



Virtual Campus
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 1302.VC02 – Composition and Reading

TERM:

Fall II VC 2021

INSTRUCTOR:

Professor Ashley Hardage Edlin

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Office phone: (806) 291-1113 (I do not check voicemail outside of office hours)

WBU Email: edlina@wbu.edu (e-mail is the best way to reach me)

OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION:

Online, various times and by appointment. E-mail is the best way to reach me.

Mon./Wed./Fri. 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Tues./Thurs. 9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Skype) | Other days/times available by appointment.

COURSE MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

WBU's Virtual Campus: [WBU Blackboard](#)

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Readings from imaginative literature; the research paper and shorter critical and interpretive essays.

PREREQUISITE:

ENGL 1301

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIAL:

This course uses Inclusive Access, which means an electronic copy of the textbook is billed for the course as part of your tuition and fees for a **reduced** price. The textbook will be available to

you beginning on the first day of class. The bookstore will send additional information about Inclusive Access and opting out during the first week of class.

- The Norton Introduction to Literature, Shorter 13th edition with updated MLA. Kelly J. Mays, editor. ISBN 9780393664928.
- Access to Blackboard and WBU e-mail along with access to a computer with internet are also required for successful completion of the course. Contact IT at (806) 291-3540 if you need assistance with passwords or technology access.

COURSE OUTCOMES AND 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.

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. **(NOTE) 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.

Because this is an online course and because we will not regularly meet synchronously, your attendance for the course is largely dependent on your contribution to the discussion board's topics and other participation grades. In keeping with the on-site attendance policy, failure to provide a full response for at least 75% of the discussion topics will result in an F for the course.

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.

You are expected to submit original work in this class. This means the work you submit for this class cannot be from another course. Further, plagiarism in this course will not be tolerated.

Plagiarism is constituted as stealing words or ideas from another source and passing them as your own. Since this class specifically focuses on research, you should be especially conscious of attributing your sources. Students who plagiarize or recycle work in this class will receive a zero for the assignment and will be subject to university policies regarding plagiarism. (See Languages and Literature Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty in Blackboard.)

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.

DUE DATES AND LATE PENALTIES:

(NOTE) Assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. (Central Time Zone) on the date posted. Be sure that your clock matches the clock in WBU's Blackboard. All assignments must be submitted to the Blackboard site to receive a grade. These deadlines, like most things in life, are not negotiable. **(NOTE) Any late assignment will receive a 20-point deduction per day late. Late assignments are not accepted after 5 days of the assignment's due date.**

EXPECTATIONS, COMMUNICATION, & OTHER INFORMATION:

While the nature of an online course allows students to work at their own pace, you are expected to keep up with the course materials weekly. *Please note, this is not a self-paced course.* This means that you should keep up with the readings and assignments posted each week, and you are responsible for turning in any assignments by the posted due date. Students who get behind in the weekly requirements will likely not do well in the course. Remember, also, that your attendance for the course is measured by your participation in the discussion board. Announcements and important information will be posted on the Blackboard site. Be sure to check the site often. Additional information may be sent to your WBU emails, so make sure you've set up a WBU email and are checking it often. Always feel free to email me if you are concerned about the course or your progress. I am available to help you, provide resources, and give direction—but I cannot help you if I do not know you're struggling.

In an effort to accommodate the schedules and preferences of online students, all major assignments are due on Sundays. However, although the HW assignments and major assignments are due on Sunday, this does not mean you should wait until the end of the week to think about them, particularly if you need help from me. I am happy to answer questions about assignments; however, please note that while I typically answer email within 24 hours M-F, I am not always as tied to a computer on the weekends. This means if you need help with an assignment, you'll need to get in touch with me by Thursday or Friday. I also strongly

recommend you use Multidisciplinary Tutorial Services (formerly the Writing Center). There's a link available in our Blackboard course. Be aware, too, that using the Multidisciplinary Tutorial Services resources likewise requires that you plan ahead for your assignments and your assignment questions. A successful student likely does not wait until Sunday night to begin the week's work.

