**Disclaimer: Since this syllabus and course outline is listed 4-5 months in advance, some elements of both the syllabus and the outline could change by the time the course begins, so it will be imperative for students to go to the course in Blackboard on the first-class day and replace this syllabus with the one published in the Blackboard course itself.**

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**WBUonline**

**School of Languages and Literature**

**UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT**

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

# COURSE NUMBER & NAME: **ENGL 2302 American Literature**

## TERM:

Fall 1, 2025

## INSTRUCTOR:

**Dr. Deborah Kuhlmann**

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Office phone: 4095991582

WBU Email: [kuhlmannd@wbu.edu](mailto:kuhlmannd@wbu.edu), but but the **Messages** in Blackboard for English 2302 is the best place to receive and send email messages to Dr. K. Cell phone is 409-599-1582 (only by agreed appointment time between student and prof and not after 9:00 p.m., thanks.)

Cell phone: same

## OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION:

Blackboard online

I will be checking my **Messages on Blackboard daily**, which I would consider asynchronous virtual office hours to take your questions and provide you with important updates or reminders. If you felt it necessary for a phone chat, we can certainly arrange for that as well, but do email me first, so we can set a conference time that is convenient for both of us.

## COURSE MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

Blackboard

## CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

American Literature - selected studies in important works in American literature beginning with pre-colonial era.

## PREREQUISITE:

ENGL 1302

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIAL:

*The Norton Anthology American Literature, 10th Edition*, which includes Volumes A and B.

ISBN: 978-132-402-808-6

Note: for Unit 4, the texts will be Open Access, which means there will be links in the unit to the texts.

In addition to the textbook listed above, students are required to have access to the following resources in order to be successful in this course:

o   Access to Blackboard

o   Access to a computer with a word processor and a reliable internet connection

o   Means to back-up course assignment files (such as a flash drive or cloud storage service)

## OPTIONAL MATERIALS

NA

## COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:

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

1. Discuss the origins of American literature.
2. Analyze basic American literary trends as related to historical and cultural contexts.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of major literary movements, correlated with significant American writers and their works.
4. Demonstrate the ability to read critically and communicate persuasively about select canonical works of American literature.
5. Conduct research on a topic related to American 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:

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 executive director. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may 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.

In a regular face-to-face course, you would be required to attend at least 80% of the class meetings. In this course, you will be greatly benefit by logging on **daily, but you should respond to the instructor’s messages at least once a week**. In order to be successful in a college level course, it is generally expected that you will attend class and devote at least 2 hours of outside study and preparation for every hour in class. In other words, for the average college course, you would expect to devote ***at least*** nine hours a week. You may realistically expect to spend that much time for this course as well. Please see the university policy on this at the end of this syllabus.

**WBU Class Attendance Policy:** Online Students - Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner.

1. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor.

2. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements.

3. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 3 or more weeks of an 11 week term, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation.

4. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given term is considered a "no-show" and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus.

5. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

## STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

1. Attendance requirements
2. [Link to WBU’s Statement on Academic Integrity](https://www.wbu.edu/academics/writing-center/Academic%20Integrity%20Statement%20Pol%208.4.1%20Attch%20Oct%2020222.pdf), and reference one of the following in regard to how generative artificial intelligence (GAI) such as ChatGPT may or may not be used in this course:
   1. No use of any generative AI tools permitted.
      1. Students are required to create and produce all work themselves or with assigned group members. Any work submitted that has used an AI generative tool like ChatGPT will be in immediate violation of the academic integrity policies for the course and WBU.
      2. All assignments must be fully created, designed, and prepared by the student(s).
      3. Any work that uses generative AI will be treated as plagiarism.
      4. Any use of generative AI tools outside of the approved instructor parameters will be considered a form of plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

## DISABILITY STATEMENT:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADING CRITERIA:

Quizzes, Activities, Discussion and Peer Reviews: Each student is responsible for reading, studying, and completing the assigned work.

Written Assignment: 5 to 7 page research essay.

**Point Total for Course:**

4 quizzes or exams @ 100 = 400

1 major essay @ 200 = 200

5 discussions = 400

1000

**Final Grade:**   
  
900 - 1000 A   
  
800 - 899 B  
  
700 - 799 C   
  
600 - 699 D  
  
599 F

**Quizzes: All quizzes** are open book. You will have multiple chances on the quizzes, but it is better not open a quiz until you are really ready to take it. Once you begin to take a quiz, you should know that you may not be able to back out and try again later.

**Discussions:** Each discussion should be posted to the appropriate topic area and thread.

**“Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.”**

**Important To Know for Your Success: This Is Not a Self-Paced Class**

Time management is always your key to success. LATE assignments will not be accepted. Deadlines are firm, and your responsibility to yourself as an online student is to stay up with those due dates. Be proactive, be on top of your assignments, and be successful.

**Time Zones:**  Moreover, please know that due dates are set for Central Standard Time. If you are outside that time zone, it is up to you to make the correction accordingly. Many online students are located literally around the world, so the best plan is for you to manage your own time zone, making your deadlines for assignments compatible with Central Standard Time.

**Communication:** For your advantage use and check your MESSAGES on Blackboard daily. We will NOT be using your Wayland email, at least for our class. It is, in fact, critical to your success in this class that you go as soon as possible to our class on Blackboard and check your messages there, then let Dr. K. know you are “in” the course and then continue, again, to check the **MESSAGES in Blackboard** every day. Not only will you receive plenty of help and “tips for success” on a regular basis this way, but this will be the best place for you to communicate with Dr. K.

