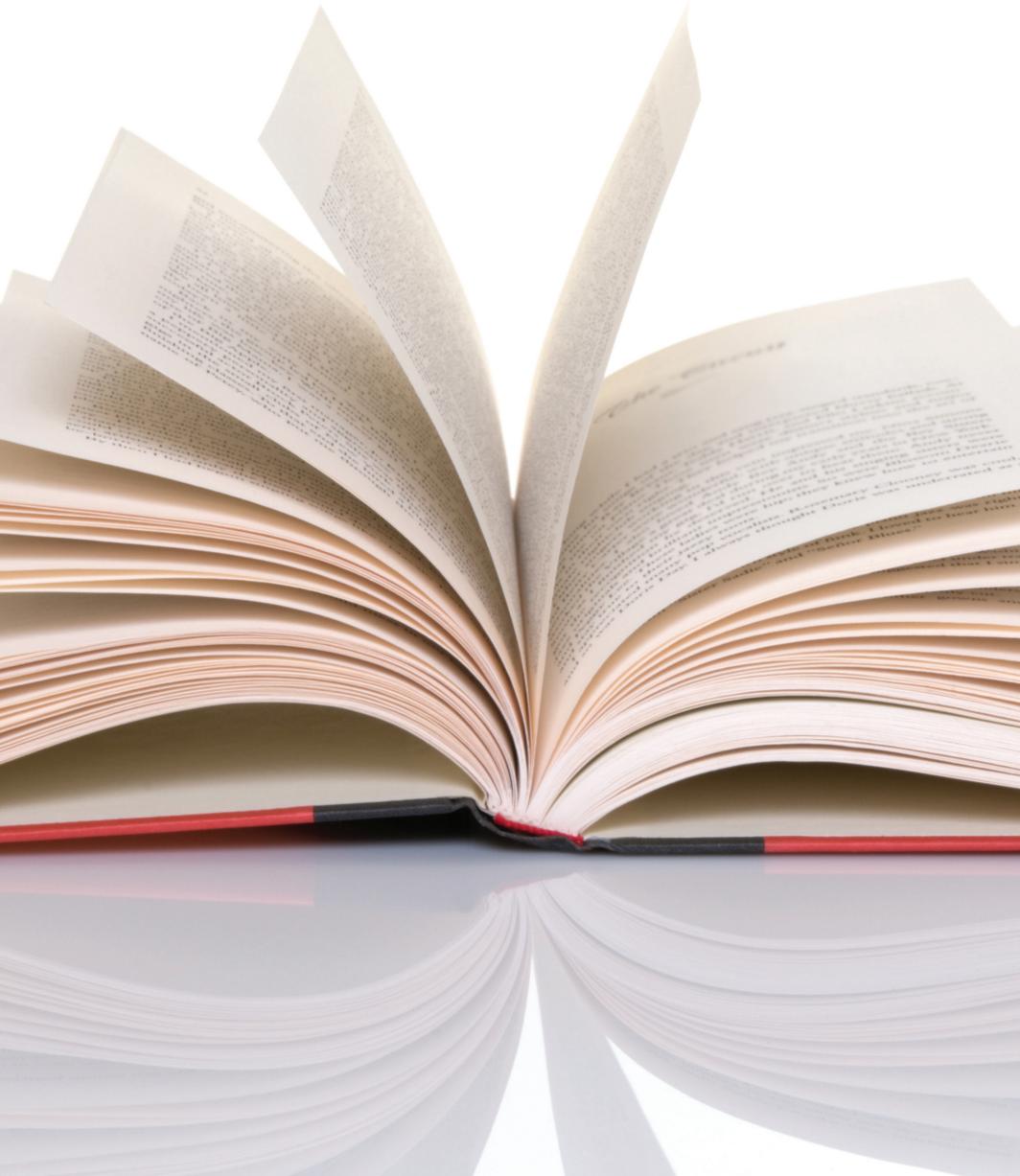


QUEST CURRICULUM

A Community
for Lifelong
Learning, Inc.

