**Preface: On Collaboration and Suffering - Supporting Materials**

Discussion Questions:

1. What value is there in documenting the suffering of others? What drawbacks are there to focusing on suffering?
2. What does Robbins mean by an "anthropology of the good?" Is this a worthwhile endeavor? What are some possible critiques to it?
3. What argument do Block/McGrath make regarding the value of integrating different modes of writing. In theory, what do you think about the approach Block and McGrath have taken blending ethnographic scholarship with creative nonfiction? What are some of the benefits/drawbacks of this approach?

Supplemental Materials:

Adichie, "The Danger of a Single Story" <https://www.ted.com/talks/chimamanda_adichie_the_danger_of_a_single_story?language=en>

* This 19 minute video (which could be read as homework or watched in class) is thought provoking and helps students start to think about representation.

Wainaina "How to Write about Africa": <https://granta.com/how-to-write-about-africa/>

* This classic short reading (which could be read in class or as homework) uses satire to draw students’ attention to the tropes and stereotypes they might hold about “Africa”.

Robbins, Joel. "Beyond the suffering subject: toward an anthropology of the good." *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 19, no. 3 (2013): 447-462.

<https://rai.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1467-9655.12044>

* This reading is cited in the preface and would be useful to add a theoretical perspective to the approach Block and McGrath are taking to representation.

Discussion Questions for Adichie/Wainaina:

In the large/small groups:

* What was your impression/reaction to Wainaina/Adichie? Why?

With a partner:

* What is an aspect of your identity that gets misrepresented or inaccurately characterized in the media or by those you encounter? Explain.

In a large/small groups:

* Can you see evidence of the single story in our own society? What consequences does it have?
* How can we work against the single story?
* What is the purpose and tone of Wainaina’s short piece: “How to write about Africa.”?
	+ What was your response to it?