

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

October 11 – 15
This is an “A” 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.

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.

FOR ALL FALL AUDITORIUM CLASSES:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84152954768?pwd=c0ZVbm5IRGEvbG9WWH NxbFI4YnRwdz09>

Meeting ID: 841 5295 4768

Passcode: 252525

FOR ALL FALL MEETING ROOM 15-17 CLASSES:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82513720307?pwd=a21sdmNOaWpyN1g0Um xTbDRXQ0RDQT09>

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 that will have a live audience at 25 Broadway may feature a speaker presenting from home.

MONDAY, October 11 - No Classes - Columbus Day

TUESDAY, October 12 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Middle East Jeopardy – If *Israel* is the Answer, What is the Question?

Operating on the assumption that everyone in the class knows something about the State of Israel, this class will be devoted to answering questions. What is on your mind with respect to: the origins of the modern State, how the Israeli government works (or doesn't work), the question of borders, what is meant by "Jewish State," and "Zionist entity," or whatever question regarding Israel that arises. Answers are guaranteed! (Although some of them might be "who knows.")

Presenter: Paul Golomb

Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Sandy Frank, Ellen Gottfried, Glenn Johnston

Course: ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Peace, Please

The theme this semester is ‘war poems’ but after a bloody beginning with Civil War poets and then watching Antigone go to her death, the mood is lifting for one session. How will Questers respond to Sheryl’s call for “peace poems”? What is peace anyway and what kind of peace poems will Questers send to Sheryl. Come to class to read and discuss “peace” poems from around the world and across time. Even better, send Sheryl, Sherylnc@gmail.com, a poem you’ve chosen to share and then come. World peace? Internal peace? You decide but keep in mind that there will be a later class devoted to anti-war poems.

Presenter: Sheryl Harawitz and the Quest Community

Coordinators: Art Spar, Roy Clary, Mary Ann Donnelly, Sheryl Harawitz

TUESDAY, October 12 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.

Course: CONVERSATIONS EN FRANÇAIS

Room: Classroom 52-53

Subject: Gilbert Bécaud et la Nostalgie

Cette semaine, Donna Basile va faire une présentation sur Gilbert Bécaud et la nostalgie. Né en 1927 à Toulon, Bécaud était un chanteur, compositeur et pianiste français. Au cours de sa carrière, il a gagné son surnom de « Monsieur 100 000 volts » à cause de son énergie.

On va écouter une de ses chansons et après chacun parlera d’un événement mémorable ou d’un moment nostalgique quand il/elle était à l’université ou au début de la vingtaine. On partagera ces souvenirs avec le groupe.

Subject : Gilbert Bécaud & Nostalgia

This week, Donna Basile is going to present Gilbert Bécaud and Nostalgia. Born in 1927 in Toulon, Bécaud was a French singer, composer and pianist. During his career he earned the name “Mister 100,000 volts” because of his energy.

We are going to listen to one of his songs and then each person will talk about a memorable event or a nostalgic moment when he/she was in college or in his/her early 20s. We will share these memories with the group.

Presenter: Donna Basile

Coordinators: Ruth Ward, Donna Basile

TUESDAY, October 12 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: THE FABULOUS FIFTIES

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Joe McCarthy

One of America's most dangerous right-wing populists, Joe McCarthy, learns how to use fear and deception to vault his way into power and threaten our country's most basic rights.

Presenter: Beverly Francus

Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Ellen Gottfried, Bob Gottfried

Course: CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP (*This class runs until 3 p.m.*)

Room: Room 15-17

“Set aside an hour. If you’re writing at home, make yourself a cup of tea, cocoa or coffee. Get comfortable, put your hand to the page and allow a mature and wise adult to be creative — write ... write ... write.”

Julia Cameron

Please join us and share your writing with our small supportive group. We begin with a ten minute free writing exercise with the option to share with the class.

Email a copy of your writing to Hifein13@gmail.com AND to Donnaramer1@gmail.com by Sunday, October 10.

All levels and writing genres welcome.

- Please keep prose to approximately 1,000 words.**
- All writings will be read by the author (in person and on Zoom) and constructively critiqued by the class.**
- For those of you who have submitted your writing, you will be sent a compilation of all submissions before class for review.**
- Those attending in person, please bring ten copies for distribution.**

Suggestions —

- 1. Valuing your life experience**
- 2. Witness**

Coordinators: Hilda Feinstein, Donna Ramer, Helen Saffran

Course: **HOUSE OF MIRTH (*In-person only*)**

Room: Classroom 52-53

We will discuss chapters 8 through 11 that recount Lily’s poor judgement and missteps as she struggles to sustain her footing in an increasingly hostile society where she feels “a sharp sense of waning popularity.”