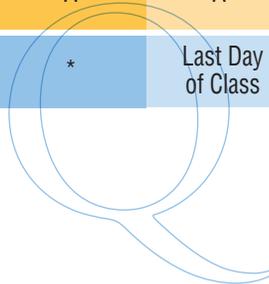
Spring 2015



SPRING 2015 CALENDAR

Week Starting	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
February 2	A	A	A	A
February 9	B	B	B	No Class Lincoln's B'Day
February 16	No Class President's Day	A	A	A
February 23	B	B	B	B
March 2	A	A	A	A
March 9	B	B	B	B
March 16	A	A	A	A
March 23	B	B	B	B
March 30	A	A	A	A
April 6	Spring Break			
April 13	B	B	General Meeting	B
April 20	A	A	A	A
April 27	B	B	B	B
May 4	A	A	A	A
May 11	B	B	*	Last Day of Class

* No classes Wednesday morning – Play Performance 12:30 Luncheon



A Week SPRING 2015 SCHEDULE

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Morning 10:30 – 12:00	Great Books	Acting Workshop	Ancient Greece	20th Century China
	Modern Classical Music	Fascinating Non-Fiction	Contemporary Opera	Point of View
	Satire & Comedy	Foreign Affairs	Supreme Court	
Lunch				
Afternoon 1:00 – 2:30	Great Plays	Films for Thought	A History of Architecture	Reading <i>Don Quixote</i>
	Life Drawing	America's Political Parties	Shakespeare	Science & Math for Everyone
	Presenter's Showcase			

B Week

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Morning 10:30 – 12:00	Awesome America	Artists & Their Work	American Folk Music	Contemporary Short Stories
	Literature & War	The Big Picture	New York Newspapers	Movers & Shakers
Lunch				
Afternoon 1:00 – 2:30	Appreciating Contem. Poetry	A Jazz Cornucopia	Guest Lecture Series	Film Today (12:45)
	Environmental Issues	Acting Workshop		Poets' Workshop
	Writers' Workshop	James Joyce's <i>Ulysses</i>		

COURSES BY CATEGORY

ART

- Artists and Their Work
- Life Drawing

DRAMA

- Acting Workshops
- Great Plays
- Shakespeare

FILM

- Films for Thought
- Film Today

GOVERNMENT & WORLD AFFAIRS

- America's Political Parties
- The Big Picture
- Foreign Affairs
- Point of View
- The Supreme Court

HISTORY & CULTURE

- 20th Century China
- Ancient Greece
- The Great Books: An Introduction
- Movers and Shakers

LITERATURE

- Appreciating Contemporary Poetry
- Contemporary Short Stories
- Fascinating Non Fiction New
- Literature and War
- Poets' Workshop
- Reading *Don Quixote*
- Satire and Comedy
- James Joyce's *Ulysses*
- Writers' Workshop

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

- American Folk Music
- Contemporary Opera
- Modern Classical Music Masterpieces
- A Jazz Cornucopia

SCIENCE, MATH & TECHNOLOGY

- Environmental Issues **NEW**
- History of Architecture
- Science and Math for Everyone

SOCIOLOGY

- Awesome America from "A" to "W"
- NY Newspapers



SPECIAL SELECTIONS

- Guest Lecture Series
- Presenter's Showcase

SPRING 2015 COURSES

ACTING WORKSHOP

Lead Coordinator: Marilyn Rosen
Coordinator: Panny King

The acting classes will focus on developing acting techniques through the use of acting exercises and monologues. We will work on concentration and observation—basic tools of an actor—and focus on character development in scene study. It is important that participants attend each class as the work will be sequential—each class building on the work of the previous one. Both A and B week classes will follow the same program.

