

English 102 - Inquiry into Transformative Technologies
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This course will introduce students to academic inquiry and develop their research skills by exploring the ways in which technological change has fundamentally altered American life over the last two hundred years (and will increasingly shape our manner of living in the future). We will look at how evaluations of the results of technological change can heap praise on the potential benefits of technology while simultaneously bemoaning the ways in which it can seemingly become a danger to the people using it. The student of today is surrounded on all sides by technology, especially in the university setting, yet many do not have any concrete conceptions of how their lifestyle and perceptions of the world are different than the average American of 100 years ago. Over the course of our discussion students will gain an understanding of how technology has transformed the shape of American life from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day (and beyond).