

Dangerous Assumptions + Reality As Profs Know It

- 1 In a prior class, I did not catch onto students' assumptions in time to make their lives easier. I do not want that to happen to another group so I am trying with this. Self-Tests can help realize people realize what they know and do not know. (Tip: Answer this as True.)
- 2 **What follows** this Self-Test is the **same as what follows all self-tests in this course** if you get at least one question right. Blackboard automatically displays:
 - Dangerous Assumptions + Reality As Profs Know It **notice Blackboard displays additional information if needed.**
 - The Full-Test with the same questions but worth varied amounts so the total is 20 points not .10h. You may retake it until you make the highest score. **< With all Full-Tests, notice Blackboard displays the Full Test,** worth more points each and a test you can retake with the highest score counting. (Tip: Answer this as True.)

- 3 With online classes, we read a few lessons and take an exam.
Reality: False. Online classes must have equal content and work of On-campus classes. Only the tools are different.

- 4 8-week courses have fewer assignments than 16-week courses.
Reality: False. They have the same number of assignments. You (and your prof) just have to do it **all** in ½ the time.

- 5 All online courses are the same.
Reality: False. Classes vary. For example, history classes are **required** to have **30% of the letter grade** (300 points out of 1000) come **from writing**, including reading and writing about **primary sources**. (Primary source – something written during the period we are studying, such as documents about foreign policy in the late 1890s.)

Your instructor carefully got permission for part of that 300 points to be from both less difficult work (Evidence Quizzes) and work that can help you practice using evidence (Ask/Answer/Share moderated discussions) to be part of that 300 points.

What does that mean to you? You want to do Evidence Quizzes and Ask/Answer/Share moderated discussions.

- 6 With writing assignments, we write it all out in a way that seems right to us.

Reality: False. With history (although the classes will vary), you have **requirements** you must meet for such things as required sources, footnoting, and use of evidence.

Reading and writing about history is a workplace skill. In other words, writing work with history helps you with writing work in business. FYI: No boss will pay you to write it all out in a way that seems right to you. In general, they want information brief, exactly accurate, and on time.

- 7 With the stuff in the first 2 class days (Getting Started), we can skip it.

Reality: In this course, False. Also you can earn points for finding out how the course and grading works and how the course is organized. Note: This course follows the model set by Distance Education.

- 8 Respondus Lockdown Browser is no big deal.

Reality: It depends on your prior experiences with classes.

In this course, the instructor has been through Respondus courses. WCJC's Distance Education convinced me of what would work to stop cheating. Two years ago they built a video to show students and this year they updated the video for students to match some changes with Respondus.

It is not hard and it is the equivalent of what you would have to do in an on-campus class.

In this class, your prof reviews the videos based on a checklist that follows the video. I ask Distance Education for feedback and I will gladly take correction on it.

9 Blackboard alerts you before something is due.

Reality or Reality as Best I Understand It Right Now: The tools available tell you when something is due. They do not seem to tell you when you need to start work to be finished by that due date.

The List of Due Dates (following the model set by Distance Education) tells you when assignments open and close. The List of Due Dates is available as a link on the Course Menu and safety says that you print it. Assignments open so you have time to meet the requirements. Waiting until the last day is dangerous.

10 Blackboard tells you when you have email in Blackboard's Course Messages.

Reality: Unless something has changed recently, that is **not** in Blackboard at this time.

The syllabus says that—once the course opens—you **must** check **Blackboard Course Messages** (Email) and **Blackboard Announcements** 3 times a week.