Always be proactive about communicating with your instructor.

**How to Navigate English 2302 Online: First class day, you should go to Blackboard and access the course immediately.**

The course has been organized so that you can get the most information with the fewest clicks possible. But, be sure you explore the entire course in the beginning so that you know where all assignments and supplemental aids are located throughout the course. And always, if you have questions, ask. True, “Course Content” is where you will find the essential units for the course, but the course menu and all other links hold valuable information with which you need to make yourself familiar in order to increase your chances for the success you want.

**Academic Honesty:** No form of cheating will be tolerated. Plagiarism—copying another's words or ideas and presenting them as your own—is not only a form of cheating but also a serious academic offense. In the very least, cheating or plagiarizing will result in an “F” on the work in question. 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.

**Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:** Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

**Class Expectations:** Students are expected to treat one another with respect at all times.

**Course Structure and Deadlines:**

The course is divided into units. All assignments within each unit have definite due dates, and the units have definite dates for completion. Some of the assignments have dates that are **crucial** because they involve other students and group discussion or peer feedback. If you are late on these assignments, you will receive ***no credit.***  You have FIRM due dates on all assignments that must be adhered to. These dates must be followed because each unit will build on what has been done previously. You cannot expect to wait several weeks and then try to “catch up.” Once the “final accepted deadline” for an assignment or quiz has passed, you will not be able to submit it—the course settings will not allow it. **Be careful that you do not wait until the last minute or even the last hours to submit assignments because you never know when the unexpected will happen**.

**Incompletes:**

A grade of “I” is given only in the case of a documented emergency provided that the student has been making satisfactory progress. An Incomplete Grade Contract must be completed. I strongly advise you to finish the course this semester. My experience has been that most students who receive incompletes never get around to finishing them. Be sure to check with the university policy on incompletes. If the incomplete is not made up, the student receives a F.

**Grade Appeal Statement**: “Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

**Schedule**: Please note that in the first two units the discussions count for a lot. In large part, they are replacing an older assignment that used to require two papers. Instead of the papers, now there is discussion, which should be more inviting for students to have a forum, but **do check the grading rubrics in each unit**, making sure you have the minimum required length at least and answer all the questions.

**Unit 1: The Literature of Early America (August 11 – August 23)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Due Date (FIRM)** | **Points toward Final Grade** |
| **Quiz 1** | **By Sat., August 16 @ 11:55 P.M. CST** | **100** |
| **Discussion 1 for Unit 1** | **By Sat., August 23 @ 11:55 P.M. CST** | **100** |

**Unit 2: The Literature of the 18th Century (August 25 – August 30)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Due Date (FIRM)** | **Points toward Final Grade** |
| **Quiz 2** | **By Sat., August 30 @ 11:55 P.M. CST** | **100** |
| **Discussion 2 for Unit 2** | **By Sat., August 30 @ 11:55 P.M. CST** | **100** |

**Unit 3: The Literature of the 19th Century (Sept. 1 – Sept. 6)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Due Date (FIRM)** | **Points toward Final Grade** |
| **Quiz 3** | **By Sat., Sept. 6 @ 11:55 P.M. CST** | **100** |
| **Discussion 3 for Unit 3** | **By Sat., Sept. 6 @ 11:55 P.M. CST** | **100** |

**Unit 4: The Literature of the 20th Century to Present (Sept. 8 – Sept. 13)**

**Note: For this unit the texts will be “open access,” which means there will be links provided in the unit to the texts, so the textbook will not be needed.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Due Date (FIRM)** | **Points toward Final Grade** |
| **Quiz 4** | **By Sat., Sept. 13 @ 11:55 P.M. CST** | **100** |
| **Discussion 4 for Unit 4** | **By Sat., Sept. 13 @ 11:55 P.M. CST** | **100** |

**Unit 5: Final Research Paper (Sept. 15 – Sept. 27):**

**Note:**You will have two weeks to work on this final paper. There are assignments due within that time frame, but you can always work ahead. For instance, the draft and peer review are due **Saturday, Sept. 20** and the Final Paper is due **Saturday, Sept. Sept. 27,** but you can post those documents earlier than that, if you choose. However, the idea is to have a peer review with feedback from Dr. K. by Sept. 20, so that you will have an entire week following that to get your paper revised and corrected as needed to turn in the final version on Sept. 27. Those revisions will be important to your success, so you should take advantage of that week given to you to work on your final paper.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Due Date** | **Point Value** |
| **Final Research Paper** | **By Sat., Sept. 27 @11: 55 P.M.** | **100** |
| **Discussion 1: CORRECT Thesis + two responses to two other students about the writing of the thesis, not just the topic** | **By Sat., Sept. 20 @ 11:55 P.M.** | **20** |
| **Discussion 2: Bibliography + responses** | **By Sat., Sept. 20 @ 11:55 P.M.** | **20** |
| **Unit 5 Peer Review on Discussion Board** |  |  |
| **1.) Rough Draft due** | **Sat., Sept. 20 @ 11:55 P.M.** | **20** |
| **2.) Peer Review using the peer review form that is in the unit and on the discussion board due** | **Sat., Sept. 20 @ 11: 55P.M.** | **20** |
| **3.) Responses to two more student postings about the writing of the paper and not just the topic** | **Sat., Sept. 20 @ 11:55 P.M.** | **20** |
| **Any communication with Dr. K. over final grades needs to be finished.** | **Tues., Sept. 30 @ 11:55 P.M.** |  |
| **Total points possible for Unit 5** |  | **200** |

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Disclaimer: The professor reserves the right to make changes and corrections if and as needed to this syllabus.**

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