Presenters: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga
Coordinators: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga

WEDNESDAY, October 13 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: SLAVERY'S ROLE IN U.S. CAPITALIST DEVELOPMENT

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Resistance And Rebellion in the Antebellum and Post-War South

So often when slavery is discussed, it's in terms of the slaves as victims, and certainly they were, --- BUT they were not simply docile people who were lashed by the whip and sold out from their families. They were also people who fiercely fought back. Despite extremely harsh repression and the overwhelming odds against success, the desire for liberty never died. This presentation will explore different forms of antebellum rebellion, the role of slaves during the Civil War, and black lives in the immediate post-Civil War era.

Presenter: Toni Dickenson

Coordinators: Richard Byrd, Diane Crothers, June Zaccone

Course: SHAKESPEARE

Room: Classroom 15-17

Play: A Midsummer Night's Dream

We will continue our exploration of the play with members of the class reading aloud from Act II.

Discussion will include:

- 1. Elizabethan theater companies.**

2. The plague and how it impacted the theater.

We will also continue our new tradition of a class member sharing a favorite selection from Shakespeare with Jennifer Jolly presenting “The Seven Ages of Man” from As You Like It.

Coordinators: Roy Clary, James Brook, Ellie Schaffer

WEDNESDAY, October 13 @ 12:10 P.M. – 12:55 P.M.

Course: Book Club

Room: Classroom 52-53, *in-person only*

Book: *Girl, Woman, Other*, by Bernadine Evaristo

This novel - - the 2019 Booker Prize winner - - focuses on a group that is sorely underrepresented in literature: Black British women. With characters ranging from a nonbinary social media influencer to a 93-year-old woman living on a farm in Northern England, the stories of these disparate but interconnected women paint a vivid portrait of contemporary Britain.

Presenter: Susannah Falk Lewis

Coordinators: Jan Goldstein, Susannah Falk Lewis, Joan Vreeland

The Quest Book Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month. The dates and reading selections for the rest of the semester are:

November 10: *Hamnet* by Maggie O’Farrell

December 8: *Homeland Elegies* by Ayad Akhtar

WEDNESDAY, October 13 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: INVENTIONS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Plastics – They’re Everywhere!

Plastics are a major contribution to modern life. These materials have taken over the roles of metals, wood and natural fibers, and now have major roles in our homes, clothing, cars, medical treatments and recreational activities. What are these omnipresent materials? Has this been a good idea? Has this invention been a good idea? Sometimes!

Presenter: Pete Weis

Coordinators: Pete Weis, Jim Brook

Course: READING THE RABBIS

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Jews and Heresy – A Coded Jewish-Christian Encounter

The Talmud records a number of incidents in which a *min* (literally “sectarian,” and often translated as “heretic”) challenges a Sage on some biblical interpretation. Many scholars today have concluded that these encounters represent a rabbinic response to Christian thought. We will look at a very familiar case – [the four who entered Paradise](#) – as an example of one of these encounters.

Presenter: Paul Golomb

Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss

THURSDAY, October 14 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: ANTISEMITISM: PAST, PRESENT, FACTS, MYTHS

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Jews and Money

"Jews and Money" - the clergy decried it while kings coveted it; anti-Semites are enraged by it. Jewish wealth and poverty have been created by circumstances, as well as the activity and acumen of Jews themselves, rather than by "Jewishness" itself. Pushed into unpopular economic roles such as usury, some Jews lent money for interest in the Medieval period. They also improvised a livelihood, begging and peddling cheap goods in town and country. These contrasting roles gave rise to stereotypes that took hold of the public imagination and have shown remarkable longevity easily recognizable in well-known literary characters such as Shakespeare's money-lender.

I will relate to you the story of "Jews and Money" over the many centuries.

Presenter: David Judlowitz

Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Marian Friedmann, Bob Reiss, Rick Salter

Course: READING BLACK LIVES

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: The Dred Scott Decision:

Who is an American Citizen? Who decides? How do states and national governments dispute their power?

