If this course is full and has gone to a wait list, please do not email me before the course begins to try to add. Due to the number of students involved, I will be unable to reply to such emails.

The best way to add the course is to be on the waitlist, as the college will automatically add you if a spot opens up. They will notify you by email so that you can pay your fees and remain enrolled in the course. Students who are dropped for non payment will not be able to be re-added.

In the event that there is room for additional students other than those on the waitlist to add the class, I will know on Tuesday, July 14th, so please contact me by email early that day (even if you are on the waitlist you need to contact me!) but please not before.

If you add the class, your name will be sent directly to Computer Support Services via computer by Admissions and Records and it may take 1 business day before your account is created in Blackboard, though I will do my best to expedite that process.

Orientation Letter
Humanities 100 Online—Section #15841
Summer 2015
Dr. Tracey Sherard

Welcome to Humanities 100. I’m Dr. Tracey Sherard, the instructor of this course, and I’m looking forward to working with you!

This class will be conducted entirely online and will begin on Monday, July 13th – the course will not be available until this date, so please wait until then to try to log in. There is a mandatory online orientation that must be completed by 11:59 pm PST on Monday, July 13th. This gives you a full 24 hours to complete the process. If you do not complete both steps of this mandatory online orientation by 11:59 PST on Monday, July 13th, you are a ‘no show’ and will be dropped from the course in accordance with college policy.

To complete the online orientation, log in at bb.canyons.edu. You will need the following:

- **Your student ID number.** This is the number that you used for registration. If you do not have this number, please contact the Admissions office.
- **Your official College of the Canyons email address.** You must use the email address provided by the college in order uphold the federal mandate of privacy between student and instructor.
- **All of the class textbooks as listed on the COC bookstore website.** There are a total of 9 textbooks. Please purchase them all before the class begins as not having a particular text will not result in extended deadlines.
and late work is not accepted. The bookstore is open during the summer for you to purchase the books either in person or online. While you may choose to buy them elsewhere, delayed shipping will not result in extended deadlines as late work is not accepted without documentation of a medical emergency or death the family.

**Required Texts for Purchase** (available at COC Bookstore):
*Postcolonial Studies: The Key Concepts* (Routledge: 978-0415661911)
Tom Shepard, *Voices of Decolonization: A Brief History with Documents* (Bedford: 978-1457618154)
Marcus Garvey, *Selected Writings and Speeches of Marcus Garvey* (Dover: 978-0486437873)
Claude McKay, *Selected Poems* (Dover: 978-0486408767)
Michelle Cliff, *No Telephone to Heaven* (Plume: 978-0452275690)
Katherine Boo, *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* (Random House: 978-0812979329)

**Required Films for Viewing:**
The *Harder They Come* (1972, directed by Perry Henzell)
The *Mighty Quinn* (1989, directed by Carl Schenkel)
A *Passage to India* (1984, directed by David Lean)
*Bend it Like Beckham* (2003, directed by Gurinder Chadha)

*Make sure you order your DVDs in advance or determine in advance the method or methods you will use to watch each of these films.*

**Humanities 100 Catalog Description:**
Introduces themes and methods of inquiry of the Humanities. Compares and contrasts ideas and cultural expressions of Western and Non-Western Civilizations, focusing on a selected theme chosen each term.

**Student Learning Outcome:**
Evaluate the ideas and values expressed in cultural productions from multiple time periods and cultures as they relate to a selected theme and through the methods of inquiry apprized by the humanities.

**Course Objectives:**
1. Apply methods of inquiry used in Humanities disciplines to assigned cultural expressions.
2. Compare and contrast the basic methods of inquiry and disciplines that comprise humanistic study.
3. Analyze key artistic, cultural, and ideological elements of selected cultural expressions.
4. Construct relationships and comparisons between ideas and values expressed in humanistic works of different time periods and cultures.
5. Relate written and visual works to their cultural and historical context.

Course Theme:
Using key concepts of postcolonial theory, this course will examine historical, philosophical, artistic, and literary representations and critiques of the western binaries of self/other, male/female, and nature/civilization that ultimately structure western ideas of non-western cultures, specifically those shaped by colonialism and its aftermath. Analyzing texts from Africa, the Caribbean, and India in light of traditional western ideals present in popular British and American texts fosters critical thinking about imperialism and its ethical implications. We will consider the question of agency in particular. Has the liberatory promise of postcolonial thought been fulfilled? To what extent are postcolonial subjects represented as exercising free will, the ability to extricate themselves from seemingly predetermined narratives of tragedy?

