**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**Virtual Campus**

**School of Languages and Literature**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**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** RSWR 3345 – Research Writing Methods

**Term:** Term

**Instructor:** Dr. Wigner

**Contact Information:**

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**Catalog Description:** instruction in formulating research topics, conducting research, and writing papers, that marshal support from secondary sources. Students read, analyze, and interpret research sources, developing in-depth, research-based papers on topics in their academic disciplines.

**Prerequisite**: ENGL 1301 – Composition and Rhetoric

**Required Textbook and Resources**: *Writing from Sources*, 9th edition, by Brenda Spatt **(Your textbook is provided through a link within the class)**

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

1. Utilize printed library reference materials, proprietary databases, and Internet resources to locate source material.

2. Use borrowed information in a manner that complies with standard academic conventions pertaining to quotation, paraphrase, and summary.

3. Analyze, evaluate, organize, and manage the assertions of more than one source or author in order to support your own main point.

4. Develop and focus a research topic.

5. Write a research question/proposal, a review of the literature, an abstract, an outline, a summary, a synthesis, and a unified, coherent, complete research paper in proper writing styles, such as APA, MLA, or Turabian. [Note: We will be using MLA style in most other assignments in the class.]

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

**Attendance Requirements**: Any student who does not participate in the weekly student discussions on the Discussion Boards will be considered absent for the week. **Two late postings may be considered as one absence.**

**Two** absences constitute **a failing grade.** Any student who does not participate for two weeks on the discussion boards will receive an “**F**” for the course. Additionally, in this class, you are required to be self-motivated and active in completing all of the assignments by the assigned due date.

**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:**

1. Student participation through exercises, discussion boards, tests, and written assignments
2. Written assignments
3. Weekly Exercises
4. Discussion Boards
5. 1 major exam (each one final over the material covered)
6. Research term paper

**Exam I TBA**

**Research Term Paper TBA**

**Grading:**

Exam I 15%

Research Paper 25%

Discussion Boards 25%

Paragraphs/Essays 20%

Weekly Exercises 15%

**Participation will determine close grades.**

The grading scale of the university catalog is followed in this course:

A 90-100%

B 80-89%

C 70-79%

D 60-69%

F below 60%

* All assignments will be due no later than **11:55 PM CT** on the day listed for them to be submitted. Overdue assignments will be reduced by one letter grade for each class day they are late. After the third class day, the student will receive a “0” for the assignment. Extreme circumstances which require some amount of accommodation will be determined by the instructor’s discretion.
* **Exams:** At least 1 major exam will be given. Exams should be taken during the scheduled period.
* **Research Paper:** The term paper will be an 8-10 page research essay, which must be turned in no later than **TBA.** Full details of this assignment will be provided in class.

**Policy on Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations, or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism (See WBU catalog). **Cheating in this class at any time will result in an immediate grade of F for the class.**

**Grade Appeal:**

“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.”

**NOTE:**

**Please note that you are responsible for all of the information listed in this syllabus. Students will be held liable for failure to meet requirements stated within the syllabus. It is not the responsibility of the professor to remind the student of information contained in the syllabus.**

**Tentative Schedule**: **This schedule is subject to change**

Note: Full Weekly Learning Units will be provided in class. It will work best if you read the assigned chapters ***prior to*** the week noted (excluding supplemental readings).

**PLEASE NOTE THAT WEEKS RUN FROM MONDAY TO SUNDAY, NOT SUNDAY TO SATURDAY.**

**Week 1:** TBA – Reading Sources (p. 3-72)

**Week 2:** TBA – Summarizing Sources (p. 75-112)

**Week 3:** TBA – Quoting Sources (p. 113-149)

**Week 4:** TBA – Paraphrasing Sources (p. 150-187)

**Week 5:** TBA – Synthesizing Sources for the Multiple-Source Essay (p. 240-300) – Exam 1

**Week 6:** TBA – Beginning Research (p. 305-350)

**Week 7:** TBA – Evaluating Sources (p. 351-396)

**Week 8:** TBA – Writing the Research Essay (p. 397-439) – Submit research paper **no later than TBA.**