

WELCOME !

We'll have this Moodle site fully functional as quickly as possible. The system has changed to a new version, and 'stuff ain't where it's always been.' We'll have this ironed out in no time because UCR's tech guru Brian is as good as they come and can straighten out even me! In the meantime a backup at www.skipnicholson.com—with updates posted here on the Moodle page as well. We all tell our students (right?) that if they come to us with sad stories about being late with something because of tech trouble, we'll send them to the office to be put to sleep. Here, too, that applies. We all need a backup system Just In Case. That page at my web site is that backup.

A few important notes to carry us through:

- There is no class meeting during this first week of the course. The first meeting is Tuesday 24 September at 7 p.m., Pacific Time. If that poses problems for those of you in other time zones, let me know right away. (I don't call them "chats" because we don't "chat." In the past the name has given people the wrong idea of why we're there and then they end up resenting my scolding. It's a formal class meeting just as if we were in a physical classroom.)
- The books listed on the Moodle page are the correct texts. You need to have the Postman book now since the first assignment is due by midnight Sunday. You want to post your questions to the Forum at the Moodle site. Tell me immediately if you hit any problems there. If you are off to a late start, you can use the Amazon "Look Inside" feature. Be sure to tell me which pages come up missing for you (it's not always the same pages) and I'll try to get them to you quickly. But buy the book immediately. I suspect you're going to like it.
- Please return the Personal Information sheet you can download here or from www.skipnicholson.com as a Word file. I need to have it returned to me so that I can make the course as valuable for you as I can—and to complete your registration for the University.
- Please read through the guidelines posted here so that you know what's coming. With a shorter time than normal for the course, it's a little more, uh, compact. (We do, though, finish earlier than in the past.) You may need to start thinking now about your observations and portfolio. Since the course is a little shorter, the deadline for the observation reports and the portfolios will come after the course has technically ended. That will give you a little breathing room.
- Tell me immediately what isn't clear or what I can help with. I want this to be the course you remember best from the program, but I need your help to keep it valuable, challenging, and pleasurable.