



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.*

**Course Name:** ENGL 3303 Topics in Fiction

**Term and Year:** Spring 2009

**Full Name of Instructor:** Dr. Timothy J. Brady

**Office Phone and Email:** 520-459-1610/bradyt@wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** Landmark Plaza, 400 W. Fry Blvd, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Announced on our Schedule/wherever you are

**Catalog Description:** Topics vary to include special studies in American, British, and European short stories and novels.

**Prerequisite:** Advanced standing

**Required Textbook and Resources:**

BOOK	AUTHOR	ISBN#
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
One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich	Alexander Solzhenitsyn	0451531043
Sister Carrie	Theodore Dreiser	1593082266

Selected Hawthorne short stories will be available on Blackboard or may be obtained at your local Library: "Young Goodman Brown," "The Minister's Black Veil," "The Birthmark," and "Rappaccini's Daughter."

**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.

The more the student puts into the course, the higher his or her outcome competencies will be.

**Attendance Requirements:** Students will be required to participate in all discussions (usually via Blackboard) during the time frame specified for each week. This makes up a significant part of your grade.

**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:**

<u>Grading Percentage</u>		<u>Grading for Course</u>	
Homework	10 %	A=	90 - 100 %
Written Projects	10%	B=	80 - 90 %
Participation/Quizzes	50%	C=	70 - 80 %
Final Exam	10 %	D=	60 - 70 %
Research Paper	20%	F=	below 60 %

**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 read 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.

**Research Writing:** Students will be required to write a short research paper on one of the authors we will be studying this semester. In addition to the work that we will be doing, you will be required to read ONE additional novel. I have provided a free week in the syllabus (Week 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. This paper will be described in detail during the term.

All written work must be typewritten according to the format which will be specified once class begins. All assignments must be submitted via email to [dr.timbrady@gmail.com](mailto:dr.timbrady@gmail.com) and should be

turned in on the assigned date unless you have the instructor's approval for an extension. **PLEASE DO NOT USE THE DIGITAL DROPBOX FOR ANY COURSE SUBMISSIONS.**

**Tentative Schedule:**

**SCHEDULE FOR ENGLISH 3303** (changes may be required)

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 1 should be read BEFORE that class date.

If there is additional homework for the class, it will be listed in the lecture notes 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: The 19<sup>th</sup> Century American Novel

Reading Assignment for this class:

**The Scarlet Letter (Hawthorne)**

Session 4: <sup>1</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Novel

Reading Assignment for this class:

**The Ox-Bow Incident**

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)**

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

Reading Assignment for this class:

**Sister Carrie (Theodore Dreiser)**

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<sup>1</sup> Short essay due on Monday of this week.

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

Reading Assignment for this class:

**One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich (Alexander Solzhenitsyn)**

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

Reading Assignments for this class:

**In the Lake of the Woods (O'Brien)**

Session 10: Research Paper Reading

<b>Dickens:</b>	<b>"Great Expectations"</b>
<b>Dreiser:</b>	<b>"Jennie Gerhardt"</b>
<b>O'Brien:</b>	<b>"The Things They Carried"</b>
<b>Camus:</b>	<b>"The Plague"</b>
<b>Steinbeck:</b>	<b>"The Grapes of Wrath"</b>
<b>Hemingway:</b>	<b>"The Sun Also Rises"</b>
<b>Lewis:</b>	<b>"Main Street"</b>
<b>Sinclair:</b>	<b>"The Jungle"</b>
<b>Kafka:</b>	<b>"The Trial"</b>

Session 11: Final Exam