

**NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**  
**February 21 – February 25, 2022**  
**This is a “B” Week**

There are four links for all classes throughout the semester: Auditorium, Classroom 15-17, Classroom 52-53, and Classroom 27. Click on the appropriate link below to join a class no earlier than 15 minutes before its start.

Alternatively, you can enter a class by going to <https://zoom.us> and selecting “JOIN A MEETING.” You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the passcode. Also, you can attend classes via phone by dialing 1-929-205-6099. You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the password.

**FOR ALL AUDITORIUM CLASSES:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84152954768?pwd=c0ZVbm5lRGEvbG9WWHNibFI4YnRwdz09>

**Meeting ID: 841 5295 4768**

**Passcode: 252525**

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82513720307?pwd=a21sdmNOaWpyN1g0UmxTbDRXQ0RDQT09>

**Meeting ID: 825 1372 0307**

**Passcode: 252525**

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83796273632?pwd=L0o1RFppTGJBZXF6eGlpWnBGeFNCDz09>

**Meeting ID: 837 9627 3632**

**Passcode: 25252**

**FOR ALL MEETING ROOM 27 CLASSES:**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82484341199?pwd=dEN5SUVkSFdsNHhOek15bmlTNlIjUT09>**

**Meeting ID: 824 8434 1199**

**Passcode: 252525**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Unless indicated below, all classes are conducted at 25 Broadway, with presenters mostly presenting live. In some cases, a presenter may not be live at 25 Broadway, but will present from home via Zoom. In the week beginning February 22, all presentations in the Auditorium, Room 15-17 and Room 27 are currently scheduled to feature live presenters.

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**MONDAY, February 21**

**NO CLASSES**

**Presidents' Day**

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**TUESDAY, February 22 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: SCIENCE & SCIENTISTS**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: Wetlands**

**Wetlands are important habitats for a wide variety of species, providing shelter and food for animals of many kinds, both aquatic and terrestrial. They also provide vital services to people, including pollution removal, flood and storm protection, and greenhouse gas removal. However, they have been filled in and abused in various ways for centuries. We will discuss the different types of freshwater and salt water wetlands, who lives in them, how people use(d) them and abuse(d) them, and the stresses they are facing now in the age of global change.**

**Presenter: Judy Weis**

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

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

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: Kenya and the Mao Mao Revolution**

**For those who attended the “Islands, Cotton, and Slavery” class this month, we learned that the West Coast of Africa was already dominated by Europeans, including Britain, so, in “pursuing the prize”, Africa, in order to enrich the Mother Country, the West Coast of Africa became the next area that the British now moved to. After the Berlin Conference of 1884, where Africa was carved into areas of influence by the Europeans, the area that we now know as Kenya and adjoining areas, were to be British Protectorates under the umbrella of “The Principle of Effective Occupation”. This was an area rich in agriculture, resources, ports, and population. The major problem was that this independent population was not content with domination by the invaders. After years of bloody rebellion, it was the Mao Mao Revolution that finally restored independence to the people, and a new nation state was born, Kenya.**

**Presenter: Sandy Gordon**

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

**TUESDAY, February 22 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course:     FOREIGN AFFAIRS**  
**Room:       Auditorium**  
**Subject:    The Persistence of Nationalism**

**Nationalism can be terrible. It has a tendency toward racism and violence. Yet, it is currently the most stable and enduring form of political organization. The class will explore the origins of this decidedly modern phenomenon, and why, despite its obvious and deep flaws, it is so dominant.**

**Presenter:       Paul Golomb**  
**Coordinators:   Bob Gottfried, Sandy Frank, Ellen Gottfried, Glenn Johnston**

**Course:     MYTHOLOGY**  
**Room:       Classroom 15-17**  
**Subject:    Tales of the Constellations**

**We all connect the dots to make sense of a puzzle, and people have been connecting the dots in the sky — aka stars — since we first looked up. The scientific term for this all-too-human behavior is pareidolia (evolutionary adaptation to complete incomplete visual information). Example: If you see only part of the lion in the tall grass, you won't want to wait around to see the rest before you run. Fortunately, we use this response in less dangerous circumstances to form pictures in the sky.**

