



Wayland Baptist 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 Name

ENGL 4308.VC01 – Colonial and Postcolonial Literature

Class Meeting Time and Location

Fully-online course located on Blackboard

Term and Year

Spring 1, 2022

Instructor

Dr. Karen Beth Strovas

WBU Email

strovask@wbu.edu (email is the best way to reach me!)

Office Location and Phone Number

GH 202A on the WBU Plainview campus, (806) 291-1114, cell (806) 292-3543 (8 am–8 pm only for texts, please. Otherwise, use email.)

Office hours

MWF 8:30-5; TuTh 8:30-3; and by appointment

Catalog Description

A literary and critical introduction to the ramifications of empire as they have been dealt with nationally and globally. **Prerequisite:** ENGL 1302

Required Textbook and Resources

-Forster, E. M. *A Passage to India*. Harcourt. ISBN: 9780156711425

-Divakaruni, Chitra. *One Amazing Thing*. Hyperion. ISBN: 9781401341589

-Access to usernames and passwords for Wayland email and Blackboard, and additional resources necessary to complete and submit a college-level paper, such as a computer, back-up media, Blackboard, etc.

Course Outcome Competencies

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

1. Discuss and analyze colonial and postcolonial texts.
2. Demonstrate an improved understanding of the relationship between Great Britain and nations that once were colonized.
3. Analyze representations of race, class, gender, history, and/or identity in representative literary texts in written, researched argument.
4. Critically evaluate unique cultural differences and broader intercultural similarities of colonial and postcolonial authors and selected texts.
5. Develop an awareness of and keener sensitivity to issues of diversity and oppression, as exposed or problematized by literature.

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

Attendance Requirements

This WBU Online course is set up on a weekly “module” basis. This means assignments, readings, discussions, papers, etc. will generally be presented and due each week (Monday-Sunday). Therefore, a *minimum* “attendance” of accessing the Blackboard (BB) class at least once a week is required in order to complete the course successfully. Participation and attendance will be determined through discussion board posts and/or submission of assignments. With that in mind, failure to submit two or more required assignments (including Discussion Board posts) is grounds for receiving an F in the course, regardless of final grade average. Makeup work will be offered at the instructor's discretion and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Any authorized makeups must be completed within the time limit set by the instructor; otherwise, the makeup grade will be zero. Finally, recall that WBU's catalog stipulates students who miss 25% or more of class time will automatically fail the course. 25% of 8 weeks is 2 weeks.

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.” Note: If you would like me to accommodate a disability, please provide documentation within the first week of class or as soon as possible.

Academic Honesty

No form of cheating will be tolerated. *Plagiarism*—copying or purchasing someone else'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 plagiarism or related forms of cheating will result in an F on the work in question, with the possibility of an F in the class. An official report will also be filed with the Provost/Academic VP. See the [Wayland catalog](#) for further information on the penalties of plagiarism.

Class Communication, Announcements, and Updates

Official announcements not made in class will be sent to our Blackboard class online, and Blackboard automatically forwards these announcements to your WBU email, as well. It is your responsibility to set up your Wayland email account and check it daily. If you need assistance with your **Wayland email**, call IT @ (806)291-3540, OR [access assistance online from IT regarding your email account](#).

Technical Aspects of the course

If you encounter technical problems, find some assistance at [WBU Online](#).

- You are encouraged to visit the [WBUonline Blackboard login page](#) as soon as possible and work through the [Learn Module tutorials](#) if are not familiar with how the service works. If you have problems with Blackboard or your WBU email, please use the WBU Support Contacts available on the [WBUonline Blackboard login page](#) or the contact info above.
- Note: It's been my experience Blackboard works better with Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome than with Microsoft Internet Explorer. You may want to download a Firefox browser to use for class if you don't already have one.

Class Expectations and Respect for Others

Students are expected to treat one another and their instructor with respect in all communication, whether that is through email or Blackboard Discussion Boards. Please choose your words well.

*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.

*Required by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

Wayland Baptist University Multidisciplinary Writing Center (FREE!!)

