

**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**School of Languages and Literature**

**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 2302 American Literature**

**Term and Year: Spring 2014**

**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 or EMAIL 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 on 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.

**Full Name of Instructor: Dr. Deborah Kuhlmann**

**Office Phone and Email: WBU Email –** [Kuhlmannd@wbu.edu](mailto:Kuhlmannd@wbu.edu) **, but t**hat said, again, **Messages on Blackboard** for English 2302 is the best place to receive and send email 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., please)**

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** Cyberspace

**Instructor’s Virtual Office Hours**

I will not necessarily be holding synchronous office hours, but 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. That said, my “official,” if you will, virtual office hours when you can reach me by email will most likely be every afternoon. 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. In the event that I have to change these times for any reason, I will make an announcement in the section I have set apart on the Homepage for announcements. Thank you ahead of time for your flexibility on that and caution you, again, to always check the Homepage for announcements.

**Catalog Description:** Selected studies in important works in American literature beginning with the pre-colonial era

**Prerequisite:** **ENGL 1302**

**Required Textbook and Resources: *Concise Anthology of American Literature* (seventh edition), McMichael and Leonard, Pearson Publishers**

**Course Outcome 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**:

**“Attendance:”**

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 emails 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.

**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 the university’s policy on incompletes. If the incomplete is not made up, the student receives an *F.*

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:**

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

Written Assignments A total of three essays will be completed: *Two* short2-to-3-page reader response essays and *one* 5 to 7 page research essay.

**Point Total for Course:**

4 quizzes or exams @ 100 = 400

2 short essays @ 100 =200

1 major essay @ 200 = 200

5 discussions @ 40 = 200

1000

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

All assignments must be submitted on the day they are due.

**Quizzes: All quizzes** are open book. You will have only one chance on the quizzes, so do not open a quiz until you are really ready to take it. There may be time limits on the quizzes, so 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.

**Specific bulletin board topics to notice:**

**Students Asking Instructor** is where you should post a question that you think the entire class may want answered.

**Students Asking Students** is where you can post questions asking your classmates for help. An example may be, “I am having trouble deciding on a topic for my essay. Any suggestions?” Other students in the class may be able to answer. This is also an option if you want a really fast response because one of your classmates may see the question before I do. Please DO NOT use this board as a place to have individual discussions with other members of your group. That should be done through chat or individual email

**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.

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

*It is your responsibility to keep up with the assignments; I will not always remind you when something is due, and I will not inform you of missing submissions unless you ask.*  This schedule is subject to revision.

Although your assignments are due no later than 11:55 p.m. on the due date, never wait that late to turn in your work. It is just too risky to wait until the last minute or even hour like that. Too many other factors can arise that would jeopardize your chance to turn in your work. This is very important to your success!

**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.”

**Contact the Virtual College Help Desk for Technical problems you have at the following link:**

**http://www.wbu.edu/academics/online\_programs/HelpDesk/default.html**

**Tentative Schedule and Grade Assessment:**

You will write 2 smaller essays and 1 major essay as well as quite a few “smaller” assignments. In addition to the discussion assignments, you will have unit quizzes. Each assignment has a point value, which you can find in the unit overviews. Each assignment includes an explanation of what is expected from you. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. K.

**Unit 1: The Literature of Early America (Feb. 24 – March 22)**

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| **Assignment** | **Due Date (FIRM)** | **Points toward Final Grade** |
| Quiz 1 | March 1 @ 11:55 P.M. CST | 100 |
| Discussion 1 for Unit 1 (Note that this includes a draft for your paper to be posted, but it will not need to be posted until March 20). All other questions need to be answered at this time though.  Draft of Short Comparative Essay 1 to be posted under correct question thread in Discussion 1 | March 8 @ 11:55 P.M. CST  March 20 @ 11:55 P.M. CST | 40  Part of Discussion 1 for Unit 1 |
| Final Version of Short Comparative Essay 1 to be submitted in correct Submission Spot in Unit 1. | March 22 @ 11:55 P. M. CST | 100 |
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**Spring Break (March 8 – March 16)**

**Unit 2: The Literature of the 18th Century (March 24 – April 5)**

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| **Assignment** | **Due Date (FIRM)** | **Points toward Final Grade** |
| Quiz 2 | March 29 @ 11:55 P.M. CST | 100 |
| Discussion 2 for Unit 2  (Note that this includes a draft for your paper to be posted, but it will not need to be posted until April 3). All other questions need to be answered at this time though.  Draft of Short Comparative Essay 1 to be posted under correct question thread in Discussion 1 | March 29 @ 11:55 P.M. CST  April 3 @ 11:55 P.M. CST | 40  Part of Discussion 2 for Unit 2 |
| Final Version of Short Comparative Essay 2 to be submitted in correct Submission Spot in Unit 2. | April 5 @ 11:55 CST | 100 |
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**Unit 3: The Literature of the 19th Century (April 7 – April 12):**

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| **Assignment** | **Due Date (FIRM)** | **Points toward Final Grade** |
| Quiz 3 | April 12 @ 11:55 P.M. CST | 100 |
| Discussion 3 for Unit 3 | April 12 @ 11:55 P.M. CST | 40 |
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**Unit 4: The Literature of the 20th Century to Present (April 14 – April 17):**

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| **Assignment** | **Due Date (FIRM)** | **Points toward Final Grade** |
| Quiz 4 | April 17 @ 11:55 P.M. CST | 100 |
| Discussion 4 for Unit 4 | April 17 @ 11:55 P.M. CST | 40 |
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**Note: Assignments for Unit 4 are due on Thursday, April 17, as April 18 – April 21 is Easter.**

**Easter: (April 18 – April 21)**

**Unit 5: Final Research Paper (April 21 – May 9):**

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| **Assignment** | **Due Date** | **Point Value** |
| Final Research Paper | May 9 @11: 55 P.M. | 200 |
| Discussion 1: Working Thesis + responses | April 26 @ 11:55 P.M. | 10 |
| Discussion 2: Bibliography + responses | April 29 @ 11:55 P.M. | 5 |
| Unit 5 Peer Review: |  |  |
| 1.) Rough Draft due | May 3 @ 11:55 P.M. | 10 |
| 2.) Peer Review due | May 3 @ 11: 55P.M. | 10 |
| 3.) Responses to other postings | May 3 @ 11: 55P.M. | 5 |
| Any communication with Dr. K. over final grades needs to be finished. | May 14 @ 11:55 P.M. |  |
| **Total points possible for Unit 5** |  | **240** |

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