**This week we look at the dots and how the cultures of classical Greece and Rome created a pantheon of gods, goddesses, and others around them. Be prepared to hear some of the familiar and ageless tales of love, war, and intrigue. We will also take brief considerations of those very self-same stars from a more scientific perspective. Questions, comments, and your own interpretations are welcome.**

**Presenter: Michael Hamburg**

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

**TUESDAY, February 22 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**Course: CONTEMPORARY OPERA (Zoom only – Use Room 52-53 link to enter session - Note 2:00 P.M. start time)**

**Opera: Bo Holton: Visit of the Royal Physician Act 2**

**Recap: A satire, a love story, and a story of court intrigue and lust for power. Is the odd, young King Christian VII insane? Is the dog going to make a good Royal Council? The opera is based on a novel about the eighteenth century King of Denmark.**

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

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**WEDNESDAY, February 23 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: FASCINATING NON-FICTION**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: *The Comfort Book* By: Matt Haig**

**NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

**Some might call the last several years, "The Age of Discomfort." Matt Haig's *Comfort Book* suggests some excellent antidotes for our sorrows.**

**Years ago, Matt Haig began writing notes to his future self. As time went on, he added new thoughts and stories, and turned them into a book so that everyone could draw on this well of reassurance and encouragement.**

**Incorporating a diverse array of sources from across the world, history, science, and his own experiences, Haig offers warmth and reassurance, reminding us to slow down and appreciate the beauty and unpredictability of existence.**

**Presenter: Harriet Finkelstein  
Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss**

**Course: LITERARY HEROINES  
Room: Classroom 15-17  
Subject: Lilly Bart and Jean Paget**

**This class will start with Pat and Arlene leading us through the complicated life of Lilly Bart from Wharton's *HOUSE OF MIRTH*. Was she a heroine, victim or maybe both? What do you think?**

**In the second half, Andrea will lead a discussion centered on the amazing story of Jean Paget from Nevil Shute's *A TOWN LIKE ALICE*. Andrea was so inspired by Paget, that she too travelled to the Australian Outback, visited the town of Alice and had her own adventures there. There's a terrific movie version of the book available to stream.**

**Presenter: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga, Andrea Irvine  
Coordinators: Bryn Meehan, Sheryl Harawitz, Lois Klein**

**WEDNESDAY, February 23 @ 12:10 P.M. – 12:50 P.M.**

**Course: LUNCHTIME DISCUSSION GROUP - IN PERSON ONLY**  
**Room: Classroom 15-17**  
**Subject: Looking Ahead to Fall 2022**

**A brainstorming session to help plan for the Fall 2022. Looking outside of our comfort zone to bring new ideas to Quest. Bring even a germ of an idea for us to discuss.**

**Coordinator: Sheryl Harawitz**

**WEDNESDAY, February 23 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

**Course: DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES - Zoom only – (*Use Auditorium link to enter session – Note 2:00pm start time*)**

**Speaker: Joseph Bertolozzi**  
**Subject: Bridge Music/Tower Music**

**Joseph Bertolozzi is a composer with numerous performances across the US and Europe to his credit. Orchestras, conservatories and Grammy® winners perform his music, and he himself has played at such diverse venues as The Vatican, The US Tennis Open and the Eiffel Tower.**

**Skilled as a concert organist, he's performed his own compositions as well as those of the classical literature in the US and in Europe on some of the finest and oldest organs in the world.**

**Composer Joseph Bertolozzi will take us on a virtual multi-media exploration of his work in recording and creating two Top Twenty Billboard-charting albums from New York's Mid Hudson Bridge and the Eiffel Tower in Paris. He is currently in development to play Tower Music Live during the 2024 Paris Olympics.**

**Please join us for this special presentation.**

**Coordinators: Arlynn Greenbaum, Estelle Selzer, Karen Levin, Bob Reiss**

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**THURSDAY, February 24 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course:     ACROSS THE UNIVERSE**  
**Room:     NOTE: Room change to Room 52-53. Use the Room 52-53 link to enter the class.**  
**Subject:   A Tour of the Solar System (2022)**

