

## Assignment 1 -- Upgrade

If you were to get an upgrade....

### *Step1 -- In-Class Questions*

Discuss in your group, 2 questions. Make sure to get answers from everyone and take notes as you will be asked to summarize your answers as well as the groups.

Q1. If you were to have your own upgrade what would you want and what would it look like?

My answer: If I were to have my own upgrade, I would have the ability to heal/regenerate. I think that it would be an interesting and useful skill to acquire. It would have to be some kind of device that can be attached or connected to the specific area.

Evan: His upgrade would relate to becoming faster(speed) and maybe having longer legs. He thought about having a device similar to a quarterback wrist that can help him achieve his ability.

Jason: His upgrade would be something pertaining to having some kind of gadget or turbines to his body. Also, these kind of devices would help him fly. He also thought about having the devices attached to him.

Q2. What do you see might be the directions humans are going to evolve in the future. What will be the factors and mechanisms that drive this.

My answer: I think that the whole idea of AI is greatly advancing. I can picture humanity becoming in a way enslaved by Artificial Intelligence. We might get put out of work. With this new era of apps and AIs such as Siri, and Alexa, it is not hard to imagine these things happening. It is possible because we are seen to be very dependable on it as it is.

Evan: He thinks that our way of communicating and the medicinal world will advance.

Jason: He thinks that people will be able to live or do more things. In a sense, are we becoming less human because of these upgrades.

### *Step2 -- Some Example Projects, Artists, Scientists*

Steve Mann

Aimee Mullen

Viktoria Modesta

Amal Graafstra & Bio-hacking

Stelarc

Cyborg Artists Moon Ribas and Neil Harbisson

### *Step3 -- Question Summery and Feature Diagrams -- Due Jan. 29th*

Write out a 1-2 a paragraph answer for each of your answers to the questions and initial discusstion that you had in class the first day. What was your answer and contrast that with the other points of view from your group. Also please descibe how you would you chacarterize the range of answers when looked at in total. Be prepared to share your answers and thoughts in class.

Use Photoshop and/or Illustrator to create 2 feature diagrams with images and text that illustrates and describe what you would look like, with some bio/mechanical upgrade. If you could have anything add to you, what additional 'features' would you want?

What does a feature diagram look like? -- [Example 1](#) -- [Example 2](#)

Diagrams Details:

**Diagram 1:** Make it just about practical upgrades. Things that improve your abilities to do things. What kind of 'tools' or 'features' would you incorporate 'inside' or 'on' you? Does it include new senses or comprehension? Is it about the automation or amplification of abilities?

If I could have upgrades added to me, I would definitely want to have the ability to heal or regenerate, have a personal human shield(bullet proof would be nice), and perhaps the ability to have great speed.

**Diagram 2:** Make it about style, aesthetics and identity. Things that create a sense of style, reflect your uniqueness and express something about you as a person. Be creative with how your abilities are unique to you and might augment or enhance who you are and what you do.

For this diagram, I would change my style by getting the ability to change my hair color, eye color and hair length. I would change my hair color and eye color depending on my mood as well as aesthetic reasons. Also, my eye color would change depending on the environment I am. My hair length would change depending on the season.



