

Hi

Just because a student used Blackboard before does not mean that the technical requirements are the same. In Spring term, some students using unsupported browsers could not see links and quizzes. This link is meant to try to prevent that problem.

Your history course is one of two broad types of distance learning courses that the Distance Learning Department encourages faculty to use. Some people call this type of course a “pathway” course because it tries to provide a safe “path” for taking a distance learning course.

Since this course may be different from what you have used before, I’m providing these tips. This is **not** a substitute for your doing WCJC’s required Course Orientation, but a way:

- To avoid some technical problems that students in face-to-face and probably distance learning have been having
- To get you to that Orientation successfully and to help you avoid getting off the “path”

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

1. Use the “Computer Requirements” link before you login.
2. Log into Blackboard. You’ll need your Banner ID (@##### twice). Do change your password.

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

The image is a screenshot of a web browser displaying the Blackboard login page for Wharton County Junior College. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://wcjc.blackboard.com/>. The page features the college's logo and a navigation menu. The main content area is divided into three columns: 'Blackboard Login', 'Student Help Desk', and 'Additional Information'. The 'Blackboard Login' section includes a login form with fields for 'Username:' and 'Password:', a 'Login' button, and a 'Forgot Your Password' link. The 'Student Help Desk' section provides contact information for IT support and links to 'Computer Requirements', 'Frequently Asked Questions', and 'Blackboard How-To Videos'. The 'Additional Information' section lists links for 'Distance Education Department', 'WCJC B&N Bookstore', and 'DE Student Handbook'. Below this, there is a 'For Faculty' section with a 'Schedule' link, and a 'Downloadable Resources' section with links for 'Download Firefox', 'Download Chrome', 'Download LockDown Browser', and 'LockDown Browser User Guide'. Several callout boxes with red and blue borders provide additional tips and instructions. A red box at the top left points to the address bar, stating 'Save this URL in case the WCJC site is down (rare) and Blackboard is still up.' A blue box at the top right says '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.' A red box on the left side points to the login instructions, saying 'Read this and this.' A blue box at the bottom left says 'Tip: If you are on a public computer, logout when you are done. Blackboard stays open.' A large red box at the bottom center points to the 'Computer Requirements' link, stating '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!' A red box on the right side points to the 'Downloadable Resources' section, saying 'If you need to download a browser, use these links. In general, Firefox seems safest.'

Once in Blackboard, enter your course in the way shown—and no other way.

Wharton County Junior College

Connie Bibus 329

My Institution Courses Community Services

My Institution Notifications Dashboard

Add Module Personalize Page

Tools

- Announcements
- Calendar
- Tasks
- My Grades
- Send Email
- Personal Information
- Goals
- Browse NBC Learn
- NBC Learn Playlist
- Course Materials
- Course Materials Hub

My Announcements

No Institution Announcements have been posted in the last 7 days.

No Course or Organization Announcements have been posted in the last 7 days.

more announcements...→

Course List

Courses where you are: Student

Caution: Do not use this email. Instead, email using Blackboard Messages. Messages is available on the left menu within the Blackboard Course.

For success in this "pathway" course, do this:

1. Look for your History course in the Course List.
2. Click on it.

If you log in when the course first opens, the course will open with a Read Me First page that tells you what to do.

If you come in later, click on Read Me First on the left menu.

When you enter the course, Blackboard automatically displays the required items for Getting Started—including the required "introductory tasks" you must do before the date in the Course Schedule.

You can click to display the Syllabus & Schedule from 2 places. Its last page is the Course Schedule—a key to doing your work on time. Print the Course Schedule and check it off as you do finish.

The words and organization used in Getting Started are from the WCJC Distance Learning Department. They have given their permission for faculty to use them. (In other words, it is not plagiarism.)

Read Me First
If this item does not open automatically you can open Read Me First here

Read Me First automatically opens on the right. It is a pdf so you can save it to your computer and leave it open until you complete each required task.

These are the two Blackboard tools you need during Getting Started.

Read Me First covers what you do with each one.

The left menu is explained in Course Orientation.

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- VI. Copyright Notice
- VII. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
- VIII. Registration of InQuizitive
- IX. Good Habits for Evidence - REQUI
- X. The links below are shortcuts to Co
- XI. Discussion Board
- XII. Messages

Home Page

Read Me First

Instructor Information

Course Materials

- Syllabus & Schedule

Learning Units & All Assignments

Course Tools

- Announcements
- Calendar
- Discussions
- Messages
- My Grades

Web Resources

- College Resources
- Historical Resources

Welcome to the Class!

Getting Started...

1. Read the course Syllabus and Schedule. You must read the course syllabus and schedule to know about this course and the tasks that have already been assigned.
2. Complete the Syllabus Acknowledgement Quiz. You must complete the "syllabus acknowledgement" quiz (acknowledging that you have received the syllabus and are aware of its contents). The quiz earns only 1 point, but you cannot complete the course if you have not taken this quiz.
3. Review the Orientation to the Course and complete all of the required, graded tasks. This material will explain some of the key aspects of the course such as specific requirements, contact information, and guidelines on how to use the Discussion Board. It also asks you to do several graded tasks that must be completed within the first 2 days of class. The task with Good Habits for Evidence has additional time, but you must complete that task to see Comparisons and other written assignments done in this class. See the Course Schedule for dates.