

## **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**October 18 - 22**  
**This is a “B” Week**

### ***PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING NEW FALL PROCEDURES***

**There will be three links for all classes throughout the semester - one for classes in the Auditorium, one for classes in Classroom 15-17, and one for classes in Classroom 52-53.**

**Meeting IDs and passcodes for each link will remain the same throughout the semester.**

**The links below will allow you immediate access to each Quest class. *(You no longer need to register for classes.)* You need to simply click on the link to enter. We suggest entering a class *no sooner than 15 minutes* prior to its scheduled start.**

**If a link fails to work, go to <https://zoom.us> and select “JOIN A MEETING.” You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the passcode. If all else fails, you may enter a session by phone: dial 1-929-205-6099. You will be asked for the Meeting ID.**

**All classes (except as noted) are hybrid classes, meaning at-home participants can join in by clicking on the appropriate link. Below are the links:**

#### **FOR ALL FALL AUDITORIUM CLASSES:**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84152954768?pwd=c0ZVbm5IRGEvbG9WVHhNxbFI4YnRwdz09>**

**Meeting ID: 841 5295 4768**

**Passcode: 252525**

**FOR ALL FALL MEETING ROOM 15-17 CLASSES:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82513720307?pwd=a21sdmNOaWpyN1g0UmxBDRXQ0RDQT09>

**Meeting ID: 825 1372 0307**

**Passcode: 252525**

**FOR ALL FALL MEETING ROOM 52-53 CLASSES:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83796273632?pwd=L0o1RFppTGJBZXF6eGlpWnBGeFNCdz09>

**Meeting ID: 837 9627 3632**

**Passcode: 252525**

**Most presentations at 25 Broadway will feature a live presenter. However, some classes with a live audience at 25 Broadway occasionally may feature a speaker presenting from home. Classes with an at-home presenter are noted in the class blurb.**

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**FUN FALL ACTIVITIES --**

**watching the leaves fall, picking apples, preparing your submission for the QReview.**

**We are calling LOUDLY for your Poetry, Prose, and Art.**

**November 1st is the day after Halloween a time to put the final touches on your Halloween costume and your QReview submission.**

**Do you like to write prose or poetry? Do you enjoy creating art? As our November 1st deadline approaches, QReview, our annual literary magazine, is looking for your work.**

**There still is time! Email your prose (800 word maximum) to our prose editor**

**Donna Ramer [donnaramer1@gmail.com](mailto:donnaramer1@gmail.com)  
and your poetry (38 line maximum including the spaces  
between stanzas and 64 characters per line) to our poetry  
editor**

**Mary Ann Donnelly [madonne1645@aol.com](mailto:madonne1645@aol.com).**

**If you are submitting artwork, contact our art editor  
Paul Adler ([adlerworks@verizon.net](mailto:adlerworks@verizon.net))  
for details.**

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**MONDAY, October 18 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: BORDERS AND BOUNDARIES**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Defining the National Boundaries**

**The demarcation of those states that resulted in part or in toto from the imposition of national landward borders occasioned a distinctive history. For some, their contribution to the frontier is a line on land, for others, a river defines its edge and in the case of Florida, Louisiana and Texas, a major refashioning of size and configuration defined its situation within the confines of the United States**

**Presenter: Steven Baker**

**Coordinators: Steven Baker, Pete Weis**

**Course: RACE RELATIONS IN AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**In class this week, we will finish our discussion of *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* and consider some additional selections from his writings. We shall also consider selections from the writings of three**

**great women who supported abolition in the mid 19th century - Angelina Grimke, Sojourner Truth, and Harriet Beecher Stowe.**

**Presenter: Sandy Kessler**

**Coordinator: Bob Gottfried**

**MONDAY, October 18 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: PRESENTER'S SHOWCASE**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Romare Bearden, Father of American Collage**

**Meet Romare Bearden, artist, “The Father of American Collage,” born of the Harlem Renaissance, Bearden became one of the foremost dynamic and creative artists of his period. He was unique, both as an artist and in his interpretation of the Black-American experience!**

