

Theme/Topic:

Bearing Witness to Injustice

Humans have experienced some form of injustice or another in the course of their lives. In literature as in life, individuals grapple with the negative effects of social injustices such as bullying, violence, racism, sexism, homophobia, and poverty. Some individuals or groups resist in the face of injustice, while others stay silent out of fear. Please consider the following questions during the research process and the writing of your research paper:

- a) How does the individual/group respond to the injustice? Does he/she speak up or stay silent?
- b) How is one's identity affected?
- c) What are the negative effects of the injustice on one's life (social mobility, identity etc.)?
- d) Does the individual or group resist in some way? If so, is justice served or is the resistance successful? Does the individual/group fail?
- e) This is not a history paper. Your task is to research literature that deals with any form of injustice. When appropriate and necessary, you can compare or contrast the works. Remember that each work will have a different context, but all of the works should adhere to the overall theme of the research paper.

Requirements:

- 1) **TEXTS/SOURCES:** You may use other stories, poems, non-fiction works (newspaper articles) in your research paper. Make sure that you use credible, scholarly sources from the Gulliver Library Research Page.
- 2) **NUMBER OF SOURCES:** **FIVE sources in total: THREE new sources + TWO sources** from the class (the film we will watch in class next week and one of the short stories assigned)

Grading: Rubric will be provided

Deadlines: There will be mini-deadlines throughout the process. Final deadline for the research paper will be Tuesday, October 1, 2013.