



**Virtual Campus – Spring 2009
Feb 23, 2009 – May 16, 2009**

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.

English 1302: Composition and Reading

Course Description: Readings from imaginative literature; the research paper and shorter critical and interpretive essays. Course should be taken within first year of enrollment. Prerequisite: ENGL 1301.

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Term and Year: Spring 2009

Professor: Jennifer Bell

Email: spiegelbell@cox.net

I will make every attempt to respond to emails within 24-hours. Contact me through Blackboard first. That is where I will check emails from you. The listed email above is just for emergency contact.

Class Meeting Time and Location: Online students should check in no less than 3 times a week.

Required text: *The Norton Introduction to Literature*, shorter 9th ed.

Required text's companion website: *LitWeb*

<http://www.wwnorton.com/litweb/instructors.asp>

Suggested Text: *MLA Handbook*, 6th ed.

Internet Access: Regular, reliable access to the Internet is a required for this course. It is the student's responsibility to line up alternate computer access in the event of technology difficulties. Suggestions: library, Internet cafes, friend or family computers. Unless the Internet is unavailable in your city/town due to some broken line, students are required to go to their alternate sources and complete the assignments.

1. All course components (lectures, lessons, assignments, discussions, exams, etc.) are accessible via Blackboard.
2. Assignments may require access to WBU's online Learning Resources Center at www.wbu.edu/lrc .

Course outcome competencies: Upon the conclusion of this course, students actively engaged in learning will be able to:

1. Comprehend the importance of imaginative literature as it relates to other disciplines, the University's liberal arts mission, and the world at large.
2. Discuss three major literary genres: short fiction, poetry, and drama.
3. Identify and analyze basic elements of literature.
4. Use and refine reading, research, and writing skills to support a clear point of view in regard to a piece of literature.

5. Demonstrate the ability to read critically and communicate persuasively. The more the student puts into the course, the higher his or her outcome competencies will be.

General Attendance Requirements: As stated in the Wayland Catalog, 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. Attendance in an online course is judged by each student's participation that week. Failure to participate for 2 ½ weeks will result in being dropped from the course (not necessarily in consecutive order). These general requirements are adjusted so as to be compatible with the virtual campus.

Disability Statement: 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. Students should inform the instructor of existing disabilities at the first class meeting. (Documentation of disability may be required.)

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:

Research Paper 20% (20 points)

Discussion Board & Assignments 50% (50 points)

Exam One (Fiction): 10% (10 points)

Exam Two (Poetry): 10% (10 points)

Exam Three (Drama): 10% (10 points)

TOTAL: 100% or 100 points

Absences or non-participation is never an excuse for turning in a late assignment in a college course. Contact your instructor when you know you will be gone. Make sure you get your assignment turned in before a planned absence with the following:

1. Use of the conventions of standard grammar
2. Use of the appropriate method of development
3. Use of the principles of unity, coherence, and completeness
4. Use of logical and factual arguments to advance the thesis of the assignment

Course Requirements and Assessment of Competencies

20% (20 points) Research Paper

A 5-8 page research paper should be a study of one of the works assigned this term. Prove a point about one of these literary works. If you choose an *informative topic*, you will fail this section. You are writing to *PROVE A POINT*—your sources will help validate that point. The primary literary source for this paper will be one of the works listed in the course outline. In addition to this primary source (like O'Connor's "A Good Man is . . ."), you will need to find and use secondary sources (books or journal articles that analyze the work). All 8 + sources must be of an academic or scholarly nature—NO summaries, Cliff Notes, Wikipedia, eNotes, Sparknotes, Ragnotes, Monkey notes, etc. sources will be allowed. Only one interview is allowed. Interview must be a reputable source, scholarly in nature. All the remaining sources should be from either text based sources or Internet literary magazines, scholarly prints, and reputable books. Identify all sources properly (with author, date, etc) in the

Works Cited, and credit your materials in the paper with in-text citations (use MLA only). If the quoted materials are more than 20% of the paper, a harsh penalty will be imposed or possibly a failure for that paper will be imposed. BE CAREFUL HERE!!! An excellent paper can result in failure for not following the imposed guidelines.

Some things to note from the above:

- You must use MLA documentation.
- You must have at least eight sources.
- You must argue a point (which means, of course, you must have a thesis).
- The paper must be composed of mostly your own writing rather than quotations from other sources.