**Presenter: Sandy Gordon**

**Coordinators: Joyce West, Steve Allen, Palma Mahl**

**Course: LAW AND ORDER**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Topic: Animal Law: Pets**

**Sixty-eight percent of U.S. households, or about 85 million families, own a pet. There are approximately 86.4 million pet cats and approximately 78.2 million pet dogs in the United States. In 2013, pets outnumbered children four to one in the United States.**

**This presentation will consider how the law treats pets and pet owners. What constitutes cruelty to animals when the animal is someone's pet? How does the law deal with harm done to pets? Harm done by pets? And who gets the dog in the divorce?**

**Presenter: Jim Brook (will be presenting from home)**  
**Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Bob Gottfried, David Judlowitz**

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**TUESDAY, October 19 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: ARTISTS AND THEIR WORKS**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Romanesque Sculpture**

**In the Middle Ages in Europe, demons or angels might be behind every tree, rock, animal or human activity. Good and evil played out a constant battle in daily life. Living with religion was very concrete and often literal. The stakes were high: an afterlife in Paradise or eternal damnation in Hell. (“Romanesque” means “Roman-ish.”) We shall look at the Romanesque sculptures of the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> century through the middle of the 12<sup>th</sup>. Romanesque art was the first pan-European art style which arose simultaneously in all the countries of Europe. Angels, prophets, monsters, apostles, and Bible figures covered the doorways, porches, and columns of churches—they made the struggle of good with evil seem real and present in the daily lives of peasants, merchants, Crusaders, pilgrims, men, women, and children of the time.**

**Presenter: Ellen Shapiro**

**Coordinators: Linda Downs, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss, Ellen Shapiro**

**Course: THE RISE AND FALL OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Topic: Ireland**

**Ireland’s misfortune is its geography since it is located only 340 miles from a super power. When Henry VIII converted England to Protestantism, Catholic Ireland was believed to be a potential source of support for its enemies, France and Spain. Thus, Ireland became**

**the first colony in the British Empire, a status it held for more than 300 years. England was not a benevolent master.**

**Presenter: Ellen Gottfried**

**Coordinators: Judy Hampson, Jennifer Jolly, Donna Ramer**

**TUESDAY, October 19 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: CULTURAL MYTHOLOGY**

**Room: Meeting Room 15-17**

**Class: Sex & Sensuality in Myths**

**Throughout the ages and across all cultures, myths about Sex and Sensuality have been a common theme and sources of endless fascination. There are myths relating to all types of sex: some celebrate sex as the very reason for existence; some despair of its power; some consider it inherently evil, and some find complex ways to deny it all together. And what about the battle between the sexes and the fears and superstitions about sex and sensuality? We'll examine some cross-cultural myths about this tantalizing and titillating topic, which will give us much to learn and even more to discuss!**

**Presenter: Jennifer Jolly**

**Coordinators: Donna K. Ramer, Mary Ann Donnelly, Sheryl Harawitz**

**TUESDAY, October 19 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**Course: CONTEMPORARY OPERA (Zoom only – *Use Auditorium link to enter session*)**

**Subject: Carlisle Floyd's SUSANNAH (Note this class begins at 2:00PM)**

**Eighteen-year-old Susannah Polk is an innocent girl, targeted as a sinner in a small mountain town in Tennessee. Themes include gossip, misunderstanding, jealousy, guns, sex, violence and sunbathing.**

**The music is largely characterized by Appalachian folk melodies, Protestant hymns, and some traditional classical music.**

**Inspired by McCarthyism, the opera contains many feminist themes that had not been widely explored in popular culture at that time. Floyd said this opera was meant to be different from a traditional opera.**

**Sung in English, with English subtitles.**

**Coordinators and Presenters (all Zoom): Steve Koenig, Frieda Lipp, Victor Brener**

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**WEDNESDAY, October 20 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: FASCINATING NON-FICTION**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: *The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined* by Steven Pinker**

**NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

***The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined* is a 2011 book by Harvard Cognitive Psychologist Steven Pinker, who presents a quite surprising and hopeful, but controversial theory that violence has declined over the history of the human race. Pinker gives explanations as to why this has occurred, and, in a scientific way, presents extensive data and charts documenting violence over time and around the world, showing massive declines in all forms of violence: in war, in the use of torture, in murders, and in the improved treatment of children. ("The**

