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Making Sure Your Device and Browser Will Work with Blackboard and Logging into Blackboard

Caution: If you want to use **your own** laptop or tablet, you **must** do step 1 about the "Computer Requirements."

Note on 9/24/2107. The link to Computer Requirements looks different that resources I have seen in presentations. I will go check with WCJC's Blackboard and make sure this is the right link. I will update this accordingly.

1. If you are on your own computer (not one at WCJC's Open Computer Labs) you need to prepare your computer to match the **current** requirements of Blackboard. See the center of the screen below.
2. Log into Blackboard. You'll need your Banner ID (@##### twice). See the left side of the screen below.
3. Do change your password. See the left side of the screen below.

Tip: If your browser is not listed in the lower right hand corner, then you need to try another one.

The screenshot shows the Blackboard Learn login page for Wharton County Junior College. The page has a red header with the college logo and name. Below the header are three main sections: Blackboard Login, Student Help Desk, and Additional Information. The Blackboard Login section includes a login form with fields for Username and Password, and a Login button. The Student Help Desk section provides contact information for IT support and links to resources like Computer Requirements, Frequently Asked Questions, and Blackboard How-To Videos. The Additional Information section includes links to the Distance Education Department, WCJC B&N Bookstore, and DE Student Handbook. There is also a section for Faculty with links to Downloadable Resources like Firefox, Chrome, and LockDown Browser. The page also features an Announcements section at the bottom.

Callouts and Tips:

- Save this URL in case the WCJC site is down (rare) and Blackboard is still up.** (Red box pointing to the browser address bar)
- Tip: An 8-week course is hard. Be sure you match online learning. If you have never taken an online class, consider this useful self-test.** (Blue box pointing to the Additional Information section)
- Read this and this.** (Red box pointing to the Blackboard Login section)
- Tip: If you are on a public computer, logout when you are done. Blackboard stays open.** (Blue box pointing to the Blackboard Login section)
- Use the "Computer Requirements" link before you login. Having a new device or that your device worked last term won't protect you. Your device and your current browser must match Blackboard. Students are not seeing links, not see all quiz questions, and so on. Check first!** (Red box pointing to the Computer Requirements link)
- If you need to download a browser, use these links. In general, Firefox seems safest.** (Red box pointing to the Downloadable Resources section)

What You May Need on this Screen and How to Enter Your Blackboard Course and Stay on the “Path”

The **green** and **yellow** arrows identify 2 things you may need.

The **blue** box identifies the Course List, the only way to enter your course in Blackboard and stay on the “path.”

Generally, announcements are done at the beginning of the class. You will see announcements here for such things as how to determine your current letter grade at the end of a Unit.

You may use this email because it goes to my WCJC email address. You will, however, need to modify the subject line so I can recognize what you need.

This is a “pathway” course and it is set up to help you if you follow the “path.”

For success in this “pathway” course, come in this way only:

1. Look for your History course in the Course List.
2. Click on it. Blackboard automatically displays the Learning Units & All Assignments page on the right.

What You See Once You Click on Your Course

When you are first in the course, Blackboard automatically displays the work we will be doing in the course. On the right side of the screen, you see labels for all of the parts of the course listed in your Course Schedule.

What Your Instructor (and Hopefully a Volunteer) Will Show You

- The parts of the course all visible on Lesson Units
- The Learning Quizzes and how Self-Tests and Full-Tests work
- Evidence Quizzes that you should begin and how Self-Tests and Full-Tests look on Evidence Quizzes
- What happens when you take a quiz (like the Full-Tests) for a second time
- A demonstration for submitting your plan to Turnitin

WCJC Department: History – Dr. Bibus
Contact Information: 281.239.1577 or bibusc@wcjc.edu
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