ENG/GBS/WGS 3298: Women Writing Worldwide
Global Focus Mapping Project

Learning Outcome:
Become aware of current cultural and political concerns affecting women’s lives globally.

Assignment:
As a class, students in ENG/GBS/WGS 3298 used Google Earth to collectively “map” contemporary issues affecting women worldwide. Students were assigned a country and researched it in the context of contemporary global women’s issues, making connections to our course readings and discussion. Students then identified a contemporary issue/organization/news worthy event and related to women writers and/or global women’s studies, locating it with a “pin” on our class Google Earth map. Each pin was accompanied by the following: a description of the map point; at least one web link; an image, video, or audio file; and a quotation from one of the course readings that relates to the map point.

After being assigned their country, students completed the following:

• Researched assigned country, paying particular attention to recent newsworthy events related to women, activist groups dedicated to women’s issues, and/or contemporary women writers.

• After selecting a topic for mapping, students downloaded the free “Google Earth” software.

• Practiced dropping a “pin” to mark the location of the selected topic.

• Each pin was accompanied by the following information:
  • At least one web link.
  • An image/video/ or audio file.
  • A 100- to 200-word description of the map point.
  • A quotation from one of our class readings that relates to the map point.

• All the information was uploaded to a class Google spreadsheet.

• A link to the file containing the completed Google Earth map was provided via Blackboard, and students discussed their classmates’ pins in an online discussion forum.