A WEEK / TUES / 10:30am to 12:00pm

B WEEK / TUES / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

AMERICAN FOLK MUSIC

Lead Coordinator: Roy Clary
Coordinators: Wayne Cotter, Penelope Pi-Sunyer, Jane Pittson-Chianese

This course will trace the development of folk music from its origins through the 20th Century to the present day. It will include an exploration of the music's impact on the American experience, and in particular, how it helped shape the labor, civil rights, and anti-war movements. Artists discussed will include: Woody Guthrie, Lead Belly, Burl Ives, Pete Seeger, Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Odetta, and others.

B WEEK / WED / 10:30am to 12:00pm

AMERICA'S POLITICAL PARTIES

Lead Coordinator: Michael Wellner
Coordinators: Peter Fleischman, Liesje ten Houten

The Republicans don't talk to the Democrats; the Tea Party members won't talk to the "old line, mainstream" Republicans; the Democrats seem remarkably ineffective. What's going on in Washington? Was it always this way? This course will examine the history of political parties in this country, and analyze how we got ourselves in the mess we're in today.

A WEEK / TUES / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

SPRING 2015 COURSES

ANCIENT GREECE: CRUCIBLE OF CIVILIZATION

Lead Coordinator: Doreen De Martini
Coordinators: Penelope Pi-Sunyer,
Art Spar, Wallace Butler

More than 3,000 years ago the Greeks began to forge a culture and civilization that transcended time, and left its mark on the world to this day. This course will delve into the ways in which the ancient Greeks developed governments, the arts, philosophy, science, medicine and more through the centuries, and how their legacy continues to influence us. Through lectures, dramatizations, and readings, participants will share the achievements, failures and glories of this unparalleled empire.

A WEEK / WED / 10:30am to 12:00pm

APPRECIATING CONTEMPORARY POETRY

Lead Coordinator: Joe Nathan
Coordinators: Stan Raffes, Eva Shatkin

From close reading and discussion of the work of contemporary poets, we uncover a new world of enjoyment. Class members choose poems to present and lead the discussion.

B WEEK / MON / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

ARTISTS & THEIR WORK

Lead Coordinator: Sandy Gordon
Coordinator: Bob Reiss

Art is the visual language of culture and society, and artists are the scribes. Using lecture, with visual presentation, we will examine the works of selected artists in the context of their lives and historical periods. During the spring semester, we will feature lectures on artists who have been selected by their presenters.

B WEEK / TUE / 10:30am to 12:00pm

AWESOME AMERICA: FROM "A" TO "W"

Lead Coordinator: Harriet Finkelstein
Coordinator: Marian Friedmann

This four-year course will illuminate the history, demography, economy, geography, politics, education, artists, sports, heroes and villains of all states from Alabama to Wyoming. We will also study how inter-state events affected the nation.

B WEEK / MON / 10:30am to 12:00pm

SPRING 2015 COURSES

THE BIG PICTURE: CONTEMPORARY NON-FICTION ARTICLES

Lead Coordinator: Steve Allen
Coordinators: Wayne Cotter,
Caroline Thompson

In spite of the sound bite and Twitter message, the long-form non-fiction article is thriving in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *Harper's*, *The New York Review of Books*, and other print and online formats. Class members will share favorites and lead discussions.

B WEEK / TUE / 10:30am to 12:00pm

CONTEMPORARY OPERA

Lead Coordinator: Steven Koenig
Coordinator: Joan Briller

At each session, we view a different opera and engage in a lively discussion of the text, staging and medium. This semester may include Kurt Weill's *Lost In The Stars*, Britten's *Owen Wingrave*, John Adams' *El Niño*, Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Krása's Terezin camp children's opera *Brundibar*, Aperghis' *Little Red Riding Hood*, Vivier's *Rêves d'un Marco Polo*, Nielsen's *Maskarade* as well as jazz, computer and rock opera. We will compare productions and correlate them with historical and cultural events.

A WEEK / WED / 10:30am to 12:00pm

CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES

Lead Coordinator: Nancy Richardson
Coordinators: Mary Buchwald,
Frieda Lipp

At each session, two class members present stories from the 2013 edition of the Pen O. Henry Prize Stories, or by foreign authors. The presenters give background information and draw on the class for discussion.

