

ESG 21W.732 REFLECTIVE ESSAYS OVERVIEW

FALL 2010

MYTH AND PARACHUTE STORIES

MYTH ~3-5 pages

This assignment is designed to be accomplished (in part) during Thanksgiving dinner, a time during which stories are told and re-told. Spin the stories that are told about you into a myth. This myth should explain some aspect of you or your nature. You are encouraged to give yourself superpowers and other extraordinary traits. If “myth” seems too big for your shoes, try a fairy tale; “Once upon a time...”

PARACHUTE ESSAYS 3 stories; ~1 page/story

Parachute essays are one page stories that you can use to figure out who you are and to explain who you are to prospective employers or graduate school admissions boards. These stories must be short and real. They must reach beyond anecdote and statistical significance into myth. For this assignment, write three such stories based on your experience THIS semester. The experiences described do NOT have to have occurred as part of your 2`1W.732 work. But you should address these stories to topics of importance to 21W.732:

- your experience working in teams
- your experience working on technical projects
- your experience communicating

These topics fit well in the people|information|things skills trichotomy outlined in *What Color Is My Parachute*, where sample stories and further explanation of the reasoning behind such stories and their use may be found.

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