WEB PRESENTATION FOR NAVIGATION

CASCADING STYLE SHEETS (CSS)

HISTORY

- Website navigation didn't exist (web-"sites" didn't exist)
  - Just hyperlinks to other documents
  - Embedded in the text or in a **list** of citations (1991-1995)
- TBL's idea: create an "index" webpage which **list**ed all the author's documents in one place
  - Thus, "index.html"
  - Web server software: automatically load **index.html** page (if it existed)

THE FIRST WEBSITES AND THE FIRST NAVIGATION

Marketing: groups of webpages

- Brochures, online
- Brochures – salesy: multiple pages, logo/branding, company style

Unified design - "common look and feel"

"Navigation" a list of webpages that belonged together

Evolution of the Common Look and Feel

- Headers, Footers, Navigation bars (originally vertical only)

Evolution of the "C-Clamp"

- The "side-bar" – home of the navigation bar (originally, always vertical)

NAVIGATION EVOLVES

Vertical → Horizontal

JavaScript (early 2000s) and advanced CSS

- Pull-down, pop-up, fly-out menus
- Mega menus
- Persistent menus (à la Snowfall)
- Eyebrow menus
- Hamburger menus

GENERAL USABILITY RULES FOR NAVIGATION

Fundamental for Good Navigation

Where can I go?

Where am I now?

Create Affordance

The "intuitive button"

Click it – something happens

Hover is less than a click, but indicates *…something!*

Principle of Least Astonishment

Menu items that look the same should act the same

HTML pages link to HTML pages

- Warn before linking to something else (e.g. PDFs; other websites)
- Other resources open in a new window/tab

Normal = same look and feel

- Page elements (especially navigation) don't move from page to page

NAVIGATION CODE

Still based on the concept of a **list**

```
<nav>
   <ul>
      <li><a href="index.html">Home</a></li>
      <li><a href="products.html">Products</a></li>
      <li><a href="services.html">Services</a></li>
      <li><a href="about.html">About Us</a></li>
      <li><a href="contact.html">Contact Us</a></li>
   </ul>
</nav>
```

ADVANCED NAVIGATION CODE

Sub-menus

Notice: the secondary UL goes *inside* a LI (not between them!)

```
...
<li>
    <a href="products.html">Products</a>
    <ul>
        <li>
            <a href="product1.html">Product 1</a>
        </li>
        <li>
            <a href="product2.html">Product 2</a>
        </li>
        <li>
            <a href="product3.html">Product 3</a>
        </li>
        <li>
            <a href="product4.html">Product 4</a>
        </li>
    </ul>
</li>
...
```

“JUMP LISTS” A.K.A. IN-PAGE NAVIGATION

Note: hyperlinks can be used *within* a single webpage

```
<nav>
    Contents of this Webpage...
    <ul>
        <li>
            <a href="#history">History of the Company</a>
        </li>
        <li>
            <a href="#products">Our Products</a>
        </li>
        <li>
            <a href="#meettheteam">Meet the Team</a>
        </li>
    </ul>
</nav>
```

```
<!- later in the same html document -->
<div id="history">Lorem ipsum...

<div id="products">Lorem ipsum...

<div id="meettheteam">Lorem ipsum...
```

CSS RECIPE FOR NAVIGATION

1. Remove default styles for Unordered Lists
   - Bullets
   - Margins (top and bottom)
   - Padding (left)
   - Block (top-over-bottom)
2. Remove default styles for hypertext (anchor tags)
   - Text decoration (underline)
   - Color

For Horizontal Menu Bars

3. Add new styles (new CSS file)
   - Target everything in CSS using a single class and lots of descendent selectors
   - Create a side-by-side layout
     - ~~HTML table, floated list items~~
     - Inline-block (old fashioned, but usable)
     - Flex (the new way!)
   - Style: hypertext (anchor tags) to look like buttons
     - Turn from Inline to Block elements (so we can use the Box Model)
     - Add padding (make a bigger click target)
     - Change color (differentiate from other hypertext)