B WEEK / THUR / 10:30am to 12:00pm

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES NEW COURSE

Coordinators: Judy Weis, Pete Weis

How are human activities affecting our planet? How are they affecting the animals and plants we depend on for our well-being, and how are they affecting our own health? What can we do about it? Why are some of these topics controversial? Participants will gain greater understanding of the ways in which human activities are damaging the earth (the only planet we have) and will gain greater insight into news articles they may read about environmental problems. Specific topics to be covered include garbage, water and air pollution, biological diversity/conservation, invasive species, and climate change.

B WEEK / MON / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

SPRING 2015 COURSES

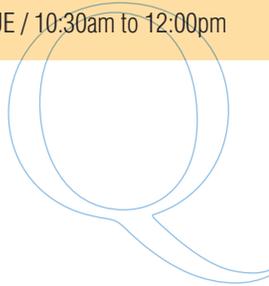
FASCINATING NON-FICTION

Lead Coordinator: Harriet Finkelstein
Coordinators: Marian Friedmann,
Bob Reiss

At each session of this course, the presenter will tell you about a book you always wanted to read or about a book you never heard of but will be glad that you now have. This semester's books are: *Voices from Chernobyl* by Svetlana Alexievich, *Falling Upwards* by Richard Holmes, *On Writing* by Stephen King, *A Brief History of Time* by Stephen Hawking, *The Boys on the Bus* by Timothy Crouse, *The Looming Tower* by Lawrence Wright, and *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell.

No Advance Reading Required.

A WEEK / TUE / 10:30am to 12:00pm



FILM TODAY

Lead Coordinator: Beverly Wasserman
Coordinators: John Hood,
Howard Salik

Film Today is a discussion class. Here is how it works: the coordinators gather information on six interesting films either currently playing or soon to be released. The trailers are shown at the beginning of each class. We then vote to narrow the list down to four films and ask for volunteers to give us a five minute introduction to each film at the following session, focusing on plot, acting, and direction.

B WEEK / THUR / 12:45pm to 2:30pm

FILMS FOR THOUGHT: VIEWING AND DISCUSSION OF SHORT FILMS AND FILM EXCERPTS

Lead coordinator: Steve Allen
Coordinators: Marian Friedmann,
Lillian Scheinblum

See the best of contemporary short documentaries, dramas, comedies, videos, and film excerpts. Films are selected based on artistic merit and their probability to provoke lively discussions.

A WEEK / TUE / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

SPRING 2015 COURSES

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Lead Coordinator: Howard Salik
Coordinator: Sandra Southwell

In this course we will examine and discuss world affairs based on articles published in the *Journal of Foreign Affairs*. Presenters will review articles, along with relevant data from other sources (no homework necessary!), and lead the class in discussion.

A WEEK / TUE / 10:30am to 12:00pm

THE GREAT BOOKS: AN INTRODUCTION

Lead Coordinator: Eva Shatkin
Coordinators: June Dwyer,
Ellen Shapiro

We continue with the Fifth Series of the Great Books Reading & Discussion Program, Volume 1. We begin with Sophocles' *Oedipus the King*. Readings are done at home, and class discussion is led by the coordinators.

A WEEK / MON / 10:30am to 12:00pm

GREAT PLAYS

Lead Coordinator: Beverly Francus
Coordinator: Patricia Terry

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

A WEEK / MON / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

GUEST LECTURE SERIES

Lead Coordinator: Sandy Gordon
Coordinator: Bob Reiss

The bi-monthly QUEST Distinguished Guest Lecture Series, Wednesdays at 1:00pm, enhances the QUEST program by inviting recognized experts in their fields to present varied subjects. Past presentations have included discussions of global policy and political science, science, anthropology, literature, theater arts, social science, and music.

