Digital Geographic Tools in the World Literature Course

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I love literature. Why don’t they?
Geography connects us to the past, present and future.
geography informs beliefs and future outcomes

“Why would you think your values would work in a country you don’t understand” (55)
“the homogenece”

The Columbian exchange of plants, animals, people, other organisms like bacteria and fungi ultimately have created homogenous landscapes that make environments vulnerable to environmental, economic and political crises.
“an antidote to isolationism”

“The more we know about our planet and its fragile environments, about other peoples and cultures, political systems and economies, borders and boundaries, attitudes and aspirations, the better prepared we will be for the challenging times ahead” (19)
Teaching global literature requires teaching the globe.
Exploring the globe

- Google Earth or Google Maps
- The True Size Of
- Google Trends
- The World Factbook
- UNESCO World Heritage Centre
El mundo hispanófono

Instituto Nacional Geográfico
Use what you have learned in class to support your answer.

In 2008, Absolut Vodka used this image in an ad campaign in Mexico. It was popular there but upset some American consumers. Imagine that you work for Absolut and explain the Mexican perspective of this map to an American consumer.
BrandZ top 50 most valuable Latin American Brands
"América invertida" Joaquín Torres García

Comprensión:
Completa las oraciones sobre “América invertida” usando el vocabulario. You may need to use words you have already learned.

1. Joaquín Torres García fue un artista _________.
2. Los padres de Torres García eran _________.
3. El constructivismo es la idea de crear ________ a través de la ________, la ________ y la imaginación.
4. El Polo Sur está _________ y el _________ está abajo.
5. El sol está ___________ y la luna está ____________.

A pensar:
En grupos pequeños, discute las preguntas de reflexión.

1. What is the point of Torres García's upside-down map of South America?
2. Why is there a point marked with a cross on the drawing?
3. What does the sun on the top left above two ships reveal?
Making maps

- Draw arrows on an already printed map to show migrations: exile, refugees, slave trades, and immigration.
- Make a map of brands and businesses created by Hispanic entrepreneurs to show the globalization of Hispanic products: Goya Foods, Zara, Cerveza San Miguel, Takis (Grupo Bimbo).
- Draw a pre-lesson map of how students spatially understand a region, then have them draw another after the lesson so they can track what they have learned.
- Draw a future map that predicts a potential outcome based on what they know about the current state of the region of study. For example, if China builds a canal in Nicaragua.
How can you incorporate more geography in your courses?

How will it strengthen your students’ engagement with the content?