. **Task two:** The Proposal -a detailed paper describing a client's problem and how you will implement an IT solution to solve it. Most of your work will be here.
- 3. **Task three:** The Conclusion Report -a detailed paper describing the concluded project proposed in task two. Most of task three repeats task two.

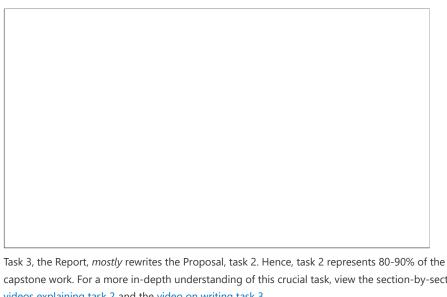






Start Here

First, understand the project's requirements. What they are -and what they aren't. Watch the following video:



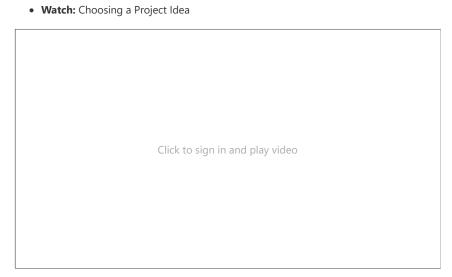
capstone work. For a more in-depth understanding of this crucial task, view the section-by-section videos explaining task 2 and the video on writing task 3.

Task 1

Choosing a Topic

The approval form ensures you start in the right direction before investing time and effort into task 2. Evaluators look for our (instructors') signature, and we look for the following:

- 1. Relation to your degree emphasis.
- 2. A specific client and problem (you can fabricate a client whose problem needs your chosen
- 3. The implementation of a [hard IT deliverable that help solves that problem.



• Listen: IT Audio Series podcast Choosing Your Topic; view the transcript.

The Capstone Excellence Archive includes a wide range of completed projects to review. However, keep in mind that they all are, by definition, above and beyond the requirements. Therefore, do not use these as examples of what's needed to meet the requirements.

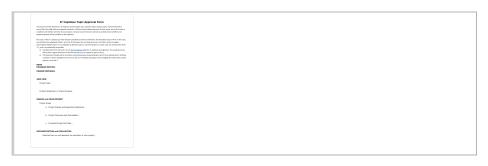
For a more down-to-earth example of what's required, tasks 1-3 examples. Most of the work will be in writing task 2. To understand what task 2 requires, review the task 2 template and task 2 section-bysection videos (they are short).

Topic Approval

Once you've decided on a topic, complete the approval form following the template:

What is a hard IT deliverable?

A hard IT deliverable is a physical or digital technological improvement to the client's environment. Examples include any hardware or software installation or updates. Soft deliverables, e.g., training, policies, evaluation, etc., can (and often should) be included but cannot meet the requirements alone.



Include a rough outline of your client, their problem(s), and your IT plan to fix it. **Email the completed form to your course instructor** who will either approve it with their signature or provide feedback.

O Note

The topic approval form must be *signed by a <u>C769 course instructor</u>*. Forms without a signature are automatically returned without further review.

Directly emailing your assigned course instructor is the fastest and often best way to get a signature. Whether emailing ugcapstoneit@wgu.edu or your CI directly, always practice professional communication:

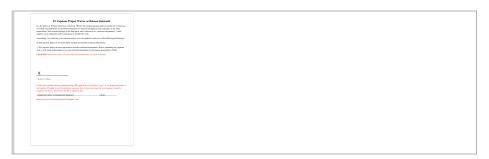
- Use your WGU email.
- Provide a subject, your capstone course, and your program mentor's name (if not in your signature)
- Clearly state your questions or requests.

Waiver Form

1 Note

the waiver form is **only** required if your project is based upon or included restricted information. If no waiver form is submitted, Task 1 *B: Capstone Release Form*, passes automatically.

In most cases, obtaining authorization can be avoided by fabricating or masking identifying information. But if you choose to move forward using restricted information, you will need to obtain documented permissions and submit them along with a waiver form to Assessments.



FAQ

Do I need to set up an appointment to get approval?

No. Usually, students email the approval form to their instructor. We then sign to form or follow up with questions. However, if you have questions about the requirements or difficulty choosing a topic, you are encouraged to set up an appointment with <u>your course instructor</u>. A 15-30 minute phone call can address most questions or concerns. If you do set up an appointment to discuss your approval form, please email it to the instructor prior to the appointment.

What if I start writing task 2 and want to change things? Do I need to resubmit task 1?

No, not unless it's an entirely different topic. Minor changes from task 1 to task 2 are expected and allowed *without updating the approval form*. Evaluators will not rigorously compare tasks 1 and 2. Task 2 is where the work is, and even with complete topic changes at most, you'll be asked to revise the approval form (if at all). So never let task 1 dictate what you do in task 2.

Can I use projects from other WGU courses?

Yes! You can use any of your work or academic projects (at WGU or elsewhere) provided no proprietary information is used without permission. Don't worry about self-plagiarism, as the similarity check will identify and ignore it. Just as in reusing work projects, expect to modify and remold past academic assignments to meet the rubric requirements.

Do I need an "electronic signature" as specified in the official rubric?

You can type in your name, use a "fancy" font, or insert an image of your signature.

What are the common reasons for task 1 being returned?

- 1. No instructor signature on the approval form. You need to send it to us and get a signature *before* submitting it. Both boxes or no boxes are correctly marked on the waiver form. *Mark one and only* one hox
- 2. Both or neither box is marked on the waiver form. Mark one and only one box. See the waiver form instructions

Note, the waiver form is **only** required if your project is based upon or included restricted information. Task 1 *B: Capstone Release Form*, passes automatically if no waiver form is submitted, i.e., the waiver is only needed if it's needed.

How many attempts are allowed for each assessment?

You have unlimited attempts. However, incomplete submissions or submissions significantly falling short of the minimum requirements may be *locked* from further submissions without instructor approval. Furthermore, such submissions do not receive meaningful evaluator comments.

What is a hard IT deliverable?

It is a physical or digital technological addition or improvement to the client's environment. Examples include any hardware or software installation or updates. *Soft deliverables*, e.g., training, policies, evaluation, etc., can (and often should) be included but cannot meet the requirements alone.

Can I get the "welcome email?" Yes, contact your assigned course instructor or see the sample welcome email in the <u>C769 Resources section</u>.

Are there any cohorts? I don't see where to sign-up on my COS page.

Yes, cohorts run regularly. Enrollment typically opens on Mondays and closes Wednesdays. You can find the link to sign-up under the *Explore Cohort* section on your C769 COS page. If the section is not visible, either enrollment has closed or the cohort will not be available that week. See Webinars and Cohorts for more details.

Questions, comments, or suggestions?