**For most of history, humanity did not recognize or understand the concept of the Solar System. Most people up to the [Late Middle Ages - Renaissance](#) believed Earth to be stationary at the center of the [universe](#) and categorically different from the divine and immutable objects that moved through the sky. We've learned a little since then. Come join us for an informative trip through our Solar System. We will be visiting the major and minor bodies that revolve around our star – the Sun. Learn about how the Sun, planets, moons, and other members of our celestial family were born and evolved. We will look at the latest discoveries as gathered by some of the most advanced and sophisticated technologies humans have created so far. In addition, we will cast our eyes forward to examine what lies in the future for**



**humanity's place in the Solar System. There will be ample time for questions and answers**

**Presenter: Michael Hamburg**

**Coordinators: Michael Hamburg, Steve Allen**

**Course: BLACK WOMEN'S VOICES**

**Room Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: Why are black women using their voices to write for children?**

**Go to a good bookstore and you see some beautifully illustrated books that tell the stories of Black children. We probably remember Willy and his "Snowy Day" that we read to our children. More recently, writers of children's books have incorporated a deeper understanding of a child's cognitive and emotional development. Black women writers have heard their children ask why they and their cultures are not reflected in their books. They are asking Who Am I? These writers have responded with stories that include their children in a more diverse world.**

**We will start with an exploration of how all children develop their sense of self, value and place in the world, then look at how Black children ask questions about their feeling different and excluded in their lives and books. We will then look at some of the wonderful books where Black women have used their voices to respond to these questions. Lastly, we will hear from esteemed Nigerian writer, Chimamanda Adiche on *The Danger of a Single Story*.**

**Presenters: Penelope Pi-Sunyer and Gloria Peropat**

**Coordinators: Ilene Winkler, Barbara Barnes, Susannah Falk Lewis, Penelope Pi-Sunyer**

**THURSDAY, February 24 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: FASCINATING ISLANDS**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: The European Colonial Agenda 1500 to 1800**

**The islands of the Caribbean, the Pacific and South and Southeast Asia were targets of the increasingly effective depredations of rival European nations, each intent on political domination over native populations through a three phased intrusion schedule; first gaining a seaward, trading foothold, then establishing colonies and ultimately achieving economic and political hegemony to satisfy the appetites of its home based citizens and subjects**

**Presenter: Stephen Baker**

**Coordinators: Stephen Baker, Pete Weis**

**Course: GREAT CONVERSATIONS**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Richard Wright's first collection of short stories, Uncle Tom's Children, was published in 1938, announcing a new writer willing to face with unflinching honesty America's racist legacy. Two years later he added this story, "Bright and Morning Star," followed by the publication of his first novel, Native Son, a thriller that shook both white and black readers to the core. Like so many Americans struggling through the Depression, his frustration with American capitalism led him to join the Communist party. Readers have long hailed Sue, the heroine of this story, as one who bravely, nobly and skillfully tries to help the underground interracial communist collective her sons have helped to found to live to see another day.**

**Story is on p. 287 in Great Conversations, Book 5. and in the pdf sent separately.**

**Discussion Leader: Jane Lubin**  
**Coordinators: Jane Lubin, Larry Shapiro**

**THURSDAY, February 24 @ 1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

**Course: POETS' WORKSHOP**  
**Room: Classroom 52-53 (Note: This class ends at 3 p.m.)**

**Write a poem using the cue word "astonished" 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, Judy Hampson, Helen Saffran**

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## **CultureQuest Virtual Tour**

**Friday, February 25th, 11 a.m. – Noon Whitney  
Museum of American Art**

### **JASPER JOHNS: MIND/MIRROR**

**Use Auditorium Link**

**Jasper John's groundbreaking work sent shock waves through the art world when it was first shown in the late 1950s, and he has continued to challenge new audiences – and himself – over a career spanning more than sixty-five years.**

**A sixty-minute zoom tour will be given by Linda Sweet, Docent, Whitney Museum. Linda previously gave Quest an outstanding tour of Vida Americana!**

**All Quest members are invited to attend.**

**Please use the Auditorium link to enter the tour.**