B WEEK / WED / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

SPRING 2015 COURSES

HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE

*Lead Coordinator: Bob Reiss
Coordinator: Michael Wellner*

We continue to explore both the history of architecture and contemporary issues. We will discuss some important but lesser known architects, such as Randall Stout, Solari, Soo Chan; how architecture will mitigate the effects of climate change; and some fun topics such as architecture in the movies

A WEEK / MON / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

JAMES JOYCE'S *ULYSSES*

*Lead Coordinator: Joe Nathan
Coordinator: John Hood*

James Joyce's *Ulysses* is one of history's great psychological novels. Cast in a single day in Dublin, the novel parallels the long journey of Homer's Odysseus using a middle-aged Jew as its protagonist and containing countless references that Joyce stated would keep scholars busy for years. We will accept this challenge and explore this masterpiece one chapter at a time.

B WEEK / TUE / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

A JAZZ CORNUCOPIA

*Lead Coordinator: Doreen De Martini
Coordinators: E. Faith Aarons,
Mary Ann Donnelly, Vivian Oliver*

Constantly evolving since the turn of the last century, jazz has endowed us with a magnificent legacy of creativity and performance. We will showcase this music in its many variations, from jazz legends to the best of today's emerging artists.

B WEEK / TUE / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

LIFE DRAWING

*Lead Coordinator: Donna Rubens
Coordinators: Carole Abrahams,
Margaret Di Piazza*

This is a hands-on drawing class with professional live models. No experience needed. Bring drawing materials — pencils, charcoal, hard pastels, Conte crayons, pens — and a drawing pad. Not sure this is for you? We will supply your first day's equipment.

A WEEK / MON / 1:00pm to 2:30pm



SPRING 2015 COURSES

LITERATURE & WAR

*Lead Coordinator: June Dwyer
Coordinator: Art Spar*

In this course we will look into the complexities and the terrible costs of war. Through readings of Western literary texts, we will examine the relationships between war and culture, patriotism and nationalism, traditional war and terrorism. We will also think about war as a site of empowerment, masculinity, and the achievement of personal glory. And finally, we'll consider the rhetoric of war and telling of "war stories."

B WEEK / MON / 10:30am to 12:00pm

MODERN CLASSICAL MUSIC MASTERPIECES

*Lead Coordinator: Steve Koenig
Coordinator: Joan Briller*

From Charles Ives' raucous Americana to the Eastern mysticism of Arvo Pärt's *Tabula Rasa*, experience all the sounds of the modern musical era including Mahler, Berg, Bartók, Reich, Ellington, Prokofiev, Ives, Kodaly, Adams, Marsalis, Ravel, Revueltas, Poulenc, Messiaen, Bernstein, Webern, Takemitsu, Cage, and Gershwin. Plus the current generation of composers.

A WEEK / MON / 10:30am to 12:00pm

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

*Lead Coordinator: Caroline Thompson
Coordinator: Richard Salter*

We will examine the lives and accomplishments of the outstanding, and sometimes unexpected, personalities whose ideas and actions have had a lasting influence on our society, whether for good or evil. Previous subjects have included Richard Feynman, Beethoven, Ghengis Khan, Emma Goldman, Jackie Robinson, and Peter the Great.

B WEEK / THUR / 10:30am to 12:00pm

NEW YORK'S NEWSPAPERS – A HISTORICAL LOOK

*Lead Coordinator: Michael Wellner
Coordinators: Leslie Goldman,
Palma Mahl*

New York City was once home to a dozen or more newspapers, reflecting every conceivable political and social point of view. Today we are down to just four majors: *The New York Times*; *The Daily News*; *The Wall Street Journal*; and *The Post*. Join us as we trace the history of all of New York's papers, which provides a unique lens through which we'll study the history and evolution of New York City.

B WEEK / WED / 10:30am to 12:00pm

SPRING 2015 COURSES

POETS' WORKSHOP

*Lead Coordinator: Helen Neilson
Coordinator: Trudy Owett*

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

This class begins a half-hour early, at 12:30pm.

