This is an important exercise. It helps no-one if you find yourself confused in week 10 about where to find instructions, but you haven't spent time to systematically get acquainted with the course materials and/or haven't asked questions to help you -- and probably others -- clarify things.

Q: Why not spend time in class going over the materials?

A: It is more effective for each student to do this at their own pace and then spend specific focused questions.

Get set-up on your computer, with bookmarks to the course wiki, folders/directories for course work, etc.

Review the syllabus and links, printing out material that you want to have in a hard copy.

How many assignments can you miss and still get an "automatic B+"?

What is the difference between submitting an assignment and getting "OK"?

Where do you find instructions for any particular assignment?

Print out the assignment check-list.

Review “Notes on assignments, other expectations, grading system.”

Arrange first conference with one of the instructors

Create a practice annotated bibliography entry on the practice page.

Submit an annotated bibliography entry from what you are reading, either as part of assignment 1 or as side-reading you might do from the required text.

When should you submit an assignment by email and what should you do to make sure the assignment doesn't get overlooked by the instructors?

What is a treasure hunt question that would be useful to include for the next time the course is taught?