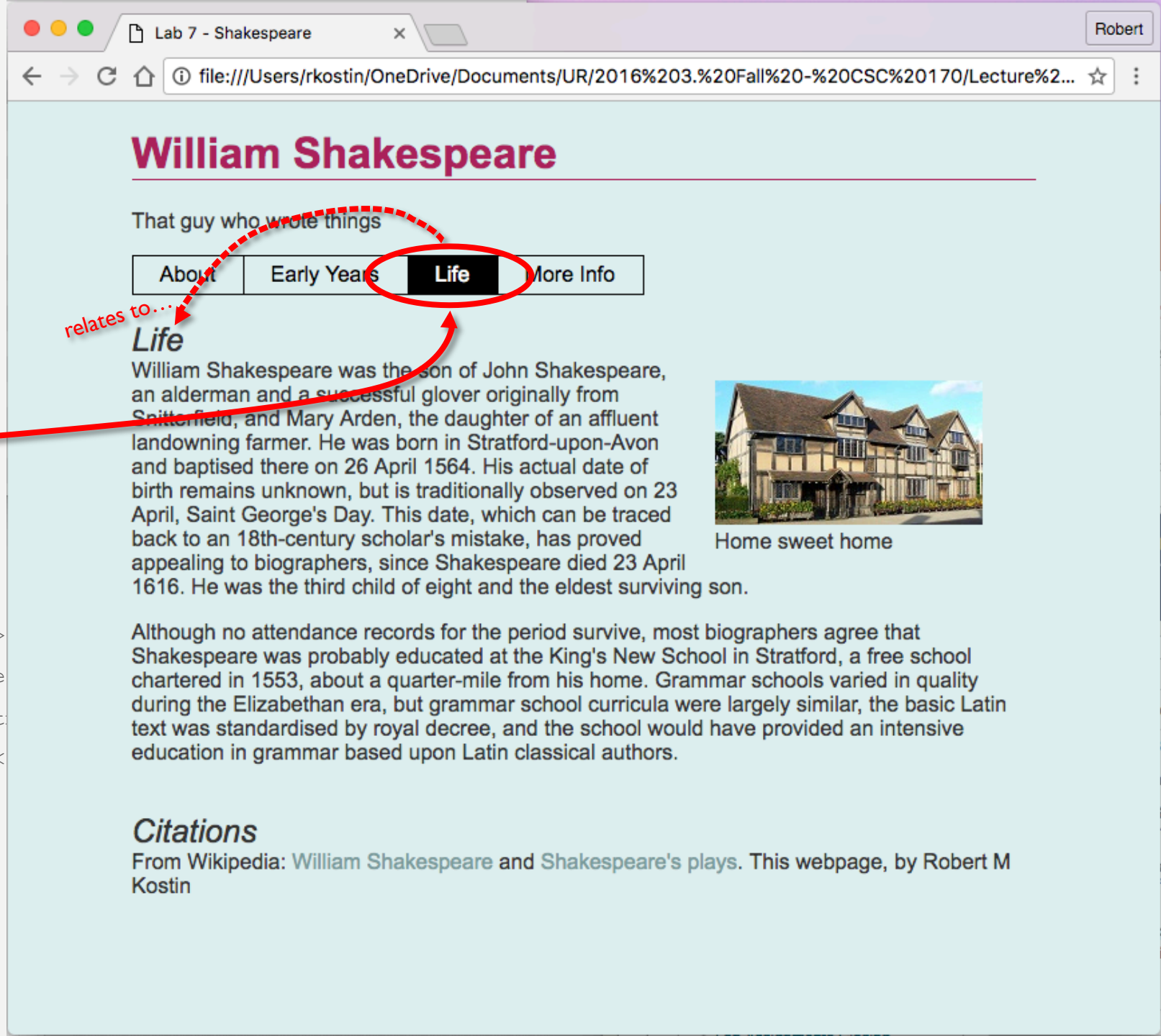
CURRENT PAGE HIGHLIGHTER

Good Navigation

- Where can I go?
- Where am I now?

HTML

```
<nav class="menu">
  <ul>
    <li><a href="index.html">About</a></li>
    <li><a href="early-years.html">Early Ye
    <li><a class="is-current" href="life.ht
    <li><a href="more-info.html">More Info<
  </ul>
</nav>
```

CSS

```
.menu .is-current {
  background-color: silver;
  color: white;
}
```