

Curriculum Units by Fellows of the Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute 2016 Volume II: Literature and Identity

Cuba! Identity Revealed through Cultural Connections

Guide for Curriculum Unit 16.02.08 by Waltrina Dianne Kirkland-Mullins

This curriculum unit investigates self-identity, social-identity and the historical conditions that give rise to both. Using Ralph Ellison's novel, *Invisible Man* students will examine the relationship between racism, exploitation and identity formation. Throughout the unit, students will use close reading techniques to develop an analysis of the nameless protagonist. Additionally, students will study the political figures and historical moments that are reflected in the Invisible Man's identity. This unit addresses strategies for providing "non-traditional" AP Literature and Composition students an entry point into AP curriculum. At the culmination of the unit, students will write a literary analysis of the novel.

Key words: Literature: African American, Literature: Identity & Moral Development

(Developed for AP Literature, English 4, English 066, grades 11-12; recommended for English 3-4, African American Literature, grades 11-12)

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