The goals of your project this semester are two-fold:

(1) Have a deep learning experience in the location-aware technologies domain and demonstrate mastery in a specific area of that domain, and
(2) Help you meet your career goals through the successful completion of a compelling project that you can proudly discuss with / demo for a potential employer, whether that employer is in industry or academia.

The ideal project is thus one that is a challenging location-aware technologies project and at the same time something you can brag about when it comes time to interview with your desired set of employers.

The class is split between those who are interested in getting a job in industry when they finish their degree and those who want to pursue a career in research. As such, you can choose between one of the following two tracks for your project:

(1) **Industry track:** Your goal here is to do a project that will help you get your “dream job”. One approach is to develop a location-aware technology that might work as a start-up. Another is to develop an open-source version of an existing technology that is of interest in your chosen field. Other approaches are of course also possible!

(2) **Academic track:** Your objective in this track is to do research that is publishable at a non-trivial publication venue. You don’t have to win a Nobel Prize (although that guarantees an A- at minimum 😊), but my goal is that you get at least a workshop paper out of this. As such, I will expect that your work has a very thorough academic literature review, has defined research questions or objectives, and so on. Please feel free to use me as a resource during this process!

A quick note: Those of you interested in industry would still do well to do an academic track project, especially if it is framed correctly (I can help you with that). Employers are typically very excited by truly novel findings.
In order to help me guide you through this process, I am requiring that you submit a formal project proposal prior to beginning work. This proposal should be 2-3 pages (or more) and must contain the following:

(1) An abstract that describes the idea
(2) A review of existing work in the area. Both tracks are required to find and discuss the relevant academic literature and innovations in the product space (talk to me if you need help!)
(3) A clear, detailed description of your idea. To whom is your idea important and why? How do you plan on executing your idea? What do you think the major challenges will be?
(4) A (roughly) week-by-week schedule of your proposed activities.

I’m excited to work with you all on these projects! Please e-mail or come to office hours if you have questions.