March 25, 2010

Dear Spring 2010 Sci 352B Students:

I want to pass on some information that should get you off to a good start in your upcoming Water and the West online class:

**Enrolling:** Instructions to self enroll in the class can be found here:
http://www.csub.edu/els/Blackboard%209/Student_Resources/Course_Access/item1236.pdf. The Enrollment Password is H2O.
Here is the link to the portal for Blackboard Learn 9:
http://www.csub.edu/els/Blackboard%209/item1187.html
More general information about Blackboard Learn 9 can be found here
http://www.csub.edu/els/Blackboard%209/Student_Resources/item1242.html

**Turn-it-in:** You will submit assignments to www.turnitin.com. If you do not have a turnitin account already, you will have to create one. Once you have an account, enroll in the class. The class name is Sci 352B Water and the West Spring 2010, ID is 3192981, and the enrollment password is Water.

**Exams** The Midterm Exam will be on Wednesday, May 5 sometime between 4:00 – 8:00 pm. This will be an online exam. You will have to arrange for access to the internet and Blackboard 9 for about 1 hour during that time slot. You can use on campus or off-campus computers. The Final Exam will be on Tuesday June 8, also sometime between 4:00 – 8:00 pm. Based on how the online midterm exam goes, this will either be also online or at CSUB and at the AV campus. Make sure that you have internet access during that time and also arrange your schedule so that you can come to one of the campuses for the exam if I decide to hold it on campus.

**Textbooks** Three required textbooks:
(1) CARLE ISBN 9780520260160
Title INTRODUCTION TO WATER IN CALIFORNIA Edition 2ND 09
Publisher CAL-PRINCE
(2) REISNER ISBN 9780140178241
Title CADILLAC DESERT Edition REV 93
Publisher PENG USA
(3) HUNDLEY ISBN 9780520224568
Title GREAT THIRST:CALIFORNIANS+WATER Edition REV 01
Publisher CAL-PRINCE
Also recommended: The new April 2010 National Geographic Magazine special issue on water that just came out.

**First Class Materials** I am currently working on placing class materials online. Materials for week 1 and the first assignment will be up by Monday. Right now there is a discussion board. Use it to post questions that you may have. There will be some course credit for active participation in the discussion boards, especially for answering other
students’ questions. Also, the first assignment will include to introduce yourself to the class with a little bit about your background and what you hope to learn from the class. You can start with a short introduction right away.

**Class Etiquette:** This is a very large class so we will have to be very mindful of each others time. If you have a question, post to discussion board first and hopefully other students will be able to help. If you need to contact the instructor, use the mail system in Blackboard, do not email to his regular email address.

Ok, that’s all I can think of for now. Enjoy the rest of your break and then I am looking forward for the class to start on Monday.

Best regards,
Dirk Baron