Mon-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Closed Wednesday nights.

Fri: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Sun: 7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Set up an appointment online at the [Writing Center website](#).

Like the Writing Center on Facebook at Wayland Baptist University Multidisciplinary Writing Center AND

Follow the Writing Center on Twitter at wbu_wc

Grading Chart

Active participation in discussion boards or quizzes	50%
Research & Analysis Essay Topic Proposal and 3 Key Passages with explication	5%
Research & Analysis Essay + Works Cited	25%
Final Exam	20%

Reading Homework, Quizzes, Discussion Boards, and Participation

Students are responsible for reading, studying, and completing the assigned material. Discussion board posts and/or quizzes or written assignments will be required each week as noted in the syllabus schedule.

Discussion Boards

In general, if you follow directions, turn your DB in on time, answer my prompt fully and thoughtfully, and respond to at least two classmates, you will receive between 90-100%. I will automatically deduct 10 points at each 24-hour mark late. I will deduct 10 points for each missing response to a classmate. Each DB post will be assessed on a case-by-case basis for quality, completion, and professionalism.

Research & Analysis Essay

This is a 6–10 page researched argument with a thesis of literary or cultural significance, on a topic relating to one or more of the works assigned this semester. In addition to using your primary source(s), locate and use at least 3 secondary sources (books or journal articles that analyze the novel, author, or a literary, historical, or cultural aspect of the time period). Your sources must be academic or scholarly. Use your own reasoning ability and your sources to present your point of view with the necessary support. In-text citations and a Works Cited page in MLA style are required. Essay topic suggestions may be available upon request. See assignment sheet for more details.

Exams

One exam will be given during the term; it tests your reading completion and comprehension, critical thinking, and writing skills, in addition to your knowledge of major themes, vocabulary, plot, characters, or any other aspect of the course emphasized in lecture videos, class discussions, or notes.

Course Schedule

Aside from the two required novels listed, all other readings for this class are located online for free or are posted as PDFs or Word Documents on our course page on Blackboard (BB). This schedule is subject to revision, although changes are unlikely. Students will be notified in advance of any changes.

Week 1: Monday, Jan. 10–Sunday, Jan. 16:

Jan. 10: MODULE 1

1. Read “Welcome to ENGL4308” handout on Blackboard (BB) and view “Hello” video
2. Read through the syllabus and ask questions if you have them on the Syllabus Questions Discussion Board forum.
3. Read E. M. Forster, *A Passage to India*, chapters 1–7 (pages 3–85)
4. Read *Empire* handout or pdf (pages 30–34)
5. View Dr. Strovas’s Video Lecture: “*A Passage to India*, chapters 1–7”
6. Complete Discussion Board 1 by Wednesday, Jan. 12 to be counted present for the university Census
7. Complete Discussion Board 2 by Jan. 13

Jan. 13: MODULE 2

1. Read E. M. Forster, *A Passage to India*, chapters 8–19 (pages 85–199)
2. Read handout, “Notes on History of British India and Pakistan”—make note of any questions or ideas you want us to discuss in discussion boards.
3. View Dr. Strovas’s Video Lecture: “*A Passage to India*, chapters 8–19”
4. Complete DB 3 by Jan. 17

Week 2: Monday, Jan. 17–Sunday, Jan. 23:

Jan. 17: MODULE 1

1. Read *British Empire*, chapter 1 (pages 13–25)
2. Read E. M. Forster, *A Passage to India*, chapters 20–29 (pages 199–296)
3. View Dr. Strovas’s Video Lecture: “*A Passage to India*, chapters 20–29”
4. Complete *Passage to India* Open-Book Quiz and submit on BB by Jan. 20

Jan. 20: MODULE 2

1. Read E. M. Forster, *A Passage to India*, chapters 30–37 (296–362, the end)
2. View Dr. Strovas’s Video Lecture: “*A Passage to India*, chapters 30–37”
3. Complete DB 4 by Jan. 24

Week 3: Monday, Jan. 24–Sunday, Jan. 30:

