Welcome Ducklings! Amy McComb here, your FIG Assistant for Visualize Your World. I’d like to welcome you, and also remind you of a few things coming up once you make it to the University of Oregon this fall.

Your College Connections class will be instructed by Professor David Turner and me. Mr. Turner has been teaching at the UO for nine years, previously having served as director of four art museums. He is a photographer and a photo historian, having just published a photographic book about historical Eugene. He enjoys the local atmosphere of Eugene and has a great deal of experience and knowledge to share with us this coming term.

I am a junior, majoring in Sociology and Cultural Anthropology. I’m originally from Birmingham, AL. I am also a photographer, a runner, outdoor enthusiast, knowledge hoarder, and future world traveler. I love to learn, but even more, I’m passionate about exciting others about learning. I cannot wait to get to know you personally, to help you discover where you fit into the college environment, and to participate as a resource and friend during the onset of your journey. Sounds cliché, but I mean every word! I’m so excited you’re almost here!

This course is full of artsy goodness. Mr. Turner and I have a lot of great projects and activities planned that will help you learn about resources here at the University of Oregon, get acquainted with Eugene, and meet other students who share your passion for art. We have organized multiple field trips, such as exploring a downtown site and going to the Special Collections area of the library. We will also schedule activities such as dining hall coffee hour, documentary film nights, dinner at Mr. Turner’s house, and art walks to check out new gallery displays.

In order to prepare for the course, Professor Turner and I would like you to watch the following two films before our first class:

:: Food Inc. (2008)
:: Norman Rockwell: Painting America (1999)

These movies will provide a backdrop to some of the ideas and issues we will focus on during the term. BOTH of these movies are posted on Blackboard. The website is: www.blackboard.uoregon.com. You will use your UO usename and password to log on. Find the page for our class: AAD199 College Connections. Then it should be clear where the films are. They are streamed directly on the site. If you have any trouble, please contact me soon and I can help you!

Next, as you are packing for school, remember to bring your student handbook. The book is a guide you will be referring to a lot, especially during the first term.

Our first meeting is the Week of Welcome on Friday, September 21st, 2012 at 11:00a.m. in Columbia 150. (By the way, there is a great interactive map on the UO website that can help you find buildings) It is very important that you come on time! After an introduction you will be directed to a room to meet our College Connections faculty (David Turner, Ty Warren, and me).
Then on **Sunday, September 23rd, 2012** we have University Convocation. You will meet up with me and the other students in our FIG for a fun and helpful outing. Again, please be on time and also **bring your class schedule**.

One more request: please **email me** ASAP so I can send you reminders. Use your new handy-dandy uoregon email address. As you can already tell, there are a lot of dates and details to keep up with. This communication will help me to help you! Include your name and attach a picture of yourself so that I can get a head start learning your name. My email is **amccomb@uoregon.edu**. Do this NOW so you don’t forget!

Mr. Turner and I are looking forward to meeting you very much! We’re confident that it’s going to be an inspiring fall term full of new ideas, people, experiences, and perspectives. Don’t hesitate to email me with any questions or confusions as well. Go ducks!

*Sincerely your FA,*

Amy McComb