50% (50 points) Discussion Board, Written Assignments

- Make a point of reading all of my posts.
- Read Lecture Notes after Thursday of each week. I WILL POST A LECTURE BY MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY. You may always ask questions, begin a discussion board conversation, make a point, etc. on something from a lecture. Though I may not assign particular points, it'll certainly boost your grade—participation in this section is always helpful.
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Attendance will be based on the regular and timely submission of your discussion board posts and responses. DB (Discussion Board) is in lieu of a face-to-face classroom participation. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE BULK OF YOUR POINTS COMES FROM THIS PART OF THE COURSE.

- (1) Post to my initial question or comment by Thursday midnight of each week, and then:
- (2) Respond to other students' comments by the Monday midnight deadline.

Each week a discussion board item is posted by me; you must post a 250 word coherent and meaningful post to at least one of my discussion board questions/comments; then, you must respond with a 250 word coherent and meaningful response to at least one of your fellow students' comments. Posting and responding must be completed on a weekly basis; late (after that week/session is over) posts and responses will not receive credit. **Response only: receives no credit. So you must post and respond to receive credit.** In addition, rude online behavior will not be tolerated—demonstrate respect for one another by exhibiting patience and courtesy in all exchanges.

Remember the deadline for the initial posting by you is Thursday by midnight. If you miss that deadline, your post will be considered late and receive no credit for either the post or the response. Be responsible and give the rest of the class the opportunity to have a post from which to respond. Just follow each guideline and topic that is listed weekly in the DB (discussion board). All DB posts/responses must be of an original nature; students who copy and paste material from other sources will be dropped from the course for plagiarism. Additionally, quoted material is not considered part of the word requirement, nor is repeating the question considered part of the word requirement.

- Late assignments are not accepted
- Written assignments must be electronically formatted in the following manner:
 1. Do NOT SEND AS ATTACHMENT unless indicated
 2. MLA style should be followed
 3. You may select a topic and begin your research at any time.
 4. See course outline below for specific due dates.

30% Three exams, each focusing on one aspect of our study (fiction, poetry, and drama). Each one is 10% of your grade (10 points).

Exams *may* consist of matching, multiple choice, T/F, identification of passages (author, title, and significance), and short essay. The text and lectures will be covered on exams.

Take the exams on the dates listed in the syllabus/assignments/calendar of this course. As a backup plan, copy the exam before you submit it, copy the results after you submit it. More information will be available.

Academic Honesty

University students are expected to conduct themselves according to the highest standards of academic honesty; no form of cheating will be tolerated. 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—copying another's words or ideas and presenting them as your own—is not only a form of cheating, but a serious academic offense. In the very least, plagiarism or other cheating will result in an F on the work in question. In addition, an official report will also be filed with the Vice President for Academic Services. See the Wayland catalog for further information on the penalties of plagiarism.

Course Outline and Tentative Schedule: This schedule is subject to revision.
(Mon-Mon, except for breaks and final week of course)

Week One, beginning February 23, 2009

(Remember to post to my initial question by Thursday at midnight, and respond to a peer's by the following Monday at midnight)

Assignment:

1. **Read the following in the Norton Anthology: Introduction, pp. 1-12; Raymond Carver's "Cathedral," pp. 20-30; James Baldwin's "Sonny's Blues," pp. 88-110; Understanding the Text: Plot, pp. 66-70; Understanding the Text: Narration and Point of View, pp. 120-123; Ernest Hemingway's "Hills Like White Elephants," pp. 128-132; Character, pp. 140-145; Eudora Welty's "Why I Live at the P.O.," pp. 145-153**
2. **On Discussion Board, introduce yourselves.**
3. **On Discussion Board, answer WEEK ONE DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) Question(s)—this should be done by Thurs, midnight. This is the one to which you will also respond to a peer's by Monday, midnight.**
4. **Make sure you check out LECTURE NOTES *after Thursday!***

Week Two, beginning March 2, 2009

Assignment:

1. **Read the following in the Norton Anthology: Setting, pp. 196-197; Andrea Barrett's "The Littoral Zone," pp. 198-204; Symbol, pp. 230-232; Franz Kafka's "A Hunger Artist," pp. 242-246; Theme, pp. 264-266;; Jamaica Kincaid's "Girl," pp. 456-457; William Faulkner's "A Rose for Emily," pp. 467-474.**
2. **Listen to Jamaica Kincaid's "Girl" on the CD that comes with the text.**
3. **On Discussion Board, answer WEEK TWO DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) Question(s)—this should be done by Thurs, midnight. This is the one to which you will also respond to a peer's by Monday, midnight.**

