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Quest the City College of New York **cwe**
Community for Lifelong Learning Inc.

CITY COLLEGE IS 

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Quest Curriculum Spring 2010 Semester



Quest
*Celebrating
15 Years*

Spring Calendar

Week Starting	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Feb. 8	A	A	A	A
Feb. 15	Presidents' Day (No Classes)			
Feb. 22	A	A	A	A
Mar. 1	B	B	B	B
Mar. 8	A	A	A	A
Mar. 15	B	B	B	B
Mar. 22	A	A	A	A
Mar. 29	Spring Recess Week (No Classes)			
Apr. 5	B	B	B	B
Apr. 12	A	A	A	A
Apr. 19	B	B	B	B
Apr. 26	A	A	A	A
May 3	B	B	B	B
May 10	A	A	A	A
May 17	B	B	B	B

Last Day of Classes
May 20th

Spring Schedule

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
A WEEK				
10:30am-12pm	Introduction to Great Books	Supreme Court	Major International Dramatists	Contemporary Short Stories
	Conservatism in America	Indigenous Music & Culture	Contemporary Opera	Economic Challenges
Lunch 12pm-1pm				
1pm-2:30pm	Conversational French	Images of Women in Literature	Shakespeare	Proust
	Abraham Lincoln	Irish Theatre & Social Change	Art Workshop	The C.I.A. A Legacy of Ashes
	Life Drawing			Acting Workshop for Beginners
B WEEK				
10:30am-12pm	Movers and Shakers	Great Decisions	Grand Opera	Point of View
	Assassinations: History's Most Shocking Moments	Artists & Their Work	History of Medicine	Great Plays
Lunch 12pm-1pm				
1pm-2:30pm	World of Contemporary Poetry	Writing Workshop	GUEST SPEAKERS	Poetry Workshop
	International Relations	Fiction into Film		Today's Films
	Acting Workshop (Advanced)			

Spring Courses

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Coordinators: *Martin Helpern, Hobart Rauch, Robert Reiss*

We will study the man generally acknowledged to have been our greatest President: Lincoln as lawyer and politician, as Commander in Chief, as author of the Emancipation Proclamation, as inspired speechmaker and diplomat. We will acknowledge his effect on the Constitution and the history of the United States.

■ A WEEK / Mon. / 1 to 2:30pm

ACTING WORKSHOP FOR BEGINNERS

Coordinators: *Panny King, Marilyn Rosen*

The spring session will be an extension of the previous acting workshop for beginners. We will continue to explore the techniques of acting through new acting exercises, improvisations and scene study.

■ A WEEK / Thurs. / 1 to 2:30pm

ACTING WORKSHOP: ADVANCED

Coordinators: *Panny King, Marilyn Rosen*

The spring semester will continue the advanced class. We will work to polish our acting skills further and develop material for our annual presentation before the Quest membership.

■ B WEEK / Mon. / 1 to 2:30pm

ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK

Coordinators: *Sandy Gordon, Isidore Schwartzman*

Art is the visual language of culture and society, and artists are their scribes. Using lectures and slides, we explore art history, examining the life and times of the artists as well as their works. During this semester, we invite presenters to select as their subject an innovation in the arts, discussing the artist, the period and the innovation.

■ B WEEK / Tues. / 10:30am to 12pm

ART WORKSHOP

Coordinators: *Sylvia Berg, Helen Neilson*

Here's your chance to try your hand at something you may have thought about doing but lacked the time—or the courage! In a non-judgmental setting, you can draw an apple, paint a flower or design a collage. You may use pencil, charcoal, pastel, pen—or scissors and glue—to create original artwork. The class is for all levels of expertise, from first-timers to old hands. Sylvia and Helen are there to help, and you can store your equipment at Quest.

■ A WEEK / Wed. / 1 to 2:30pm

ASSASSINATIONS:

History's Most Shocking Moments of Murder & Madness

Coordinators: *John Clark, Bob Hartmann, Carolyn McGuire*

In a series of lectures, we will present profiles of the world's most notorious assassinations, ranging from Caligula to Martin Luther King. We will examine both killer and victim, exploring the motivation for the murder, unearthing the details behind it, and examining the repercussions of the deed. Class members will be encouraged to choose one such profile and present it to the class, to be followed by a general discussion.

