

## ESM 438 Lab 1 Assignments

To be completed before the start of the lab

### Task One: Famous Monologues

Choose any one of the following famous monologues. You should study the actor's pitch, posture, tone, timing, etc. and practice recreating the famous scene at home, both by yourself and with friends. In the lab everyone will have a chance to present their monologue to the class. Note: you do not need to memorize it, so feel free to bring a sheet of paper with the monologue written down or printed. My advice: dive deep! Try to push your comfort zone. Air on over-emphasizing rather than under-emphasizing.

- **The Devil Wears Prada | Miranda Priestly | [Video](#) (starts at 0:33)**

*This... "stuff"? Oh, okay. I see, you think this has nothing to do with you. You... go to your closet, and you select... I don't know, that lumpy blue sweater for instance, because you're trying to tell the world that you take yourself too seriously to care about what you put on your back, but what you don't know is that that sweater is not just blue, it's not turquoise, it's not lapis, it's actually cerulean. You're also blithely unaware of the fact that, in 2002, Oscar de la Renta did a collection of cerulean gowns, and then I think it was Yves Saint Laurent, wasn't it?... who showed cerulean military jackets. I think we need a jacket here. And then cerulean quickly showed up in the collections of eight different designers. Then it filtered down through the department stores, and then trickled on down into some tragic casual corner where you, no doubt, fished it out of some clearance bin. However, that blue represents millions of dollars of countless jobs, and it's sort of comical how you think that you've made a choice that exempts you from the fashion industry, when in fact, you're wearing a sweater that was selected for you by the people in this room... from a pile of "stuff."*

- **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone | Aunt Petunia | [Video](#) (starts at 1:27)**

*Of course we knew. How could you not be? My perfect sister being who she was. Oh, my mother and father were so proud the day she got her letter. We have a witch in the family. Isn't it wonderful? I was the only one to see her for what she was. A freak! And then she met that Potter, and then she had you, and I knew you'd be just the same, just as strange, just as ... abnormal. And then, if you please, she went and got herself blown up. And we got landed with you.*

- **Hidden Figures | Katherine Johnson | [Video](#) (starts at 0:31)**

*There are no colored bathrooms in this building, or any building outside the West Campus, which is half a mile away. Did you know that? I have to walk to Timbuktu just to relieve myself! And I can't use one of the handy bikes. Picture that, Mr. Harrison. My uniform, skirt below the knees and my heels and simple necklace of pearls. Well, I don't own pearls. Lord knows you don't pay the colored enough to afford pearls! And I work like a dog day and night, living on coffee from a pot none of you want to touch! So, excuse me if I have to go to the restroom a few times a day.*

- **Independence Day | President Whitmore | [Video](#) (starts at 0:28)**

*Good morning. In less than an hour, an aircraft from here will join others from around the world. And you will be launching the largest aerial battle in this history of mankind. Mankind - that word should have new meaning for all of us today. We can't be consumed by our petty differences anymore. We will be*

*united in our common interests. Perhaps it's fate that today is the 4th of July, and you will once again be fighting for our freedom, not from tyranny, oppression, or persecution - but from annihilation. We're fighting for our right to live, to exist. And should we win the day, the 4th of July will no longer be known as an American holiday, but as the day when the world declared in one voice: We will not go quietly into the night! We will not vanish without a fight! We're going to live on! We're going to survive!" Today, we celebrate our Independence Day!*

- **Good Will Hunting | Sean | [Video](#) (starts at 2:52)**

*You don't know about real loss, because that only occurs when you love something more than you love yourself. I doubt you've ever dared to love anybody that much. I look at you; I don't see an intelligent, confident man; I see a cocky, scared shitless kid. But you're a genius, Will. No one denies that. No one could possibly understand the depths of you. But you presume to know everything about me because you saw a painting of mine and you ripped my fuckin' life apart. You're an orphan right? Do you think I'd know the first thing about how hard ! your life has been, how you feel, who you are because I read Oliver Twist? Does that encapsulate you? Personally, I don't give a shit about all that, because you know what? I can't learn anything from you I can't read in some fuckin' book. Unless you wanna talk about you, who you are. And I'm fascinated. I'm in. But you don't wanna do that, do you, sport? You're terrified of what you might say. Your move, chief.*