**Better Angels of Our Nature" is a quote taken from Abraham Lincoln's first inaugural address.)**

**Presenter: Nancy Richardson**

**Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss**

**Course: LITERARY HEROINES**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Topic: Female Detectives in Literature**

**The first women detective in literature appeared in 1864 Victorian England, solving crimes as an unnamed sleuth. Today, this genre is a multi-million-dollar franchise, keeping pace – if not exceeding – sales of books that feature male detectives. Join us as we uncover little known and widely popular characters, from Victorian England PIs (Private Investigators) to contemporary gumshoes, and discuss the short story we're sending on mid-week. But be prepared to do a little detective work ...**

**Presenter: Donna Ramer**

**Coordinators: Bryn Meehan, Sheryl Harawitz, Lois Klein**

**WEDNESDAY, October 20 @ 12:10 P.M. – 12:55 P.M.**

**Course: LUNCHTIME ACTIVITY - IN PERSON ONLY**

**Room 14-15**

**Topic: Gems & Minerals at American Museum of Natural History**

**This lunchtime lecture will be a short introduction to the newly renovated Hall of Gems and Minerals at AMNH. I'll discuss why this hall is important as well as beautiful, and what you can expect when you visit. If you have ever collected rocks (or diamonds), I hope you'll join us.**



**Presenter: Marion Schultheis**

**Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Steven Allen, Andrea Irvine, Art Spar,  
Joyce West**

**WEDNESDAY, October 20 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Speaker: Adam Gidwitz**

**Title: Fairy Tales and Scary Tales**

**In 1812, the Brothers Grimm published their first collection of Märchen—what we call fairy tales, despite the fact that there are no fairies in any of the stories. But the Grimms weren't the first to have the idea to collect these tales from the German countryside, nor were they the last. Explore the dark and amusing history of these tales, and how—and why! — New York Times bestselling author Adam Gidwitz adapts these very strange, very scary tales for children today—including through his new animated series on Netflix. Prepare to think, be challenged, laugh—and get a little bit scared -- just in time for Halloween!**

**Adam Gidwitz was a teacher for eight years. He now writes full time and is the bestselling author of children's books including A Tale Dark and Grimm, and its companions, The Empire Strikes Back, So You Want to Be a Jedi and the Unicorn Rescue Society. He also wrote The Inquisitor's Tale which won the Newberry Award in 2017.**

**Coordinators: Arlynn Greenbaum, Karen Levin, Estelle Selzer, Bob Reiss and Phyllis Weiss.**

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**THURSDAY, October 21 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: SCIENCE & SCIENTISTS**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Topic: Across the Universe – Inside the Atom, Part 3**

**This term we have combined the Science and Scientists and Across the Universe courses. This will be an Across the Universe talk, but instead of aiming our scientific instruments up into the sky, we will look in the other direction, way down to atoms and their parts, the unbelievably tiny particles that make up what exists on Earth and the rest of the Universe.**

**This talk will focus on the relationship between quantum theory, the startlingly new physics of the laws that govern the atom, and relativity, the other great revolutionary physics theory of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. We will first examine the highly successful merger of these two theories that led to Quantum Electrodynamics, the core of modern physics, and its many important consequences for theoretical understanding and practical technology. Next we will look at the tensions between the two theories as Einstein's objections to quantum theory have ultimately led to a deeper understanding of atomic phenomena and have laid the groundwork for new technologies such as quantum computers.**

**If you missed Part 1 or Part 2 of Inside the Atom or need a refresher, don't worry – all the background you need will be summarized in this session.**

**Presenter: Steve Allen**

**Coordinators: Steve Allen, Jim Brook, Judy Weis**

**Course: POINT OF VIEW (Zoom only - use Classroom 15-17 link to enter session)**

**Subject: Issues of the Day**

**Point of View** is an interactive discussion class, in which the coordinators (as well as class members) bring in short opinion pieces - editorials, op-Ed articles, reviews, etc. – that express a particular point of view. The class then discusses and debates them, presenting arguments for and against the expressed views.