■ B WEEK / Mon. / 10:30am to 12pm

THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY: "A LEGACY OF ASHES"

Coordinators: *Al Lewis, Helen McMahon*

We will study the history of American intelligence from the Office of Strategic Services (O.S.S.) in WW II to the present. The policies and operations of the C.I.A. will be analyzed, and its relationship to U.S. presidents from Carter to G. W. Bush assessed. We will discuss the quality of leadership in the agency, the conflict between intelligence gathering and operations, and the impact of C.I.A. interventions (such as the coups in Iran, Guatemala and Chile).

We will also examine the C.I.A. role in Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and Pakistan.

■ A WEEK / Thurs. / 1 to 2:30pm

CONSERVATISM IN AMERICA

Coordinators: *John Hood, Howard Salik*

This semester, we will discuss events leading to today's Conservative theory, beginning with William F. Buckley's vision of a modern Conservatism.

We will examine the Religious Right, Newt Gingrich's Contract with America, Libertarianism, Reaganomics, Neocons and conservative think tanks. The semester will end with *How George W. Bush Bankrupted America and Betrayed the Conservative Legacy*. All viewpoints are welcome.

■ A WEEK / Mon. / 10:30am to 12pm

CONTEMPORARY OPERA (formerly Modern Opera)

Coordinators: *Joan Briller, Steven Koenig*

At each session, we will view a different opera and engage in a lively discussion of the text, staging and medium. We will compare productions and correlate with historical and cultural events. This semester may include Prokofiev's *Love for Three Oranges*, Ravel's *L'heure espagnole*, Meredith Monk's *Ellis Island*, Dusapin's *Faust's Last Night*, Birtwhistle's *The Minotaur*, Hindemith's *Cardillac* and perhaps a jazz opera.

■ A WEEK / Wed. / 10:30am to 12pm

Spring Courses

POINT OF VIEW

Coordinators: *Russell Good, Barbara Gordon*

A selection of newspaper accounts, op-ed pieces, editorials and magazine articles is presented to the class, and the members choose two or three of these to be read aloud. They then examine and freely debate the points of view the material expresses.

■ B WEEK / Thurs. / 10:30am to 12pm

PROUST

Coordinators: *Florence Granowitter, Joe Nathan*

We will continue our reading of *In Search of Lost Time*, using the Modern Library edition of this masterpiece. This semester, we will also read *Within a Budding Grove* from the second volume. Questers who join this class can obtain summaries of the first two volumes at online bookstores.

■ A WEEK / Thurs. / 1 to 2:30pm

SHAKESPEARE

Coordinators: *Betty Farber, Joe Nathan, Stan Raffes*

During this term, we will read and discuss *Macbeth* as a unique creation. According to the distinguished critic Harold Bloom, "*Macbeth* is an uncanny unity of setting, plot and characters, fused together beyond comparison with any other play of Shakespeare's."

■ A WEEK / Wed. / 1 to 2:30pm

THE SUPREME COURT

Coordinators: *Alvin Kabot, David Robinson, Ruth Smith*

We will examine and discuss in depth recent landmark decisions of the Court, as well as important issues raised by cases coming before the Court in 2010. We will gain further insight into the Court and its Justices through topical papers presented in class and through critiques of current books and articles on the subject.

■ A WEEK / Tues. / 10:30am to 12pm

TODAY'S FILMS

Coordinators: *Eleanor Chernick, Eileen Mund, Beverly Wasserman*

The first session of the class will open with an audio lecture that traces the history of film, and examines how filmmakers diverge from the ideas of their predecessors. Class members will choose two current films to discuss. Each will be analyzed for its cinematic elements, relation to the director's other work, the performances

of the actors and any current issues that are addressed. We also consider the difference between the approach of professional critics and what we the audience look for.

■ B WEEK / Thurs. / 1 to 2:30pm

✓ THE WORLD OF CONTEMPORARY POETRY (formerly *Understanding Contemporary Poetry*)

Coordinators: *Joe Nathan, Eva Shatkin*

From close readings and discussion of the work of contemporary poets, we uncover a whole new world of enjoyment. Class members will present their chosen poems and lead discussion of their selections.

