

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

March 14 – March 17
This is an “A” 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=c0ZVbm5IRGEvbG9WWHxTbDRXQ0RDQT09>

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 March 14, all presentations are currently scheduled to feature live presenters except for (1) Wednesday's Slavery class in which the presenter, Frances V. Moulder, will not be at 25 Broadway and (2) Thursday's Anti-Semitism class which will feature a video of Rick Salter's 2021 presentation on the subject.

***QReview* is calling for your Poetry, Prose, and Art!!!**

**Now that spring is almost here, we are preparing the soil
for the seeds of your literary and artistic plantings!!!**

**Do you like to write poetry or prose? Do you enjoy creating art?
Although our November 1st deadline may seem to float in the
distance, *QReview*, our annual literary magazine, is ready to ground
your work.**

**Now is the time! Email your prose (800 word maximum) to our prose
editor Donna Ramer at donnaramer1@gmail.com and your poetry (38
line maximum including the spaces between stanzas and 64
characters per line) to our poetry editor Art Spar at
arthur.spar@gmail.com.**

**If you are submitting artwork, contact our art editor Paul Adler
at adlerworks@verizon.net for details.**

**Show us your literary or artistic green thumb — it's a certain way to
chase the blues!**

MONDAY, March 14 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: CLASSIC ROCK ALBUMS

Room: Auditorium

Album: Bob Dylan: *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan*

Bob Dylan's second album, *The Free Wheelin' Bob Dylan*, contains many memorable songs including "Blowin' In The Wind," "Girl from The North Country," "Masters of War," and "Don't Think Twice, It's All Right." Come to Classic Rock Albums to learn about and listen to these and other tracks from the album. If you want, you can sing along.

Presenter: Bob Gottfried

Coordinators: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter

Course: A PASSAGE TO INDIA

Room: Classroom 15-17

Chapters XII – XIX all relate to the excursion to the Marabar Caves planned by Aziz: his elaborate preparations, the visits to the caves by Adela and Mrs. Moore, and the consequences of those visits. Forster continues to reveal the differences and misconceptions between English, Moslem, and Hindu cultures. For example, how does Adela innocently but deeply offend Aziz? We learn a great deal about the thoughts and feelings of the main characters. What is occupying the mind of Adela? What life-changing experience does Mrs. Moore have as a result of her only visit to a cave?

Discussion Leaders: Lynnel Garabedian, Sandy Kessler

MONDAY, March 14th - 12:10 P.M. – 12:50 P.M.

Course: Long Live Ukraine

Room: 15-17 (In person only)

Let us join together for Ukrainian Folk Music, hear Freida Lipp read the great poem BABI YAR by Yevgeny Yevtushenko, share our thoughts and memories and eat our lunch.

Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine

MONDAY, March 14 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: HISTORY OF GERMANY

Room: Auditorium

Subject: The Rise of Prussia into the 1700s

Between the 15th and into the 18th century, Prussia, evolved from an insignificant region in northeast Germany and devastated by the religious wars of the 1600s into a major player in European politics, thanks to 2 of the 3 greatest leaders in its history – the Great Elector and Frederick the Great. We will examine the transformation of Prussia, particularly under the rule of Frederick the Great, with his military, diplomatic, and organizational achievements and commitment to enlightenment culture. We will also look at parallel developments in other German regions and in Hapsburg Austria.

Presenters: Caroline Thompson, Steve Allen

Coordinators: Caroline Thompson, Steve Allen

Course: CONTEMPORARY POETRY

Room: Classroom 15-17

Contemporary Poetry can enrich us all. We invite you to choose a poem that resonates for you, sending a copy in advance to Martha, at mdrezin@aol.com who will create a packet of poems to share on screen. We will ask you to read your poem aloud, including information about the poet's background. We then ask for another reading by a volunteer, followed by class reaction and discussion. Previous experience with poetry is not necessary. All are welcome.

Because this is a hybrid class, some participants will be at 25 Broadway in person while others will be on Zoom. If you have a poem to share and will be at 25 Broadway in person, please bring 10 printed copies of your poem to distribute in class.