B WEEK / THUR / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

POINT OF VIEW

*Lead Coordinator: Barbara Gordon
Coordinators: Bob Hartmann,
Irwin Greenberg, Myra Nissen*

This is an interactive discussion class, in which both the coordinators and class members bring in short opinion pieces — editorials, op-ed articles, reviews, etc. A vote is taken on which pieces to discuss that day and individuals argue their views.

A WEEK / THUR / 10:30am to 12:00pm

PRESENTER'S SHOWCASE

*Lead coordinator: Palma Mahl
Coordinators: Steve Allen, Bob Moore*

Quest members have a wide diversity of interests and experiences. Each session is a chance to encounter something new. As a presenter, you will have free rein to develop a subject otherwise not covered in the curriculum. As an audience member, you may find a fresh interest or learn more about a topic you always wondered about.

A WEEK / MON / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

READING *DON QUIXOTE*

*Lead Coordinator: Jane Lubin
Coordinators: June Dwyer,
Bob Hartmann*

Recently, 100 major writers from 54 countries voted *Don Quixote* the best work of fiction in the world. Cervantes's book contains practically every imaginative technique used by fiction writers to engage their readers. As one critic has written, "It is tragedy as well as comedy. It begins as a province, turns into Spain and ends up the universe." Through reading and class discussion, we will continue to explore Don Quixote's quest.

A WEEK / THUR / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

SPRING 2015 COURSES

SATIRE & COMEDY

*Lead Coordinator: Wayne Cotter
Coordinator: Roy Clary*

A comedian wants to make us laugh. A satirist, however, seeks to provoke change by subtly exposing the failings of an institution, government, or individual. Since much satire contains a comedic element, this course will feature sessions on comedy and satire. Remember — we don't stop laughing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop laughing.

A WEEK / MON / 10:30am to 12:00pm

SCIENCE & MATHEMATICS FOR EVERYONE

*Lead Coordinator: Steve Allen
Coordinators: David Robinson,
Burt Saltzberg, Judy Weis*

This course approaches science and math as liberal arts that can enrich everyone's life. We report on many fields including biology, psychology, and physics, and examine groundbreaking research, as well as exciting applications. We strive hard to communicate these topics at a level that all can understand, without sacrificing the extraordinary beauty that science explores.

A WEEK / THUR / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

SHAKESPEARE

*Lead Coordinator: Roy Clary
Coordinators: Stan Raffes,
Sondra Lipton Sahlman*

The class will read aloud and discuss, *Measure for Measure*, one of Shakespeare's "unpleasant plays." Over the years, it has gained in popularity as audiences increasingly appreciate its complexities. The play is filled with common theater tricks such as disguises, surprises, distressed virgins, and thwarted seducers, but Shakespeare also populates the stage with distinctive and fascinating characters in order to provide yet another superbly meaningful experience.

A WEEK / WED / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

THE SUPREME COURT

*Lead Coordinator: Michael Wellner
Coordinators: David Judlowitz,
Richard Salter*

Of all the decisions made by the Federal Government, few have had as great an impact upon our society as those of the Supreme Court. Join us as we review and study the Court, its history and decisions, to learn of its continuing impact upon all our lives.

A WEEK / WED / 10:30am to 12:00pm

SPRING 2015 COURSES

TWENTIETH CENTURY CHINESE HISTORY

*Lead Coordinator: Caroline Thompson
Coordinator: Sandra Southwell*

China—the world’s oldest continuous civilization—has undergone an astonishing transformation in a brief span of recent history. Since the collapse of its once-glorious empire in 1911, China has seen decades of epic turmoil and upheavals, emerging in the new century as both an authoritarian megastate and an economic powerhouse, poised to become an imposing global force. Twentieth Century Chinese History will focus on the human struggles, the wars, the political upheavals, and the drama of China’s modern rebirth.