Some Basic Information:
This is a 100% online class. Please do not take this class if you are too busy to take a regular one, as it requires just as much—if not more—time and effort. You will be expected to complete the same amount of work that is required in a face-to-face class ('class time' plus 'homework'). Therefore, expect to spend 8-10 hours a week on work for this course.

Basic Required Skills:
You will need to have ready access to current word document creating software (Microsoft Word preferred). If you do not have Microsoft Word, you will still be expected to be able to either save or export your documents in a Word format (no .pdfs or rich text format, etc.). You will need an up-to-date version of an internet browser (Firefox preferred). You need to be computer literate, well-skilled in basic document creation and handling. You should know how to copy and paste from one document to another and how to attach documents to emails. You must know how to override default settings in your word processing program to set page margins, spacing, and fonts, so that I can ensure fairness in determining whether your writing assignments meet minimum page requirements.

If you are not entirely comfortable with the above described skills, I highly recommend enrolling in Counseling 070, “Becoming a Successful Distance Learning Student.” It would be a good idea to enroll in this class if you have never taken an online course. For more information, go to:

http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/DistanceLearning/Pages/SucceedInDistanceLearning.aspx
It is important to note that this is a Humanities course, not a computer skills course. If there are technical skills that you need assistance with, you may visit COC’s Online Learning website at

http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/DistanceLearning/Pages/MiniTutorial.aspx

You are also encouraged to visit the TLC for limited assistance.

I also recommend that before the orientation session you visit the following site which will provide you with an evaluative tool designed to suggest whether or not you are well-suited for an online course:

http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/DistanceLearning/Pages/Assessments.aspx

Students who do well in online courses tend to share the following qualities:

- They are good at motivating themselves to complete work by deadlines
- They are strong readers and communicate well in writing.
- They have strong time management skills.
- They enjoy active, cooperative learning experiences.
- They have reliable access to the Internet.
- They have basic computer skills, including the ability to cut/copy and paste between documents, send and receive email attachments, and most importantly, save documents in the appropriate requested file formats.

Course Requirements:

In order to successfully complete this course, you must log onto our class site several times a week to retrieve and submit assignments and to participate in message board and email exchanges. All of these activities involve strict deadlines, as late work is not accepted.

If you will not be able to participate in this manner, this is not the course for you. However, just as in a traditional class, if you know in advance that you are going to “miss” a few class periods, doing one or two assignments ahead of time may lessen the negative impact of your “absence” on your grade.

This course requires the same amount of total work hours (including time spent in class) as a regular face-to-face, full semester length section. In a regular semester, that would mean time spent in class plus reading and homework, usually totals 8-10 hours. Because this class is highly condensed, it will require 24-30 hours of your time each week. If you cannot devote this amount of time, please reconsider whether this is the appropriate course for you.

This is not a class in which you can complete work far ahead of your classmates or make up work during the last minutes of the semester. Our class-wide discussion boards (where most of our class work will be conducted) will be asynchronous, not synchronous—meaning that you can log in at a time of day
convenient to you—as long as you meet the deadlines. However, let me repeat that participation and meeting deadlines several times a week is expected, and late work is not accepted.

I will be online at various times during the week to facilitate discussion, make announcements, and provide schedule reminders.

However, I will not be available to you 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so planning ahead to get any questions you may have answered is essential.

I will evaluate your performance based on specific assignment instructions. Assignments may include weekly discussion boards (including responses) and other short writing assignments, quizzes on the reading, exams, and a formal academic essay ranging in page length from 4 to 6 pages (submitted to Turnitin.com, an online database that helps students to learn about and teachers to detect plagiarism. Other assignments as well may require submission to this online database to earn points).

My course syllabus will contain a detailed description of plagiarism and of the college procedure for dealing with it. All cases of plagiarism will be forwarded to the Dean of Student Services.

Once again, I want to welcome you to the course—“see” you Monday, July 13th.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tracey Sherard, Ph.D.
Professor of English
English 101 Coordinator
College of the Canyons

Contact Information through Tuesday, June 9th:

Office Location: College of the Canyons Valenica Campus—Aliso Lab # 204

Office phone: (661) 362-5921

Office Email: tracey.sherard@canyons.edu

*Please note that I am not on campus during the summer. All emails sent after Tuesday, June 10th through Sunday, July 12th will receive an out-of-office email reply. All questions from enrolled students will be answered on the Issues and Questions discussion board on our Blackboard site on the first day of class. All emails from non-enrolled students wishing to add will be answered on Tuesday morning of July 14th.