

# FALL 2016 CALENDAR

Week Starting	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
September 5	No Class Labor Day	А	А	А	
September 12	В	В	В	В	
September 19	А	А	А	А	
September 26	В	В	В	В	
October 3	А	A	А	А	
October 10	———— Holidays – Fall Break ————				
October 17	В	В	В	В	
October 24	А	А	А	А	
October 31	В	В	В	В	
November 7	А	А	А	А	
November 14	В	В	General Meeting	В	
November 21	А	А	No Class Thanksgiving	No Class Thanksgiving	
November 28	В	В	В	В	
December 5	А	А	A	A	

#### FALL 2016 SCHEDULE Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Great Here There Contemporary Foreign Morning 10:30 - 12:00 Conversations Short Stories **Affairs** Be Monsters Oral Supreme The Women's Lona Interpretation 19th Century Court Movement of Poetry Classic Rock Contemporary Actina Albums Workshop Opera Lunch law & Explorations in The Other Afternoon Great 1:00 - 2:30 Order Architecture Americas Plays NYC's Great Movers & **Economics** Shakespeare Department Shakers & Society Stores Life Writers' Poets' Drawing Workshop Workshop Week Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday The Fascinating Artists & Mind & Morning Tumultuous 10:30 - 12:00 Non-Fiction Their Work Brain Sixties Election The Bia Great Love Point of 2016 Picture Stories View Lunch Science & Film Today Guest Afternoon Appreciating

	Quest@ccny.cuny.edu	•	www.questlifelong.org
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Scientists

Blacks in

America

Acting Workshop

Speakers

(12:45)

Presenter's

Showcase

Contem. Poetry

**Turning Points** 

In American

History

1:00 - 2:30

# **COURSES BY CATEGORY**

#### ART

- Artists & Their Work
- Life Drawing

## DRAMA

- Acting Workshop
- Great Plays
- Shakespeare

# GOVERNMENT & WORLD AFFAIRS

- The Big Picture
- Election 2016
- Foreign Affairs
- Law & Order NEW
- Point of View
- Supreme Court

#### HISTORY & CULTURE

- Blacks in America
- Explorations in Architecture
- Great Conversations
- Great Love Stories NEW
- The Long 19th Century
- Movers & Shakers
- NYC's Great Department Stores NEW
- The Other Americas NEW
- The Tumultuous Sixties NEW

- Turning Points in American History NEW
- The Women's Movement NFW

## **LITERATURE**

- AppreciatingContemporary Poetry
- Contemporary
   Short Stories
- Fascinating Non-Fiction
- Here There Be Monsters NEW
- Oral Interpretation of Poetry
- Poets' Workshop
- Writers' Workshop

# MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

- Classic Rock Albums
- Contemporary Opera
- Film Today

# SCIENCE, MATH & TECHNOLOGY

- Economics & Society
- Mind & Brain
- Science & Great Scientists NEW

## **SPECIAL SELECTIONS**

- Guest Lecture Series
- Presenter's Showcase



# **SOMETHING EXTRA**

- Friday Museum Tour
- Noontime French
- Noontime Knowledge
- User Group for Mobile Devices

#### **ACTING WORKSHOP**

Coordinators: **Marilyn Rosen**, Panny King

The acting class will work on acting exercises and improvisation and focus on character development and relationships. The work is sequential – each class building on the work of the previous one. Both A and B week classes will follow the same program. Classes promise to be stimulating and engaging. Beginners are welcome.

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

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

# APPRECIATING CONTEMPORARY POETRY

Coordinators: **Joe Nathan**, 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**

Coordinators: **Bob Reiss**, Lynnel Garabedian, Myra Nissen

Coordinator Emeritus: Sandy Gordon

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 fall semester, we will feature the Art History of Great Britain.