Coordinators: Betty Farber, Martha Drezin, Frieda Lipp

TUESDAY, March 15 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: ARTISTS & THEIR WORK

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Alberto Giacometti/Francis Bacon

Alberto Giacometti (1901-1966) and Francis Bacon (1909-1992) had a decisive influence on the art of the twentieth century. Different as their art may initially appear, their work reveals many surprising similarities. They were aware of each other’s work, and fortunately, had the opportunity to meet during their lifetimes.

Bacon and Giacometti took the human figure as their main point of artistic reference. Both occupied themselves with the fragmented and deformed body. Moreover, they devoted themselves to portraiture and the depiction of human individuality in an almost obsessive manner. They claimed to be “realists,” while exploring new extremes of abstraction.

Although they eventually attained fame and wealth, both chose to work and live surrounded by clutter, in exceptionally small and cramped studios. Through their work, they continue to be amongst the most influential forces in modern art.

Presenter: Paul Adler

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

Course: ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Amanda Gorman

The class will enjoy listening to the poetry of Amanda Gorman, the first person to be named National Youth Poet Laureate of the U.S. She delivered her poem "The Hill We Climb" at the inauguration of President Joe Biden. Her inauguration performance generated international acclaim, and shortly thereafter, two of her books achieved best-seller status. Gorman was photographed by Annie Leibovitz for the cover-story of the May edition of Vogue – the first poet ever to have been thus featured by the magazine. We will watch and discuss a video of her inaugural performance and listen to members of the class read her poetry.

Presenter: Art Spar

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

TUESDAY, March 15 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.

Course: CONVERSATIONS EN FRANÇAIS

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Sujet: Françoise Gilot

Françoise Gilot est devenue célèbre comme l'amante et la muse de Pablo Picasso. Ils ont vécu dix ans ensemble et ont eu deux enfants, Claude et Paloma. Mais Françoise Gilot était elle-même une artiste talentueuse qui a eu une carrière très réussie d'abord en France, puis pendant plus de soixante ans aux Etats-Unis. Elle a célébré son centième anniversaire en novembre.

Francoise Gilot became famous as the lover and muse of Pablo Picasso. They lived together for ten years and had two children, Claude and Paloma. But Francoise Gilot herself was a talented artist who had a very successful career, first in France, then for more than sixty years in the United States. She celebrated her hundredth birthday in November.

Presenter: Lynnel Garabedian
Coordinators: Ruth Ward, Donna Basile

TUESDAY, March 15 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: FABULOUS FIFTIES
Room: Auditorium
Subject: Fashion & Dance in the Fifties

Please join us as we travel back to the Fabulous Fifties, when the music, dances and fashion make it a cherished time for so many "our age". Our decade saw the birth of Rock and Roll, along with new dance crazes that swept the nation. This presentation will highlight the most popular dances plus a look at the fashion trends of the period.

Presenter: Mary Beth Yakoubian
Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Bob Gottfried, Ellen Gottfried

Course: CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP
(NOTE: *This class runs until 3 p.m.*)
Room: Classroom 15-17
Subject: Choosing Vivid Language in Creative Writing

Please join us in person or on Zoom.

- **Open to all writing genres.**
- **Keep prose to under 750 words or create multiple parts to share over a few classes.**
- **Class begins with a ten-minute free-writing exercise (sharing is optional).**
- **Bring a notebook for in-class writing.**

In this class we will be thinking about how to make our writing more descriptive, using sensory details, figurative language, and descriptive verbs.

We'll be looking at photographs, postcards, and paintings of people to stir our imagination and come up with vivid words to describe them. This is leading towards a class on characterization. Bring a picture or photo to class that intrigues you.

Look out for unusual words and put them on pieces of paper. We'll have a jar to fill with words and pull from for inspiration.

Presenter: Judy Hampson

Coordinators: Helen Saffran, Donna Ramer, Judy Hampson

Course: **READING EDITH WHARTON (*In-person only*)**

Room: Classroom 52-53

We will be reading chapters 11 through 14 in *The Age of Innocence*. In these chapters, Newland is charged by “the family” to convince Countess Olenska that a divorce would be scandalous. At the same time, he begins to question his own wedding plans as he becomes more attracted to the Countess.