Despite the huge gaps in our education, most of us have heard of the Dred Scott decision of 1857: a Black slave, escaped and freed in the

North, was captured, tried, and returned to his owner and slavery in the South. But the decision was much more complicated at the time and even today.

Using the [article by John Powell in 400 Souls](#), we will first learn more fully about the Supreme Court's decision itself, where members of the African race, "long regarded as an inferior order and altogether unfit to associate with the white race in social or political relations ... (have) no rights which the white man was bound to respect." A second policy, even less well known, defines rights and policies of the states versus the national government.

We will then explore how the decision impacted the Civil War, Reconstruction, and even our current debates on:

Who is an American citizen and with what rights?

Who decides this – public officials, elections, political parties?

Which wins, states or federal rights and power?

This will be a discussion class

Presenter: Penelope Pi-Sunyer

Coordinators: Diane Crothers, Barbara Barnes, Penelope Pi-Sunyer, Ilene Winkler

THURSDAY, October 14 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: **ACTING WORKSHOP (*In-person only*)**

Room: Auditorium

In a creative and fun environment, members of the class will present acting exercises dealing with character understanding and development, as well as the importance of relating to our surroundings and to specific objects.

Coordinators: Roy Clary, John Spiegel

Course: MOZART'S WOMEN

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Mozart's Love of a Voice and Love of a Lifetime

The Weber sisters, Aloysia and Constanze, were the two most important love relationships in Mozart's life. Aloysia rejected him, but he composed major roles for her outstanding voice for the rest of his life. Her younger sister, Constanze, became his devoted wife who brought him great happiness in their marriage. How did their involvement with Mozart capture and characterize the 18th century woman in music?

Presenter: Lynnel Garabedian

Coordinators: Larry Shapiro, Linda Downs

THURSDAY, October 14 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M

Course: CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES (Zoom only - use Auditorium link to enter session)

NOTE: Because this class is Zoom only, the start time is one hour later than other Quest afternoon classes

We will be reading and discussing the following two stories:

1. "Shiloh", by Bobbie Ann Mason

Presenter: Linda Rothstein

[Click here](#) for a PDF copy of this story.

Bobbie Ann Mason (born 1940) is an American novelist, short story writer, essayist, and literary critic from Kentucky. Her memoir was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

2. “City of Pain” by Teju Cole

Presenter: Frieda Lipp

[Click here](#) for a PDF copy of this story.

You can also view this story online at

<https://level.medium.com/city-of-pain-1f77a5eae1e9>

Teju Cole (born 1975) is a Nigerian-American writer, photographer, and art historian. He is author of a novella, *Every Day Is for the Thief* a novel, *Open City* (2012), an essay collection, *Known and Strange Things* (2016), and a photobook,

If you have any questions, please email Nancy: nancyrye@earthlink.net

Coordinators: Nancy Richardson, Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp

CultureQuest Tour

Friday, October 22nd

GROUNDS FOR SCULPTURE

Grounds For Sculpture is a 42-acre sculpture park and museum located in Hamilton, NJ. (<https://www.groundsforsculpture.org/>)

We have arranged a guided walking tour for Friday, Oct 22 at 10:45. Please be aware that we will be walking on grass, and the ground is uneven. The tour will be limited to 25 people. Please email Sheryl Harawitz SherylInyc@gmail.com to be put on the list of attendees.

Senior Tickets for the tour are 15 dollars – To reserve your spot on the tour, bring a \$15 check for made out to “Quest.” to the office. A sealed envelope containing your check can be put in the mailbox labeled “CultureQuest/Renee Woloshin” (it is the last mailbox in the first column of mailboxes). Write “CultureQuest” on the envelope. Alternatively, you can mail the check to:

Sheryl Harawitz, 220 East 13th Street, NY 10003 – or email Sheryl at sherylnyc@gmail.com.

Information:

- **Travel time from New York Penn Station to Hamilton is about one hour and 20 minutes**
- **A train leaves Penn station at 9:04 - Senior ticket is 16 dollars round trip, purchase at the station or online. (Please let me know if you will be driving)**
- **We will use Uber to get from the Train Station to the Sculpture Park**
- **Senior Tickets for the tour are at sherylnyc@gmail.com**
- **Dining is available at the Rat's Restaurant:
<https://www.ratsrestaurant.com/>**

Please email Sheryl if you want us to make a dining reservation for you or if you will be making your own reservation.