Greetings Hominins!
Welcome to the Online Introduction to Biological Anthropology class. I wanted to give students a few pointers and reminders before the semester starts.

First and foremost, because there is a long waitlist for this class (and almost every other Cabrillo class due to state budget cuts),

**If you are registered as enrolled in the class:**
You must email me right away if you think you are not going to be able to log-in and post a comment on Blackboard between Monday, August 30 and Wednesday, September 1st. Otherwise, your spot will be given to someone else. An email is the best way to reach me. **If you plan to drop, you should do so right away** so that I can make room for someone else to add the class.

**If you are on the waitlist:**
You must check your status and register right away if a spot opens up before August 30th or if I email you during Add/Drop (between August 30 and September 9th). If you do not register within 24 hours of my sending an email to you during Add/Drop, I will give your spot to the next student on the waitlist.

**If you are not registered nor on the waitlist, it is very unlikely that you will be able to get into the class. To learn why, see “Why You Couldn’t Get Into a Class.”**

Second, there will be an optional orientation session, to provide us with a chance to meet face-to-face, introduce you to using Blackboard (the course management system we will use), and answer your questions about this class. I have scheduled this for the evening of Tuesday, August 31st, from 6pm to 8pm in room 516 on the Aptos campus. Attending this orientation in no way improves your chances of being in the class, and is not likely to be very helpful for students who have used Blackboard before. If you want help with Blackboard but cannot meet at that time, and you do get to enroll in the class, see me during my on-campus office hours, or you could contact or visit the Computer Technology Center for assistance.

Third, you will not have access to the course on Blackboard until August 30th, or until one workday after you are registered for the class, whichever is later. I am still finalizing the syllabus for the course, but a preview draft will be available soon on my website at http://arana.cabrillo.edu/~mmerrill/anthro1.htm.
There are two required books to get: *Annual Editions: Physical Anthropology 10/11*, E. Angeloni (ed.), 2010 and *How Humans Evolved* (5th Edition), R. Boyd & J. Silk, 2009. These should both be available at the Cabrillo Bookstore. You may be able to find used copies. *How Humans Evolved* is also available as an electronic book. If the books are too costly for you, Cabrillo has several alternatives for accessing textbooks (see below for details). If you wish to work ahead, you should get your textbooks and begin the reading assignments - start with the prologue and first chapter of *How Humans Evolved*, and the intro to Unit 1 and articles 3 and 4 in the *Annual Editions* reader.

Finally, sorry for all the heavy stuff and dull logistics here. If you do get in, I promise it’s going to be interesting and fun, so long as you put in the effort to keep up with readings, ASK QUESTIONS, and stay engaged. Biological anthropology is all about sex, adventure, world travel, cute critters, creepy bones and the interpersonal politics that go on behind the scenes in every science. With your help, it’s gonna be a great semester!

Hope to see you online,
Michelle

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If the cost of a required textbook is $50.00 or more, a single copy of that textbook will be on Reserve at the Cabrillo Library for shared use. This innovative textbook loan program has been funded by a generous grant from the Cabrillo College Student Senate. The goal of the program is to guarantee that at least one copy of the most expensive required textbooks is on reserve at the library. This program also serves the sections of courses taught in Watsonville. For more information ask at the library or call 831.479.6163.

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**To borrow a book, pick up an application at the Transfer Center (Aptos 100 Building) or Watsonville Student Resource Center.**