Coordinators: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga

WEDNESDAY, March 16 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

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

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Convict Leasing and Capitalism

Economic and moral issues of convict leasing in the U.S. 1860's-1920's, seen through case studies from Tennessee, Texas and Georgia; contemporary effects of convict leasing and initiatives for reparations.

Frances V. Moulder

Frances V. Moulder is a sociologist, author, and activist who is currently researching slavery and convict leasing in her own family tree, for what

light it can shed on current debates about reparations for slavery and abolition of the 13th Amendment legalization of forced prison labor.

Presenter: Frances V. Moulder

Coordinators: Richard Byrd, June Zaccone

Course: SHAKESPEARE

Room: Classroom 15-17

Play: Romeo and Juliet

The class will continue reading aloud and discussing the play beginning with Act 2, scene 5. Passages from Harold Bloom, Harold Goddard, and Stephen Greenblatt will be read in order to provide insight into several characters in the play. Comparisons between the dreams found in Midsummer Night's Dream and Romeo and Juliet will be noted.

Presenter: Roy Clary

Coordinators: Roy Clary, James Brook, Ellie Schaffer

WEDNESDAY, March 16 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: READING THE RABBIS

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Is Saying Sorry Enough

We will look at a text that examines the issue of atonement, whether asking for forgiveness actually results in being forgiven.

Presenter: Paul Golomb

Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss

WEDNESDAY, March 16 @ 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Course: INDIE FILMS

Room: (Zoom only - use Auditorium link to enter session)

(Note 2 p.m. start time)

This week, three distinctly different films...all in contention for Academy Awards in various categories

TICK TICK....BOOM – Ann Barandes

Lin Manual Miranda's tribute to Jonathan Larson, composer lyricist and playwright who explored the social issues of multiculturalism, addiction and homophobia in his work receiving three posthumous Tony Awards and a posthumous Pulitzer Prize for Drama for the rock musical *Rent*. Starring Andre Garfield.

LICORICE PIZZA – Bobbie Gold

Licorice Pizza was the name of a 1970s record store in the San Fernando Valley where the all-black vinyl records were nicknamed "licorice pizza". Written and directed by Paul Thomas Anderson (*Boogie Nights*), the film tracks the treacherous navigation of first love. Nominated for this year's Best Picture Academy Award, it's a coming-of-age love story movie pairing unknowns Cooper Hoffman, Philip Seymour Hoffman's son and soon to be superstar Alana Kane. With Sean Penn as a drunken William Holden and Bradley Cooper as a wacky hairdresser and Barbra Streisand's sometime boyfriend Jon Peters.

THE WORST PERSON IN THE WORLD – Hedy Shulman

A modern dramedy about the quest for love and meaning in contemporary Oslo. It chronicles four years in the life of Julie, a young woman who navigates the troubled waters of her love life and struggles to find her career path, leading her to take a realistic look at who she is.

Coordinators: Howard Salik, Marian Friedmann, Bobbie Gold, Brenda Zusman

THURSDAY, March 17 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: ANTISEMITISM: PAST, PRESENT, FACTS, MYTHS

Room: Auditorium

Subject: *Jews and the Death of Christ*

From Bob Reiss: It's been about a year since the late Rick Salter first presented this talk. In his usual style, he eschewed the use of Power Point and spoke cued only by his notes. Although this departs from the conventional Quest presentation format, his conversational tone commands your attention.

And so, thanks to the miracle of Quest recordings, we will view Rick Salter's presentation on *Jews and the Death of Christ*.

Rick Salter's blurb, April 8, 2021:

In this presentation, I will talk first about the birth of Jesus, his struggles and his early death. Jesus being a devout Jewish Rabbi is impossible to separate from the community of Jews in Israel.

In fact, it is only possible to understand this remarkable man in the social context in which he lived, studied, and preached. The two centuries around Jesus's birth (6 AD) were tumultuous in this land known variously as Israel, Palestine, or Judea but always under the yoke of Greek or Roman imperialism.

We will sensitively attempt to place Jesus and the later Christian movement in this context and seek to discover how a movement initiated by a Jewish man ended opposing the Jewish religion and dangerously transforming its adherents into "Others."