If ever you have a major life event that will affect your participation in the course, it's imperative that you communicate with me as soon as possible. I try to work with students as best as I can, but I can be more flexible and gracious if you tell me in advance rather than after the fact. In an online course, communication is *key*. As I mention above, I cannot help you if I do not know you're struggling. That said, like most of my students, I realize you probably work full time, have a family, and juggle other courses and commitments. If life's current restraints mean you cannot fully concentrate on the course's requirements, then you might consider taking the course at another point in your studies.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADING CRITERIA:

More specific descriptions of the course requirements will be made available in course modules on the WBU Blackboard site: [WBU Blackboard](#). However, the assignments and weights are posted below.

Discussion Board Posts and Responses (15%):

Students will complete discussion posts and responses every week throughout the term. The purpose of these posts is to help you engage with the literature and identify and discuss themes or ideas that you would like to explore further. I will post prompts for you to answer, but you may also share your own links, articles or ideas beyond my prompts. Be as specific and thorough as possible, quoting/citing from the literature when you can.

Homework, Activities, and Quizzes (15%):

Students will be responsible for the reading and assigned homework/in-class activities/quizzes. All of these assignments will take place and be submitted in Blackboard.

Essays (40%):

Students will complete two essays over the course of the term. All writing assignments must be typed and submitted to Blackboard in either Microsoft Word or PDF format. See Blackboard for additional assignment information.

Midterm Essay: poetry and/or drama (20%):

This is a 1,000-1,200 argument with a thesis which (if you choose) can be developed out of one of your discussion board posts or any other class activity or discussion. The Midterm Essay requires you to argue an opinionated thesis about a poem or drama and use and cite the author's language as your focus and evidence. Do not use sources other than the literature itself.

Final Essay: short fiction and research (20%):

This is a research paper of 1,200-1,500 words on a topic relating specifically to one of the short fiction works assigned this term. Your objective is to demonstrate critical thinking and argue an opinionated thesis in relation to a specific piece of literature from the syllabus. In addition to using your primary source (the literature itself), locate and use at least 3 secondary sources. These should be library books or journal articles that analyze the story, its author, or its themes. A Works Cited page in MLA citation style is required. Note: your topic is subject to the instructor’s approval.

Presentation (15%)

Students will give a short presentation over their final essay. Presentations may utilize voice recording and PowerPoint or may be a video. See Blackboard for additional assignment information and the presentation rubric.

Final Exam (15%):

The final exam is comprehensive and will cover the readings and material regarding poetry, drama, and short fiction.

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

The schedule below is a tentative outline for the term. The schedule and assignments that appear below are subject to change before the term begins. Even after the beginning of the term, this schedule will be subject to change with advance notification, of course.

***NOTE:** Chapters are listed below, but you will need to consult our course in Blackboard for specific page ranges, as you will rarely read an entire assigned chapter.*

Weekly Topic	Reading	Discussion Topic	Assignment(s)
Week 1: Introductions: Course, Literature, and Poetry	Introduction and Chs. 11, 12, & 13	Course Introduction Responding to Poetry Speaker, Situation, & Setting	Discussion Boards Reading Quizzes

Weekly Topic	Reading	Discussion Topic	Assignment(s)
Week 2: Understanding Poetic Texts	Chs. 14, 16, 17, & 18	Theme and Tone, Visual Imagery, Figures of Speech, Symbol, & The Sounds of Poetry	Discussion Boards Reading Quizzes
Week 3: Introduction to Drama and <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>	Chs. 25, 26, & 28	Responding to Drama Elements of Drama Introduction to <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>	Discussion Boards Reading Quizzes
Week 4: <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> and Writing about Literature	<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> and Chs. 30 & 31	<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> Basic Writing Moves The Literature Essay	Discussion Boards Reading Quizzes Midterm Essay Due 9/5
Week 5: Introduction to Short Fiction	Chs. 1, 2, & 3	Responding to Fiction Plot, Narration, & Point of View	Discussion Boards Reading Quizzes
Week 6: Understanding Short Fiction	Chs. 4, 5, 6, & 7	Character, Setting, Symbol and Figurative Language, & Theme	Discussion Boards Reading Quizzes
Week 7: Researching and Writing about Fiction	Chs. 9, 33, & 34	Context, The Literature Research Essay, & Quotation, Citation, and Documentation	Discussion Boards Reading Quizzes Final Essay Due 9/26
Week 8: Final Exam	N/A	Poetry, Drama, & Fiction	Final Exam Due 10/2

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO BLACKBOARD TO RECEIVE CREDIT.