

Freshman English

Rationale:

On day six of Creation, God created man in His image: just and relational. The effects of the Fall, however, left mankind in a flawed state of injustice and self-centeredness. Reflecting this broken state, literature often tells tales that bear witness to **man's inhumanity to man**. Man's story, however, doesn't have to end in brokenness: Because of Christ's redemptive work on the cross, we can choose an identity characterized by selfishness and injustice or by justice and love. Looking at **story**, the Freshman English course will identify the choices made by literature's characters, and it will extend these choices to **Santiago 2011-2012**.

Big Ideas:

Justice v. Injustice {Micah 6.8}

- How do characters respond to acts of injustice?
- Who determines what is just and what is unjust?
- Analyze the characters responsible for unjust acts: What caused the acts of injustice? How could they have been prevented?
- How does a character's social status influence interactions with others?
- How does a character's worldview affect his/ her response to injustice?
- Is man capable of justice?

Identity

- What is man's collective identity?
- On what do people (and characters) choose to base their identities?
- Personal question: What is the foundation of your identity?

Selflessness

- How does Christ reflect selflessness?
- How does/could selflessness impact Santiago 2011/2012?

Story

- Why read and write stories?
- How does the structure of a story impact its message?
- What does the author want the reader to understand (theme)?
- What can a Christian take away from a non-Christian piece of literature?

Literature:

- Assorted short stories
- To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- The Last Battle* by C.S. Lewis
- Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
- Night* by Elie Wiesel