4. Make sure you check out LECTURE NOTES *after Thursday!*

Week Three, beginning March 9, 2009

- Take the Exam on Fiction (more details to follow)

Assignment:

1. **Read the following in the Norton Anthology: Poetry: Reading, Responding, Writing, pp. 594-609; Understanding the Text: Tone, pp. 619; Seamus Heaney's "Mid-Term Break," p. 604; William Blake's "London" p. 625.**
2. **Listen to ALL of the poems of the CD that comes with the text.**
3. **On Discussion Board, answer WEEK THREE DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) Question(s)—this should be done by Thurs, midnight. This is the one to which you will also respond to a peer's by Monday, midnight.**
4. **Make sure you check out LECTURE NOTES *after Thursday!***

March 16, 2009-March 20, 2009: Spring Break!

Week Four, beginning March 23, 2009

Assignment:

1. **Read the following in the Norton Anthology: William Carlos Williams' "The Red Wheelbarrow," pp. 694; William Blake's "The Sick Rose," p. 723; Dylan Thomas' "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night," p. 791; Langston Hughes' "Harlem," p. 820; John Donne's "Death, Be Not Proud," pp. 982-983.**
2. **On Discussion Board, answer WEEK FOUR DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) Question(s)—this should be done by Thurs, midnight. This is the one to which you will also respond to a peer's by Monday, midnight.**
3. **Make sure you check out LECTURE NOTES *after Thursday!***

Week Five, beginning March 30, 2009

Assignment:

1. **This is a fun week! Pick ten poems of your choice—of varying lengths, from varying sections of the text. Be prepared to discuss them!**
2. **On Discussion Board, answer WEEK FIVE DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) Question(s)—this should be done by Thurs, midnight. This is the one to which you will also respond to a peer's by Monday, midnight.**
3. **Make sure you check out LECTURE NOTES *after Thursday!***

Week Six, beginning April 6, 2009

- Take the Exam on Poetry (more details to follow)

Assignment:

1. **Read the following in the Norton Anthology: Writing about Literature, pp. 1685-1738.**
2. **On Discussion Board, answer WEEK SIX DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) Question(s)—this should be done by Thurs, midnight. This is the one to which you will also respond to a peer's by Monday, midnight.**
3. **Make sure you check out LECTURE NOTES *after Thursday!***

Week Seven, beginning April 13, 2009

Assignment:

1. **Read the following in the Norton Anthology: Drama, pp. 1044-1046, 1092-1102, Sophocles' "Antigone," pp. 1423-1454.**
2. **On Discussion Board, answer WEEK SEVEN DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) Question(s)—this should be done by Thurs, midnight. This is the one to which you will also respond to a peer's by Monday, midnight.**
3. **Make sure you check out LECTURE NOTES *after Thursday!***

Week Eight, beginning April 20, 2009

Assignment:

1. **Read the following in the Norton Anthology: Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll's House," pp. 1508-1556.**
2. **On Discussion Board, answer WEEK EIGHT DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) Question(s)—this should be done by Thurs, midnight. This is the one to which you will also respond to a peer's by Monday, midnight.**
3. **Make sure you check out LECTURE NOTES *after Thursday!***

Week Nine, beginning April 27, 2009

Assignment:

1. **Read the following in the Norton Anthology: Exploring Contexts, pp. 1265-1271, William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, pp. 1325-1419. (I'll try to post lecture notes early this week since this text may be a challenge—a worthwhile one!)**
2. **Listen to the selection on *Hamlet* on the CD that comes with the text.**
3. **On Discussion Board, answer WEEK NINE DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) Question(s)—this should be done by Thurs, midnight. This is the one to which you will also respond to a peer's by Monday, midnight.**
4. **Make sure you check out LECTURE NOTES *after Thursday!***

Week Ten, beginning May 4, 2009

- Take the Exam on Drama (more details to follow)
- 1. **On Discussion Board, answer WEEK TEN DISCUSSION BOARD (DB) Question(s)—this should be done by Thurs, midnight. This is the one to which you will also respond to a peer's by Monday, midnight.**
- 2. **Make sure you check out LECTURE NOTES *after Thursday!***

Week Eleven, beginning May 11, 2009

- Research Paper is due on May 11, 2009