Dear HDCF 150 Students:

Hi, I’m Dr. Holly Hunts and I will be your instructor for the next six weeks. I am an Associate Professor at MSU-Bozeman with a joint appointment in the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Development. My Ph.D. is from Cornell University in Consumer Economics with minors in Human Development and Family Studies and Demography. I have 13 years of university teaching experience and am looking forward to teaching you about Lifespan: Human Development. You can learn about me at www.montana.edu/hhunts.

I am excited about delivering this information using WebCT Campus Version 4.1 which is an on-line, interactive tool. The course will be interactive and take all of us beyond the boundaries of an ordinary college course. I have an outstanding teaching assistant, Kacey Diemert, who will be working along side me to ensure that the class goes as smoothly as possible.

Here are the course start up procedures. Please read through this information carefully and let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I recommend you save this message for future reference.

HDCF 150: Lifespan Human Development is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 15, 2006.

Receipt of this email is confirmation that you are registered for the course.

To contact me please use the “Mailbox” within WebCT rather than my campus email address. This will ensure a speedy response from me – instead of a slower response if your email becomes mixed-up with my other professional emails. I plan to work on the course Monday – Friday during regular business hours for the duration of the course. Please do not expect for me to be in contact with you during non-business hours (you are welcome to email me anytime after business hours – but I will not be able to respond until the next work day).

MATERIALS:

- Media Tool Kit (this DVD packaged with the book for no additional cost)
- Access to a computer with an Internet connection

I suggest purchasing the book/DVD bundle from the MSU bookstore however, you can also check on-line if you like. Contact information for the bookstore:

MSU Bookstore
Strand Union Building
MSU-Bozeman
Bozeman, MT 59717
Phone: 406-994-2811
Website: http://www.msubookstore.org/home.aspx (you can email them directly from this website)

CHECK YOUR INTERNET CONNECTION/BROWSER:
Prior to the beginning of the course we encourage you to check your browser (i.e., Internet Explorer, Netscape, Mozilla…) to ensure you have the necessary browser and settings. You can link to “Check Browser” from the WebCT login page at http://webct.montana.edu/ (see the link to “Check Browser” in the top right corner of the page next to “Help”). This quick check will guide you through a series of steps to ensure your browser is enabled to work properly in the WebCT environment. You might also want to check out the “Student Resources” linked from the login page.

TO CONNECT TO HDCF 150:

Go to the WebCT site at http://webct.montana.edu/ Click on “log in”. Use your MSU student ID number (also known as a GID number) to login to WebCT. For the purpose of connecting to WebCT, do not use the dash before your ID number. (For example if your ID number is -0001234567 you would enter it in as 0001234567).

Initially, by default, your Password is the same as your WebCT id. PLEASE NOTE: If you have logged into WebCT during a recent semester the system would have forced you to change your password, so enter the password you have assigned yourself. If you do not know your MSU Student ID Number, you can call the Help Desk at 406-994-1777 or the Registrar’s office 406-994-2601.

Enter the course HDCF 150 and begin by clicking on the Getting Started Icon or the under “Getting Started” in the Course Menu. If you have questions for me about the course you can email me at anytime by clicking on the “Course Mail” icon or the Course Mail link in the course menu.

If you need technical assistance (difficulties with logging in, browser issues, downloading files, etc), please contact our Help Desk at msuwebct@montana.edu or 1-800-435-1286.