

2019 Spring Distance Learning Email about What's Next

What's Next with your Distance Education class

I previously sent you information about your textbook to your WCJC email address. Distance Education opens all courses (not the instructor), and usually they open courses about 8 AM.

Once the course opens, I may sometimes send you a general announcement through this email, but I will **not** email you anything **personal** in WCJC email. Instead, I will use Blackboard's email in the course (called Course Messages). That is also where you should email me:

- because Blackboard is where WCJC stores all records of the class (including emails)
- because I check Blackboard's Course Messages more frequently than I check WCJC's email

Here is what you do next:

1. Go to <https://wcjc.blackboard.com>
2. You see a **Login Here** section on the left.
Before you login, notice the upper right section of the screen with the link **Help & Resources**. You will use that link to make sure your computer **and** browser work with this Blackboard.

FYI: I care about you all, but I am **not** a techy. WCJC's IT can help (at Help & Resources). My 1 tech tip is—if your browser is not working or displaying what I say is there—try a different browser for a day.
3. Follow the directions in the **Login Here** section for what you type in those 2 fields.
4. You see a **My Courses** section on the left.
5. Click on **this** history course. I cannot be sure of your side of Blackboard, but on my side Blackboard lists our course as:
21606.201920: Spring 2019 - US History I (Core 060) (HIST-1301-160) WWW 18
Caution: Do not come into the course any other way.
FYI: people fail who come in through the so called shortcut of Global Navigation.
6. What you see next depends on when you log in to our course in Blackboard:
 - If you login in **during** Getting Started, Blackboard automatically displays Read Me First and the Getting Started Learning Module.
 - If you login **after** Getting Started has ended, Blackboard displays the Home Page and a list of Announcements. **Tip:** If you did not finish Getting Started work before the date in the List of Due Dates, email your instructor in Course Messages (Blackboard's email) for what to do. Things will be OK, but the earlier you log in the easier things are on both of us.
7. If you login during Getting Started (and you will if you login before 1/24):
 - Follow the instructions in Read Me First.
 - Click on Announcements so you see a Welcome Message from that also says when I can come into the course on the first day.

Glad to meet you all,
Dr. B (as some students prefer)