■ B WEEK / Mon. / 1 to 2:30pm

✓ WRITING WORKSHOP

Coordinators: *Joan Bonagura, Barbara Spector Karr, Donna Rubens*

Members read aloud their short stories, essays and poems, to which the class reacts and offers suggestions. The critiques are supportive to both seasoned writers and beginners, and are intended to develop and encourage writing skills.

■ B WEEK / Tues. / 1 to 2:30pm

Something Extra

FRIDAY MUSEUM TOURS

Coordinators: *Joan Briller, Yvonne Kress*

Inspired by the success of last year's visits to "under the radar" museums (The New York Historical Society, The Rubin Museum of Art), we plan to offer two more docent-led visits this semester.

These Friday morning tours may include such interesting sites as The Grey Gallery at NYU and The Museum of American Illustration.

We will vary the experience each time, focusing on different disciplines—i.e., art, history or ethnic culture.

Watch for a sign-up sheet on the Quest bulletin board.

Lunch together after the tour is optional, and it's always at a restaurant an easy walk from the museum.

Spring Courses

CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES

Coordinators: Eleanor Chernick, Eileen Mund

At each session, two class members will introduce stories that we have read at home. Background on the authors and elements of the stories (character, plot, point of view) are then open to discussion. For this semester, a basic text will be chosen to be used every other session. As an alternative, we will use stories by authors from around the world. Text: *The Pen/O. Henry Prize Stories 2009* edited by Laura Furman; Jurors A.S. Byatt, Anthony Doer and Tim O'Brien

■ A WEEK / Thurs. / 10:30am to 12pm

CONVERSATIONAL FRENCH

Coordinators: Charles Carter, Colette Flake-Bunz, Yvonne Kress

Members read, translate and discuss written material in French involving everyday phrases and expressions. We also read French newspaper articles and poems, and members are encouraged to write, in French, about their travel and other personal experiences.

■ A WEEK / Mon. / 1 to 2:30pm

ECONOMIC CHALLENGES (formerly *Inside the Wall Street Revolution*)

Coordinators: Steve Allen, Bob Bacigalupo, John Hood

We follow last term's study by looking at major issues that currently affect the U.S. and world economy. Topics will include the expansion of government debt; the need to rebalance trade relationships between the U.S. and China; challenges facing the Federal Reserve; and the future of pensions. Presentations will be non-technical, and class members may bring in relevant material from books, periodicals and newspapers.

■ A WEEK / Thurs. / 10:30am to 12pm

NEW COURSE: FICTION INTO FILM: W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM AND O. HENRY

Coordinators: Betty Farber, Harriet Greenberg

What happens to a work of fiction when it is adapted for film? At home, class members will read a short story by one of the two named authors. In class, we will discuss the story, followed by a screening of the film adaptation. The written work will then be compared with the film version.

■ B WEEK / Tues. / 1 to 2:30pm

GRAND OPERA

Coordinators: Charles Carter, Frieda Lipp, Jerry Wiesenberg

This class is for the person who wants to appreciate and understand opera. At each session we show a video of an opera, and give a brief history of the work and its composer. Members then discuss their reactions to the presentation.

■ B WEEK / Wed. / 10:30am to 12pm

NEW COURSE: GREAT DECISIONS

Coordinators: Al Gubar, Bob Hartmann

Based on a booklet produced by the Foreign Policy Association, this course deals with issues that are likely to arise in 2010. Each session, led by a class member, is devoted to a specific topic such as global crime, the global financial crisis, U.S.-China relations or the Persian Gulf. The emphasis will be on class participation in discussing each topic.

■ B WEEK / Tues. / 10:30am to 12pm

GREAT PLAYS

Coordinators: Beverly Francus, Helen Neilson

We present leading European and American works. Each session begins with a brief biography of the playwright, followed by a reading performance of the play in edited form. There is then a class discussion of the theme of the play and its relevance to our lives.

■ B WEEK / Thurs. / 10:30am to 12pm

THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

Coordinators: Marc Deitch, Barbara Gordon, Robert Reiss

Among the varied topics under study in this course are: Greek and Egyptian Medicine, the History of Surgery, Great Physicians from Maimonides to DeBakey, Epidemics in the Middle Ages, Public Health, and The Antibiotic Age. Presentations will make use of art, literature and science to lend a broad perspective to this fascinating subject.