Jan. 24: MODULE 1

1. Read *Literary Theory* handout or pdf (pages 108–top half of 113, 119–120, 121 + Deconstruction, New Historicism/Cultural Materialism, Post-Colonial Theory, Minority Discourse)
2. Read Short Story 1 (PDF posted in content folder)
3. View Dr. Strovas’s Video Lecture
4. Read *British Empire*, part of chapter 2 (pages 27–37) (PDF posted in content folder)
5. Complete DB 5 by Jan. 27

Jan. 27: MODULE 2

1. Read Short Story 2 (PDF posted in content folder)
2. View Dr. Strovas's Video Lecture
3. Complete Open-Book Quiz on Stories 1-2 and submit on BB by Jan. 31

Week 4: Monday, Jan. 31–Sunday, Feb. 6:**Jan. 31: MODULE 1**

1. Start Short Story 3 (PDF posted in content folder)
2. Read part of chapter 4, "The nineteenth century" and "The twentieth century" (pages 85–100)
3. Read through the full assignment sheet for the Research and Analysis Essay. Begin thinking about possible topics. Email if you have questions about the essay assignment.

Feb. 3: MODULE 2

1. Complete Short Story 3
2. View Dr. Strovas's Video Lecture
3. Complete DB 7 by Feb. 7

Week 5: Monday, Feb. 7–Sunday, Feb. 13:**Feb. 7: MODULE 1**

1. Read *British Empire*, part of chapter 6, "Auditing the British Empire" (pages 117–128)
2. Read Jhumpa Lahiri, "Gogol" (first half). PDF available on Blackboard.
3. Complete DB 8 by Feb. 10

Feb. 10: MODULE 2

1. Read Jhumpa Lahiri, "Gogol" (second half). PDF available on Blackboard.
2. View Dr. Strovas's Video Lecture: "Gogol".
3. Complete "Gogol" Reading Quiz and submit on BB by Feb. 14
4. You're past the halfway point. Good work!! Pat yourself on the back.

Week 6: Monday, Feb. 14–Sunday, Feb. 20:**Feb. 14: MODULE 1**

1. Read Chitra Divakaruni, *One Amazing Thing* (1–65)
2. View Dr. Strovas's Video Lecture: "One Amazing Thing Part 1"
3. Complete DB 9 by Feb. 17

Feb. 17: MODULE 2

1. Read Chitra Divakaruni, *One Amazing Thing* (66–143)
2. View Dr. Strovas's Video Lecture: "One Amazing Thing Part 2"
3. Complete Open-Book Quiz and submit on BB by Feb. 21
4. Read through instructions for final exam in the Final Exam folder on BB.

Week 7: Monday, Feb. 21–Sunday, Feb. 27:**Feb. 21: MODULE 1**

1. Re-read through full assignment sheet for the Research and Analysis Essay. Be prepared to turn in your chosen topic and preliminary analyses by mid-week (see #4 below).
2. Read Chitra Divakaruni, *One Amazing Thing* (144–220)
3. View Dr. Strovas's Video Lecture: "One Amazing Thing Part 3"
4. Submit topic proposal prewriting assignment **by Wednesday, Feb. 23** (see assignment sheet for more details).
5. Complete DB 10 by Feb. 24

Feb. 24: MODULE 2

1. Begin drafting your essay.
2. This week, try to complete the first 2 or 3 paragraphs or a full outline of what you want to write. Contact me if questions arise (strovask@wbu.edu).

Week 8: Monday, Feb. 28–Saturday, Mar. 5:**Feb. 28: MODULE 1**

1. Continue writing your Research and Analysis Essay.
2. View Dr. Strovas's "Essay Checklist"
3. **Submit final draft of Analysis Essay to BB by Friday, March 4, midnight Central**
 - See the assignment sheet posted in Blackboard for more details.

Mar. 3: MODULE 2

1. Work on final exam assignment.
 - Note: this exam should be available by Monday, Feb. 28, located in "Final Exam" folder.
2. **Complete Final Exam on Blackboard by March 5, midnight Central**
 - See the assignment sheet posted in Blackboard for more details.