



**Plainview, Texas**  
**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 5308.PL01 — Advanced Literary Research

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Class should be available any time, day or night, through Blackboard (BB) online.

**Term and Year:** Summer 2017 (11-week term), May 29–August 12, 2017

**Instructor:** Dr. Karen Beth Strovask

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

**Office Location and Phone Number:** My office is physically located on Wayland's home/Plainview campus in Gates Hall 202A; however, during summer months, I do not typically hold in-office hours. Feel free to email me any time. I will get back to you as soon as possible, nearly always within 24 hours. For serious concerns, you may call or text my cell (806) 292-3543. I have small kids, so please respect sleeping hours.

**Catalog Description:** A course focused on locating and interacting with source material for advanced literary research projects. Note: Required of all MA in English students. **Prerequisite:** graduate standing

**Required Textbook and Resources:**

- Booth, Colomb, Williams, Bizup, and Fitzgerald. *The Craft of Research*. 4th Edition. Chicago: Chicago UP, 2016. ISBN-13: 978-0226239736
- Hayot, Eric. *The Elements of Academic Style: Writing for the Humanities*. Columbia UP: (August 26) 2014. ISBN-13: 978-0231168014
- Modern Language Association of America. *MLA Handbook*. 8th Edition. 2016. MLA. ISBN-13: 978-1603292627.
- This course will take place entirely online. You must have a reliable and secure computer connection and internet service, as well as access to software for writing papers (such as Microsoft Word) and software capable of reading documents produced in .html and .pdf formats; also, have access to backup media such as a USB flash drive or dropbox, etc.
- Regular access and known passwords to WBU Blackboard and WBU email account. Your WBU email is likely the only way that I will contact you.

**Course Outcome Competencies:** At the end of the course, students actively engaged in learning will be able to:

1. express understanding of the traditional principles and procedures of bibliographic research
2. demonstrate research methods and skills in English studies by working with various databases and library resources to access, assess, and synthesize significant primary and secondary sources
3. formulate workable literary research questions to create and sustain arguments based on readings and research
4. prepare graduate-level research papers or projects which employ scholarly or academic research and demonstrate a mastery of standard written English as well as stylistic maturity
5. understand and correctly use MLA Style in composed materials, and demonstrate awareness of other bibliographic styles, standards, and guidelines common to the Humanities.

*The more the student puts into the course, the better 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 is grounds for receiving an F in the course. 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.

**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/Executive VP. See the Wayland catalog for further information on the penalties of plagiarism.

[http://www.wbu.edu/academics/academic\\_resources/course\\_catalog/](http://www.wbu.edu/academics/academic_resources/course_catalog/)

**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 go here: [http://www.wbu.edu/current\\_students/student\\_email/default.htm](http://www.wbu.edu/current_students/student_email/default.htm)

**If you encounter technical problems**—find some assistance at WBU Online via this link:

- <https://www.wbu.edu/wbu-online/current-students/index.htm>
- You are encouraged to visit the Blackboard login page ASAP and test your browser for Blackboard compatibility, as well as take the Blackboard Tutorial if you 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 Blackboard login page or the contact info above.
- Note: It’s been my experience Blackboard works infinitely better with Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome than with Microsoft Internet Explorer. You’ll do yourself a great favor at the beginning of this term by downloading a Firefox browser 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

**Grading Chart:**

- Active participation in any posted Discussion Board question	20%
- Working Annotated Bibliography	10%
- "Constructing the Conversation": scholarly research review	20%
- Working Thesis Section: Claim/Purpose and Significance	5%
- Conference Paper Proposal	15%
- Major research proposal	20%
- Scholarly Journal Report (functioning as final exam)	10%

**Assignment Descriptions:** *forthcoming***Advanced Literary Research: Course Schedule/Outline**

[Please note: this is a very rough sketch of the course schedule. An update will be uploaded to WBU Online when it is complete.] Page numbers refer to the editions of the course texts listed in the syllabus. This schedule is subject to revision, although changes are unlikely. Students will be notified in advance of any changes.

**Week 1 May 29-Jun 4:**

1. Read "Introduction to Course" on Blackboard (BB)
2. Week 1 reading assignment TBD
3. Complete Discussion Board 1
4. Brainstorm topics. Start working through the library catalogs and databases for articles or books to request through inter-library loan.