**Readings for this week:**

**David Brooks What America Means To Me**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/14/opinion/america-immigration-history.html>

**City of London Hiding World's Stolen Money**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/11/opinion/pandora-papers-britain-london.html>

**Can Democrats find a winning message?**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/08/opinion/democrats-david-shor-education-polarization.html>

**Discussion leader: Michael Wellner**

**Coordinators: Terri Hicks, Barbara Gordon, Robert Hartmann**

**THURSDAY, October 21 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: GREAT CONVERSATIONS**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: *To Room 19* by Doris Lessing**

**In the first few decades of the 20th century, feminist thinkers on both sides of the Atlantic engaged in a rigorous investigation of female identity as it related to all aspects of a woman's life.**

**The Swedish Academy, calling Doris Lessing “that empiricist of the female experience,” awarded her the Nobel Prize in literature in 2007, only the 11th woman and oldest person to do so at the time. In this**

**story, *To Room 19*, Lessing confronts a “woman’s place” and the mental and societal breakdown issues continuing to be explored by other women writers the world over.**

**Discussion leader: Jane Lubin**

**Coordinators: Jane Lubin, Larry Shapiro**

The link for this week’s reading is

[https://blogs.acu.edu/1020\\_HCOR140H1/files/2010/03/To-Room-Nineteen-Doris-Lessing.pdf](https://blogs.acu.edu/1020_HCOR140H1/files/2010/03/To-Room-Nineteen-Doris-Lessing.pdf)

**THURSDAY, October 21 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**Course: THE AFRICAN CONTINENT - Zoom only - use Auditorium link to enter session**

**Topic: Namibia. (Note this class begins at 2:00PM)**

## **NAMIBIA**

**Where sand dunes in the world’s oldest desert meet the crashing waves along the wild Atlantic coast, Namibia is like a coffee-table book come to life. It has some of the most stunning landscapes in Africa and, along with its history, culture, the German legacy evident in the cuisine, art nouveau architecture, and festivals, it is a unique nation that I hope to put on your radar. And let us not forget the diverse and proud Namibian people you will meet along the way. Join us for 90 minutes as these stunning and diverse sights sear themselves into your mind; I promise the country will stay with you long after the desert vistas fade.**

**WELCOME TO NAMIBIA!**

**Presenter: Madeleine Brecher**

**Coordinators: Ann Goerdts, Bob Gottfried, Bob Reiss**

**THURSDAY, October 21 @ 1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

**Course: POETS' WORKSHOP**

**Room: Classroom 52-53**

**(Note: This class ends at 3 pm)**

**Write a poem using the cue word "brave" or a word of the poet's choice. Each author will read a poem and then that poem will be shared with the class through screen share. A discussion of the poem will follow.**

**Coordinators: Judith Winn, Helen Saffran**

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## **CultureQuest Event**

**Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**The Metropolitan Opera House**

### **"La Boheme" Final Dress Rehearsal**

**The Metropolitan Opera has graciously offered to host 100 Quest members for a Final Dress Rehearsal of La Boheme. There is no charge for this rehearsal. Attendees will need to register for this event no later than October 25th and there will be a waitlist for anyone after the 100th registrant.**

**The following protocol must be met to gain entrance to the Opera House:**

- 1. Proof of vaccination and identification must be shown.**
- 2. Masks must be worn at all times.**
- 3. Food and drink is not permitted in the Opera House.**

**4. There will be two intermissions. If you leave the building you will need to show proof again to reenter.**

**Attendees will be required to pick up their ticket from a CultureQuest committee member no later than 10am on the plaza outside the Opera House. Anyone who fails to show and does not give sufficient notice so that a waitlisted member can be contacted will not be allowed to sign up for future tours unless there is space available. Please be respectful of your fellow members.**

### **OPERA TIMING**

**The approximate timings for the rehearsal are as follows:**

- **ACT I 60 minutes**
- **30 minutes intermission**
- **ACT II 26 minutes**
- **30 minutes intermission**
- **ACT III 28 minutes**

**Link to the Met to read a synopsis of the opera:**

**<https://www.metopera.org/season/2021-22-season/la-boheme/>**

**To register for this event please send an email to Estelle Selzer at eselzer19@gmail.com no later than October 25th. You will receive a reminder that you are registered no later than November 1st.**

**Please only sign up if you truly intend to attend. This is a special opportunity.**