

IDS 100-45 Leading Edges: American Culture in 2011

This seminar will explore what's new and influential in art, fashion, science, politics, fiction, and other fields. Our "textbook" will be *The New Yorker*, a weekly magazine that covers the leading edges of American culture. Among the questions we'll investigate are these: What makes someone a leader in our culture? What trends and innovations are changing our world this year? How do artists and writers work to make a difference? How does what's new connect to what's old? Our seminar will emphasize three oral communication skills essential for success in college: participating actively in class discussion, listening effectively, and making strong presentations of your own work.