**Week 2 Jun 5-Jun 11:**

1. Week 2 reading assignment TBD
2. Complete Discussion Board 2
3. Brainstorm topics. Keep working through the library catalogs and databases for article sources or books to request through inter-library loan.

**Week 3 Jun 12-Jun 18:**

1. Week 3 reading assignment TBD
2. Complete Discussion Board 3

**Week 4 Jun 19-Jun 25:**

1. Week 4 reading assignment TBD
2. Complete Discussion Board 4
3. **Working Annotated Bibliography due uploaded to Blackboard by SATURDAY, June 24, midnight (CST).** Any late bibliographies will be counted off 10 points per 24 hours with the first deduction occurring at the 24-hour mark.—See assignment sheet for full details.

**Week 5 Jun 26-Jul 2:**

1. Week 5 reading assignment TBD
2. Complete Discussion Board 5
3. **Make significant progress on your “conversation” report, due next week.**
4. Pat yourself on the back—what a week! You’ve reached the halfway point. 😊

**Week 6 Jul 3-Jul 9:**

1. Week 6 reading assignment TBD
2. Complete Discussion Board 6
3. **“Constructing the Conversation” due uploaded to Blackboard by midnight (CST) by Saturday, July 8, midnight (CST).** Any late proposals will be counted off 10 points per 24 hours with the first deduction occurring at the 24-hour mark.—See assignment sheet for full details.

**Week 7 Jul 10-Jul 16:**

1. Week 7 reading assignment TBD
2. Complete Discussion Board 7
3. **Working Thesis Section due uploaded to Blackboard by midnight (CST) by Saturday, July 15, midnight (CST).** Any late proposals will be counted off 10 points per 24 hours with the first deduction occurring at the 24-hour mark.—See assignment sheet for full details.

**Week 8 Jul 17-Jul 23:**

1. Week 8 reading assignments TBD
2. Complete Discussion Board 8
3. **Conference Paper Proposal due uploaded to Blackboard by SATURDAY, July 22, midnight (CST).** Any late proposals will be counted off 10 points per 24 hours with the first deduction occurring at the 24-hour mark.—See assignment sheet for full details.

**Week 9 Jul 24-Jul 30:**

1. **Week 9 reading assignments TBD**
2. Complete Discussion Board 9
3. **Try to devote at least .5-1 hour per day this week to researching and writing. Feel free to email me at any point if you need some accountability or to toss ideas back and forth.**

### **Week 10 Jul 31-Aug 6:**

1. Complete any reading that you may have left unfinished.
2. Complete any remaining Discussion Boards that are still eligible for credit this week no later than midnight Saturday (12 a.m. CST Sunday).
3. Prepare for the upcoming deadlines in week 11. **Try to devote at least .5-1 hour per day this week to researching and writing. Feel free to email me at any point if you need some accountability or to toss ideas back and forth.**

### **Week 11 Aug 7-Aug 12: Final Exam Week**

1. **Major Research Proposal due uploaded to Blackboard by Wednesday, August 9, midnight (CST).** Any late proposals will be counted off 10 points per 24 hours with the first deduction occurring at the 24-hour mark.—See assignment sheet for full details.
2. Complete Final Exam: **Scholarly Journal Report due uploaded to Blackboard by SATURDAY, August 12, 5 pm (CST).** Any late reports will be counted off 5 points per hour. See assignment sheet for full details.

### **SUGGESTED RESEARCH TOOLS**

- *MLA International Bibliography* (available on-line through the LRC website; a fast way to find worthwhile scholarly studies; supplement with *ABELL*)
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- *JSTOR*, *Project MUSE*, *Academic Search*
- *The Year's Work in English Studies* (a valuable annual review of criticism; summarizes important scholarly studies on an author and/or work and helps you to see context of recent debates and topics of interest; in volume form in Mabee LRC reference room and online through the LRC website)
- *Essay and General Literature Index* (excellent source for studies included in edited collections; useful for supplementing all of the above; in volume form in Mabee LRC reference room and online at the LRC website)
- The Mabee LRC reference room has an excellent collection of checklists and annotated bibliographies on individual authors and literary topics; can also find bibliographies upstairs with other books by and about the authors
- The best Web site for literature on the Internet is *Literary Resources on the Net*, located at the following URL:  
<http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Lit/>
- Needing more assistance? Email me!