- **The Dark Knight | The Joker | [Video](#) (starts at 0:35)**

*Wanna know how I got these scars? My father was a drinker... and a fiend. So one night, he goes off crazier than usual. Mommy gets the kitchen knife to defend herself. He doesn't like that. Not. One. Bit. So, me watching, he takes the knife to her, laughing while he does it. He looks at me and he says "Why so serious?!" He comes at me with the knife. "Why so serious?!" "Let's put a smile on that face!!" And... Why so serious?*

- **Pulp Fiction | Jules Winfield | [Video](#) (starts at 1:00)**

*\*CW: gun violence, explicit language\**

*There's a passage I got memorized, seems appropriate for this situation: Ezekiel 25:17. "The path of the righteous man is beset on all sides by the inequities of the selfish and the tyranny of evil men. Blessed is he who, in the name of charity and good will, shepherds the weak through the valley of darkness, for he is truly his brother's keeper and the finder of lost children. And I will strike down upon thee with great vengeance and furious anger those who attempt to poison and destroy my brothers. And you will know my name is the Lord when I lay my vengeance upon you."*

- **The Matrix | Agent Smith | [Video](#) (starts at 0:08)**

*"I'd like to share a revelation I've had during my time here. It came to me when I tried to classify your species. I realized that you're not actually mammals. Every mammal on this planet instinctively develops a natural equilibrium with their surrounding environment, but you humans do not. You move to another area, and you multiply, and you multiply, until every natural resource is consumed. The only way you can survive is to spread to another area. There is another organism on this planet that follows the same pattern. Do you know what it is? A virus. Human beings are a disease, a cancer of this planet. You are a plague, and we are the cure."*

- **Lord of the Rings The Two Towers | Sam | [Video](#) (starts at 1:32)**

*It's like in the great stories Mr. Frodo. The ones that really mattered. Full of darkness and danger they were, and sometimes you didn't want to know the end. Because how could the end be happy. How could the world go back to the way it was when so much bad happened. But in the end, it's only a passing thing, this shadow. Even darkness must pass. A new day will come. And when the sun shines it will shine out the clearer. Those were the stories that stayed with you. That meant something. Even if you were too small to understand why. But I think, Mr. Frodo, I do understand. I know now. Folk in those stories had lots of chances of turning back only they didn't. Because they were holding on to something... That there's some good in this world, Mr. Frodo. And it's worth fighting for.*

- **The Newsroom | Will McAvoy | [Video](#) (starts at 2:24)**

*And you—sorority girl—yeah—just in case you accidentally wander into a voting booth one day, there are some things you should know, and one of them is that there is absolutely no evidence to support the statement that we're the greatest country in the world. We're seventh in literacy, twenty-seventh in math, twenty-second in science, forty-ninth in life expectancy, 178th in infant mortality, third in median household income, number four in labor force, and number four in exports. We lead the world in only three categories: number of incarcerated citizens per capita, number of adults who believe angels are real, and defense spending, where we spend more than the next twenty-six countries combined, twenty-five of whom are allies. None of this is the fault of a 20-year-old college student, but you, nonetheless, are without a doubt, a member of the WORST-period-GENERATION-period-EVER-period, so when you ask what makes us the greatest country in the world, I don't know what the fuck you're talking about?! Yosemite?!*

## **Task Two: Elevator Pitches**

Prepare two elevator pitches about your research or project to different audiences, one with some technical background and one without. Each pitch should be around 30 to 60 seconds. Practice each of these multiple times: try recording yourself and listening back to it and try them out with roommates or friends. In the lab you will have time to practice, receive feedback, and refine your pitches.

- **Audience One | Academic**

*You are at a large conference for the week and the afternoon coffee break just started. You see your friend and go to say hello. They introduce you to the person they are with who is a scientist, but not in your field. The newcomer asks you, "So what is your research about?"*

- **Audience Two | Everyday**

*You just got to the Santa Barbara airport and are ready to head home after a long day. You pull out your phone to catch an Uber. You get in the car and start chatting with the driver, who then asks "So what do you do?"*