I have relied heavily on *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth* (2013) by Reza Aslam and *How Jews Became Christian* (2013) by Barrie Wilson.

Presenter: Rick Salter - Introduced by Bob Reiss

Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Marian Friedmann, Bob Reiss

Course: THE NOBEL PRIZES

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: The 1946 Nobel Prize Winners

The 1946 Nobel Prize in Literature was awarded to Hermann Hesse "for his inspired writings which, while growing in boldness and penetration, exemplify the classical humanitarian ideals and high qualities of style." His writing set me on a path for which I am grateful. The prize for peace went to Emily Green Balch, an improper Bostonian, a recognized scholar of economics and political science, the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize at age 80, and then forgotten, even by her own family (Penelope's family.) These two prize winners have much in common, both shunned for their belief in peace and harmony, and for daring to speak out against war.

Presenters: Penelope Pi-Sunyer, Sheryl Harawitz

Coordinators: Laura Lopez, Marion Schultheis

THURSDAY, March 17 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

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

Room: Auditorium

Class members will continue rehearsing for our Spring Production of "From Serious To Silly, a potpourri of skits and scenes." The class is closed to anyone not cast in this production which will take place on Monday, May 9th in the Great Plays slot.

Coordinators: Roy Clary, John Spiegel

Course: MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Room: Classroom 27

Subject: Jeff Bezos and the Empire of Amazon

Love him or hate him, Jeff Bezos has shaken our world and moved us in ways we never imagined. The creation of Amazon.com, the online “everything store”, has changed the way we shop, read and work, and dealt a deathblow to retail stores, as we abandoned them for the convenience of shopping online. But it is Bezos’ plans for saving earth that may really rock our world since they involve moving us to man-made space colonies!

Join me for a look at the life of Jeff Bezos, his rule-breaking business philosophy and his space ambitions. We’ll also look at how Amazon became a \$1.7 trillion business, it’s impact on our world, and how Bezos spends his \$175 billion personal fortune (including his \$38 billion divorce).

Presenter: Beth Callender

Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Caroline Thompson

Course: CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES

Room: Classroom 15-17

***1 “Labyrinth” by Roberto Bolaño**

Presented by Frieda Lipp (Story is from a January 2012 *New Yorker* magazine.)

Roberto Bolaño (1953 –2003) was a Chilean novelist, short-story writer, poet and essayist. In 2008 he was posthumously awarded the National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction for his novel 2666.

***2. “What’s the Deal, Hummingbird?” by Arthur Krystal**

Presented by Joyce West (Story is from a January 2022 *New Yorker* magazine)

Arthur Krystal (born 1947) is the author of four books of essays, including “This Thing We Call Literature.” He lives in New York City

(Note: Look for copies of the short stories in a separate email about the class sent via QuestBusiness to all Quest members.)

Also, a few print copies of the stories will be available in the A-Week box in the lunchroom.

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

Coordinators: Nancy Richardson, Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp

**CultureQuest Museum Tour
Friday, March 25th, 10:15 - 12:15**

**American Museum of Natural History
200 Central Park West (in- person tour)**

Sharks Exhibit and Halls of Gems and Minerals

Sharks: The new exhibit at the American Museum of Natural History tells how these animals survived four major extinctions, including the one 65 million years ago that killed most dinosaurs. Sharks have been around 450 million years, before people, before dinosaurs, even before there were trees. Learn how these animals came about, changed over time, and what they're facing today. Take a selfie with the megalodon.

Our next stop will be a visit to the recently renovated Halls of Gems and Minerals. We will see some old favorites like the Star Sapphire of India, and new objects like an eleven-foot-tall amethyst geode from Uruguay. There are over 5,000 objects, many of which are priceless, and the rarest in the world. We'll learn why the amethyst geode is purple and why the blue diamond is blue.

Our own Marion Schultheis will be the docent for the tour. Attendance is complimentary. Thank you, Marion.

Our tour is limited to 20 guests.

We are meeting at the Museum of Natural History on CPW on March 25th at 10:15. Please sign up if you are sincerely interested in attending.

More information to follow upon confirmation. Reserve your place by email to dena@kerren.us