A New English 102 Composition Course

Small but Heard in a World at Large
Reading, Discussing, Writing: A Global Perspective
Course Goals:

The goal of this course is to help CCBC students become more proficient at interpreting and understanding global and cultural issues and perspectives. This will be accomplished by building introspection and empathy via visual images, selected readings, film and direct engagement with college students from another culture.
Susan Sontag’s *Regarding the Pain of Others*. How does the spectacle of the suffering of others (via television or newsprint) affect us?

One World: *A Global Anthology of Short Stories*. Twenty-three stories, each from a different author from across the globe. All belong to one world, united in their diversity and ethnicity.

Joan Didion’s *Salvador*. As she travels from battlefields to body dumps, interviews a puppet president, and considers the distinctly Salvadoran grammar of the verb "to disappear," Didion gives us a book that is germane to any country in which bloodshed has become a standard tool of politics.
New York Times’ reporter Nicholas Kristof travels the world to find the single story that will make the rest of us care.
Course Materials: Film

Tells the personal story of Neda Agha-Soltan and her tragic death in the Iranian protests following the recent rigged presidential elections.
Course Goals:

By introducing a module on understanding cultural scripts* that can be replicated in other humanities classes, students will be exposed to new perspectives on their own as well as other cultures.

* “Culture is such an integral part of human existence that it becomes an invisible script that directs our personal lives.”

Course Goals:

To incorporate a globally-focused civic engagement/service learning component that can be replicated in other humanities courses. Through direct interaction, students can challenge preconceived ideas.
Course Goals:

To develop film, writing assignments, and additional readings on global issues and perspectives that can be replicated by other faculty in future English 102 courses.

To conduct a series of workshops for humanities faculty to enable them to utilize components like the lessons on understanding cultural scripts and civic engagement and/or service learning in their classes.

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The Community College Humanities Association (CCHA)
Advancing the Humanities at Community Colleges: A NEH Bridging Cultures Project
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