

ENGL3303 --- Studies in Fiction

Summer 2008/Online



Virtual Campus Fall 2008  
School of Languages and Literature

*Mission: Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, lifelong learning and service to God and humankind.*

**COURSE SYLLABUS: ENGL3303 Fall 2008 Online**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Dr. Timothy Brady
<b>Office:</b>	520-459-1610
<b>Cell Phone:</b>	
<b>Home Phone:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:dr.timbrady@gmail.com">dr.timbrady@gmail.com</a> (for assignments and/or communication)
<b>Course Web Site:</b>	Blackboard
<b>FAX:</b>	
<b>Office Hours:</b>	<b>10:00-12:00 AM (Monday-Friday)</b>
<b>Class Hours:</b>	
<b>Class Location:</b>	Wherever you are

**DESCRIPTION:** topics vary to include special studies in American, British, and European short stories and novels

**PREREQUISITE(s):** Advanced Standing

**TEXTBOOKS:**

BOOK	AUTHOR	ED	YR	PUB	ISBN#	REVIEW
The Scarlet Letter	Nathaniel Hawthorne				159308207X	
Animal Farm	George Orwell				0451526341	

In the Lake of the Woods	Tim O'Brien				01240250948	
The Ox-Bow Incident	Roger Von Tilburg Clarke				0812972580	
1984	George Orwell				0451524934	
The Plague	Albert Camus				0679720219	
Sister Carrie	Theodore Dreiser				1593082266	

**All the Hawthorne short stories are posted in the Lecture Notes section on Blackboard. Please use these so we can all refer to the same pages when discussing.**

**OUTCOME COMPETENCIES:** Listed below are specific course learning objectives established from textbooks and class discussion:

1. Connect major world events to select pieces of American, British, and European literature.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of major literary movements and how these movements are linked to the select pieces of literature.
3. Demonstrate the ability to read critically and communicate persuasively about the works selected.
4. Discuss the overall topic for the course and suggest how this topic is represented in each of the select pieces.
5. Conduct research on a topic related to a select piece of literature, articulate and support a thesis, and follow through with appropriate documentation.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:**

Each student's grade will be made up from the following components:

- quizzes, short writing assignments, and class contributions (40%)
- a combination of the midterm and final exams/projects (40%)
- one short writing assignment and one longer research essay (20%)

**Short Essay:** The short essay will require you to read an additional short story by Nathaniel Hawthorne (“The Minister’s Black Veil”) and compare its themes, techniques and symbolism to one of the stories we discussed in class. This paper should be a maximum of 2 pages in length. (Be aware that writing shorter papers is NOT easier than writing longer papers. You will have to be VERY clear about what you want to say, and then say it in as succinct a manner as possible.) Although it is not forbidden, you will not be required to cite sources for this essay. **If you elect to use sources, please avoid any HINT of PLAGIARISM. Consult you notes from “Research Writing” or the information I will post in the Syllabus section if you have any doubts.**

**Research Writing:** Students will be required to write a short research paper on either one of the authors we will be studying this semester or another author they find interesting (the list of available authors is posted in Session 10). In addition to the work that we will be doing, you will be required to read ONE additional novel by the author. I have provided a free week in the syllabus (Session 10) to allow for that reading. The available authors and the book you need to read for them are listed in Week 10 of the syllabus.

All written work must be typewritten according to the format we will be specified once class begins. All assignments must be submitted to the following email address: [dr.timbrady@gmail.com](mailto:dr.timbrady@gmail.com). **PLEASE DO NOT USE ANY OTHER EMAIL ADDRESS OR THE DIGITAL DROP BOX.**

**Grading Percentage**

Participation <sup>1</sup>	40%
Exams/Quizzes	40%
Research Papers	20%

**Grading for Course**

A=	90 - 100 %
B=	80 - 90 %
C=	70 - 80 %
D=	60 - 70 %
F=	below 60 %

**SERVICES FOR DISABLED**

It is university policy that no otherwise qualified disabled person be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the University. See current catalog

**CLASS ATTENDANCE**

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<sup>1</sup> Although not limited to discussion boards only, a LARGE portion of this 40% will come from participation in them each week.

Students enrolled at one of the University's external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings. All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up. When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus dean. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings will receive a grade of F in the course. Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus are considered a part of the University's attendance policy.

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

University students are expected to conduct themselves according to the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one's own work.) See the current catalog for sanctions.

### **STATEMENTS:**

This class will adhere to zero tolerance for using someone else's work as your own.

It is university policy that no otherwise qualified disabled person be excused from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the University. Students should inform the instructor of existing disabilities at the first class meeting.

Students are responsible for reading, understanding, obeying, and respecting all academic policies, with added emphasis being placed upon academic progress policies, appearing in the Wayland Baptist University Academic Catalog applicable to their curriculum and/or program of study.

## COURSE OUTLINE/CALENDAR:

### SCHEDULE FOR ENGLISH 3303 (changes may be required)<sup>2</sup>

#### Session 1: Introduction of class content and procedures

Reading Fiction: a discussion of the tools and techniques available to the writer of short and longer fiction.

Homework for each week is specified as “Reading Assignments for this Class” next to the date. For example, the four short stories listed for Session 2 should be read **BEFORE** that class date.

If there is additional homework for the class, it will be listed in the announcement section for the current week.

#### Session 2: Introduction to the Short Story: Early Examples

Reading Assignments for this class:

The Minister’s Black Veil (Hawthorne) --- for comparison essay

Young Goodman Brown (Hawthorne)

The Birthmark (Hawthorne)

Rappacini’s Daughter (Hawthorne)

#### Session 3: 19<sup>th</sup> Century American Novel

**Reading Assignment for this class:**

The Scarlet Letter (Hawthorne)

#### Session 4: <sup>3</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Novel

**Reading Assignment for this class:**

The Ox-Bow Incident (Clark)

#### Session 5: 20<sup>th</sup> Century British Fiction

**Reading Assignment for this class:**

Animal Farm (Orwell)

#### Session 6: 20<sup>th</sup> Century British Fiction (cont.)

**Reading Assignment for this class:**

1984 (Orwell)

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<sup>2</sup> This class runs for 11 consecutive weeks; there is no break. Each “Session” begins on the MONDAY of that week; assignments will be due during the course of the week. Each week’s schedule will be posted in the Announcements over the weekend BEFORE the work is due.

<sup>3</sup> Short essay due on Monday of this week.

Session 7: 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> Century American Novel:

**Reading Assignment for this class:**

Sister Carrie (Theodore Dreiser)

Session 8: 20<sup>th</sup> Century French Fiction

**Reading Assignment for this class:**

The Plague (Albert Camus)

Session 9: 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Novel

**Reading Assignment for this class:**

In the Lake of the Woods (O'Brien)

Session 10: **Research Paper Reading**

Dreiser: "Jennie Gerhardt"

O'Brien: "The Things They Carried"

Camus: "The Stranger"

Steinbeck: "The Grapes of Wrath"

Dickens: "Great Expectations"

Hemingway: "The Sun Also Rises"

Kafka: "The Trial" or "The Castle"

Sinclair: "The Jungle"

Session 11: Final Exam/Project