

English 102: Inquiry into American Identity in a Post-9/11 World
Instructor: Joshua Robbins

What does it mean to be “American”? For that matter, what is “America” anyway? How do these questions and their answers change when you add the elements of globalization, global conflict, and the prospect of terror? How have our answers been changed by the dark shadow of 9/11?

Our course will take a look at these questions and follow all leads as we endeavor together to make sense of our findings. We will read contemporary and historical texts, explore archives and ephemera, read the writings of historians, economists, poets, pundits, presidents, and terrorists, all in an attempt to increase our understanding of what it means to be an American in a Post-9/11 world.

This course incorporates a variety of written assignments including in-class responses, online blogging, short essay responses, an annotated bibliography, and a research proposal. In addition, three formal papers are required.