Recommended text: *The Greatest Benefit to Mankind: A Medical History of Humanity*, Roy Porter (Norton paperback, 1999)

■ B WEEK / Wed. / 10:30am to 12pm

IMAGES OF WOMEN IN LITERATURE

Coordinators: *Carole Abrahams, Barbara Spector Karr, Joan Bonagura*

We explore, through short stories, the many roles women play in their lifetime. Selections for reading are given out to the class. Information on the author will be presented, when available. Each class features a discussion of current issues relating to women's lives.

■ A WEEK / Tues. / 1 to 2:30pm

INDIGENOUS MUSIC AND CULTURE

Coordinators: *Steven Koenig, Myra Nissen*

We will study the music of indigenous peoples, focusing on ethnic field recordings and modern works derived from traditional roots. The study will be enriched with discussion and readings about history and cultural anthropology, folklore, visual and performing arts as well as poetry and brief stories relevant to the music. This semester may include the Inuit, Dogon, Brazilian, Indian, Muslim Chinese, Slavic and Diné (Navajo) peoples.

■ A WEEK / Tues. / 10:30am to 12pm

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Coordinators: *Stuart Dunn, Leonard Glass, ~~Hobart Rauch~~*

The course will study global affairs and foreign relations among states, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. It will consider state security and sovereignty, globalization and international law as well as economic development and human rights. Major historic periods and their impact will be examined. Each class will begin with a brief review of recent events.

■ B WEEK / Mon. / 1 to 2:30pm

NEW COURSE: INTRODUCTION TO THE GREAT BOOKS

Coordinators: *Franz Friedrich, Eva Shatkin*

This program involves selections from classic works. Class discussion will feature "shared inquiry"—the coordinators may offer questions, but class members will freely discuss issues of fact, interpretation and evaluation. The first series of readings includes such authors as Aristotle, Plato, Chekhov, Conrad, Marx and Freud. Participants will read the selections at home and come prepared to share in discussion.

■ A WEEK / Mon. / 10:30am to 12pm

IRISH THEATRE AND SOCIAL CHANGE

Coordinators: *Carolyn McGuire, Myra Nissen*

This semester, we will continue to examine the social, political and economic

conditions in Ireland as they are reflected in the plays of the 1990s and into the 21st century. Featured themes will include women's issues, divorce, poverty, "The Troubles," and the influence of the theatre on the society in general. Playwrights will include *McPherson, Behan, McDonagh, Carr* and other post-modern writers.

■ A WEEK / Tues. / 1 to 2:30pm

LIFE DRAWING

Coordinators: *Carole Abrahams, Barbara Spector Karr, Gerrie Rude*

In sessions of this course, students practice drawing the human form, alternating a live model with instructional videos. Participants provide their own drawing materials and pad, which can be stored at Quest. Pens, pencils, charcoal and conte crayons are suitable media. Each class member pays a model fee of approximately \$35 per semester.

Recommended reading: Betty Edwards, *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain*; Robert Kaupelis, *Learning to Draw*; Kimon Nicolaides, *The Natural Way to Draw*.

■ A WEEK / Mon. / 1 to 2:30pm

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL DRAMATISTS

Coordinators: *Marilyn Rosen, Jerry Wiesenberg*

We will continue to study the works of classic dramatists from around the world, ranging from the mid-19th century to the early 20th century, such as Chekhov, Lorca and Pirandello. After reading the plays at home, we will discuss them in class.

■ A WEEK / Wed. / 10:30am to 12pm

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Coordinators: *Eleanor Chernick, Isidore Schwartzman*

Who were the strong characters, men and women, who shaped their world and ours? We will examine the lives and accomplishments of the outstanding, and sometimes unexpected, personalities who made a difference to society. They range from Caligula to Eleanor Roosevelt, whose ideas and actions had lasting influence.

■ B WEEK / Mon. / 10:30am to 12pm

POETRY WORKSHOP

Coordinators: *Joan Bonagura, Barbara Spector Karr, ~~Donna Rubens~~*

The focus is on your poems in a supportive environment where you'll receive detailed feedback. You are encouraged to experiment, to explore language and address all aspects of the craft to develop your own distinctive style and voice.

■ B WEEK / Thurs. / 1 to 2:30pm

Ed Simon

Poets

Helen