

W E L C O M E . . .

FS215 is online; all coursework (discussions, assignments, exams) will be completed outside of a classroom and submitted online using Blackboard, a course management system. It is your responsibility to be proficient in Blackboard. (See below for information on accessing technical support.) There are no face-to-face class meetings. Keep in mind that this course will require as much time—if not more—as a traditional course requires, however you will find more flexibility.

- Virtual office hours:

When the semester starts, I am available by e-mail (using the Blackboard email tool) where I can answer questions or address any concerns. I will make every attempt to respond within 24 hours Monday-Friday. Additionally, if there is an emergency, you may leave a message with Human Development @ (805) 546-3263.

Use bdrechl@cuesta.edu if you need to contact me prior to the start of class. When the course begins (day one of the semester), email me using the Blackboard email tool.

Required Texts:

Half the Human Experience, Janet Shibley Hyde, 7th Ed., 2007
Weekly chapter readings are required.

Colonize This! Young women of color on today's feminism, Hernandez & Rehman, Eds., 2002

Textbooks are available at the Cuesta College bookstore.

- Accommodations:

If you have a disability and might need accommodations in this class, please contact the instructor as soon as possible so that you can receive appropriate accommodations in a timely manner.

Access to the Course:

You can log into the course on the first day of the semester; **you can NOT access the course before the semester starts!** When the semester starts, please log in right away so that you will not be dropped from the course. Mark your calendars! I will not contact you: starting on day one of the semester, course information will be provided in Blackboard.

To log in go to <http://blackboard.cuesta.edu> and follow the instructions; there is also now a direct link to Blackboard on our Cuesta.edu home page (<http://cuesta.edu>). It is located on the lower right hand corner of the page.

- Your login ID matches your Banner/my.cuesta ID: firstname_lastname (all lowercase). The default password for Blackboard is STUDENT (all upper case).

Change your password once you have logged in. Passwords for my.cuesta and Blackboard can be set to be the same; it is your choice. If you have taken a course before, through Blackboard/WebCT, you will use your existing password. If you are having technical difficulties with the course website or can not log on, contact support@my.cuesta.edu or call 546-3100, extension 2802; help is available during working hours only. You will find 24/7 limited help (resetting passwords) at <http://library.cuesta.edu/distance/techspt.htm> or click on the student tab on myCuesta: choose the Distance Education link and technical support.

- Minimum Computer Requirements:

You need a reliable computer and internet connection, as well as a Cuesta e-mail account (check your Cuesta email before the beginning of the semester for course updates). Additionally, your computer needs to meet minimum system requirements to run Blackboard, the web-based course management program we are using.

Windows:

Microsoft Windows 98 2nd Edition or newer

- o Intel Pentium-II or higher
- o Netscape 4.0 or greater
- o Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 or greater
- o AOL 4.0 or greater

Macintosh:

MAC OS 9 or newer

- o Power Macintosh power PC processor (G3 or higher recommended)
- o Netscape 4.0 or greater
- o Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.5 or greater
- o AOL 4.0 or greater

DSL or cable connection is preferred, but 56K telephone modem may be sufficient.

Adobe Acrobat Reader: Most recent free version can be downloaded from:

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>