A WEEK / THUR / 10:30am to 12:00pm

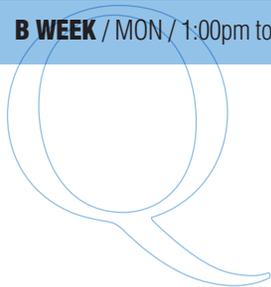
WRITERS’ WORKSHOP

*Lead Coordinator: Hilda Feinstein
Coordinators: Donna Rubens,
Sheryl Harawitz*

Please join us. Writers of all genres welcome — from script writing, to poetry, fiction and non-fiction, even op-ed pieces. In an encouraging small group, we support all efforts and are trying new approaches to creativity. We devote time as well to writing exercises and discuss artistic approaches and styles of famous writers. Come and share your writing, questions and ideas.

“The scariest moment is always just before you start.” by Stephen King,
On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft

B WEEK / MON / 1:00pm to 2:30pm



SPRING 2015 COURSES

SOMETHING EXTRA

FRANCOPHONE LUNCH

Stella Gold, Yvonne Kress

If you speak some French, join us for our bi-weekly “Lunch en Français.” We bring our lunch and try to discuss current events, movies and other subjects in French. We also read and translate current French articles or more classic short stories.

A WEEK / MON / 12:00pm

LUNCH & LEARN

*Lead coordinator: Steve Allen
Coordinators: Palma Mahl, Bob Moore*

Lunch & Learn sessions are scheduled during the lunch hour, usually on Tuesdays. While many topics are about pressing issues in current affairs, cultural or historical topics are also welcome. Quest members can suggest a topic, volunteer to lead a discussion, or suggest a guest speaker who would fit into the lunch & learn format.

VARIOUS / TUE / 12:00pm

FRIDAY MUSEUM TOURS

*Joan Briller, Pam Gemelli,
Yvonne Kress, Bob Moore*

Inspired by the success of last year’s visits to “under the radar” museums, we plan to offer two more docent-led visits this semester. We will vary the experience each time focusing on different disciplines. 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.

QUEST Q

QUEST is a New York City Based Community for Lifelong Learning

Founded in 1995 by a small group of active retirees, Quest operates in the Bowling Green facilities of the City College of New York (CCNY.) Our mission is to provide an intellectually challenging program for mature adults who want to continue to learn, exchange ideas, meet new friends, and develop new interests in a peer-learning environment.

Today we are a vital part of the CCNY family, with more than 200 members. We design our own curriculum, publish an annual literary and art magazine, *Q Review*, and self-administer about forty advanced-level peer-taught courses each semester. Subjects range from literature and history to science, politics, current affairs, philosophy and the arts. We also feature a Distinguished Guest Lecture Series that brings prominent people in a wide variety of disciplines to discuss their careers and life experiences. In this stimulating, participatory community, there are no attendance requirements, no exams, no grades, and very little homework. People of all backgrounds are welcome to teach and to learn.

QUEST is administered by a member-elected eleven-member Council. All work is carried out by our member-volunteers, and by one administrative employee. Our

success is wholly dependent on the voluntary participation of our members in many different areas, including the selection and development of the curriculum, and a wide array of administrative functions. No matter how members choose to participate, all find that QUEST provides a rewarding experience that enriches both their intellectual and social lives.

Our membership includes retired and semi-retired editors, musicians, teachers, lawyers, college professors, doctors, dentists, engineers, reporters, actors, librarians, psychologists, artists, business people and more.

There are three semesters each year: Fall (September through December), Spring (February through May), and a June & July summer session. Except in the summer, when classes are held from 10:30 – Noon Tuesdays and Thursdays only, we meet Monday through Thursday for morning (10:30 AM – 12:00 noon) and afternoon (1:00 – 2:30 PM) sessions. Most courses run for at least two semesters, and many continue for several years. There is a modest annual fee which covers all expenses. We encourage prospective members and guests to spend a day with us and see firsthand what an enriching lifelong learning opportunity awaits. To schedule a visit, please call or e-mail for an appointment.



CITY COLLEGE of NEW YORK

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