Project Ideas for Capstone Two

1. At what age should UFC fighters retire?
   1. My childhood hero, Anderson Silva, once reigned supreme in the middleweight division of the UFC. At one point, he was unstoppable, and he is still regarded by many as the greatest UFC fighter of all time. However, after his loss against Chris Weidman in 2013, many called on him to retire. Silva is now 45 and still fighting, in a sport where many fighters retire before the age of 38. Unfortunately, he has not been the same since his 2013 loss. After Weidman ended Silva’s UFC record for longest title reign and longest consecutive UFC wins, Silva has now won only 1 out of his last 8 fights. The issue of Silva’s lackluster return has always made me curious: How important is age when it comes to a UFC fighter’s performance? Is an age at which performance markedly decreases and fighters should safely retire?
   2. My dataset will come from a completed Kaggle dataset on UFC Fight Historical Data from 1993-2019: <https://www.kaggle.com/rajeevw/ufcdata>
2. When it comes to parking citations in Los Angeles, are certain areas more prone to receiving parking citations than others?
   1. Anyone who visits or lives in Los Angeles will tell you that parking there is a nightmare. Anytime I plan a trip there, I have to prepare to arrive 30 minutes in advance just to find some parking. Not only are spots crowded, many streets are filled with confusing signs that limit or restrict parking to specific times throughout the day. It is so easy to get confused by these signs that it is estimated that the city of Los Angeles brought in over $250 million in 2013 from parking tickets alone. I will use data to divide the city of Los Angeles into distinct sections and spot any patterns in parking citation behavior. Perhaps some areas are more prone to parking citations than others.
   2. My dataset will come from a compiled Kaggle dataset on Los Angeles parking citations: <https://www.kaggle.com/cityofLA/los-angeles-parking-citations?select=parking-citations.csv>
3. What factors, if any, are the amount of tips given to servers associated with?
   1. As a bartender of 3 years, I have always been fascinated by the concept of tips. This gratuity system that comprised much of my salary for years was so unpredictable, yet was such an essential part of my job. In the service industry, there are many stereotypes and theories that float around about the type of customers who tip more or less, and these stereotypes can be based on everything from gender to race to final bill amount to the clothes they wear. As humans, we naturally draw cognitive shortcuts in order to conserve our processing power for items deemed more important, and many in the service industry fall prey to these shortcuts every day. There have been no definitive studies done on what type of customers tip more than others, and there probably never will be, as this data would be very difficult to collect (most servers choose not to report their tips in order to avoid the tax). Still, many servers draw their own conclusions and eventually focus less attention on those who they have already decided will not tip them enough for their time. With a modest dataset collected by a server from one restaurant, I will see if there are any associations that can be found between tipping behavior and customer features.
   2. Dataset used will come from a compiled dataset on Kaggle: https://www.kaggle.com/ranjeetjain3/seaborn-tips-dataset