**B WEEK** / TUES / 10:30am to 12:00pm

# THE BIG PICTURE: CONTEMPORARY NON-FICTION ARTICLES

Coordinators: **Steve Allen**, 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, American Prospect*, and other print and online formats. For each session, two timely articles are selected for the class to read in advance, and lively discussions are then led by volunteer class members. Articles typically focus on issues such as health, politics, the military, aging, and technology.

**B WEEK** / TUES / 10:30am to 12:00pm

## **BLACKS IN AMERICA**

Coordinators: **Doreen De Martini**, Barbara Gelber, Liesje ten Houton

Why, 153 years after the signing of the **Emancipation Proclamation, are Blacks** still faced with some of the same issues that deny them equality? What progress has been made in ensuring equality for Blacks nationwide? This course will include a review of significant Black history, legal decisions and programs intended to promote inclusion and their success or failure, and unresolved issues that affect the lives of Blacks today. We invite members' participation to gain an understanding of the evolution of events which shaped the current climate and status of a continuing divide.

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

## **CLASSIC ROCK ALBUMS**

Coordinators: **Steve Koenig**, Joan Briller

Each session will focus on one album by a band or solo artist and be enriched by related tracks from the band's career or works by others which shed light on the album. Discussion will cover performer histories, musical styles, historical contexts, and critical reactions. Our definition of "rock" will be inclusive, containing branches of reggae, soul, folk, and country. Some artists we might present include Pink Floyd, James Brown, Bette Midler, The Rolling Stones, and Jimi Hendrix.

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

## **CONTEMPORARY OPERA**

Coordinators: **Steven Koenig**, 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, Strauss' Ariadne auf Naxos, Krasa's Terezin camp children's opera Brundibar, 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**

Coordinators: **Nancy Richardson**, Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp

At each session, two class members present stories from *The O. Henry Prize Stories, 2013 edition*, and stories selected by coordinators or suggested by class members. The presenters give background information on the author and story, then draw on the class for discussion.

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

## **ECONOMICS & SOCIETY**

Coordinators: **Phil Gisser**, Bob Moore, Barbara Oliver

Economics and finance play huge roles in the "jigsaw puzzle" that make up our society. We will probe the key pieces and interconnections inside that puzzle, more conceptually than numerically. We will look at the challenges facing society from an economics perspective, tackling such issues as climate change, globalization, income inequality, housings, and how financial markets work (or don't) and impact us as investors and as citizens.

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

# ELECTION 2016 – AMERICA'S QUEST FOR A NEW LEADER

Coordinators: **Phil Gisser**, Wayne Cotter, Bob Moore

As the semester starts, the final campaign for President will be in full swing. The news will be populated with polls, promises, predictions, and pundit posits – but what can we believe? In this course, the discussion leaders will update the class and then listen as Quest members try to make sense of it all.

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

# **EXPLORATIONS IN ARCHITECTURE**

Coordinators: **David Lewis**, Bob Reiss, Michael Wellner

We continue to explore the field of architecture by focusing on architecture's impact on society. Our scope includes urban planning, utopian communities, real estate development, affordable housing, "green" architecture, and visionary architectural firms.

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

## **FASCINATING NON-FICTION**

Coordinators: **Harriet Finkelstein**, Bob Reiss

At each session, 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. Among this semester's books are: The Road to Character by David Brooks, The Evolution of Common Things by Henry Petroski, The Color of Water by James McBride, Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania by Erik Larson, The Honest Truth about Dishonesty by Dan Ariely. No Advanced Reading Required.

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

## **FILM TODAY**

Coordinators: **Beverly Wasserman**, Howard Salik, Rosalie Regal, Bobbie Gold

Film Today is a discussion class. 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 choose four of the 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

## **FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

Coordinators: **Howard Salik**, Sandra Southwell

In this course we investigate and discuss world-wide issues. The presenter selects a critical international topic based on an article published in Foreign Affairs, The Atlantic, the Economist or any other reliable source that includes essential issues related to foreign affairs. The presenter reviews and evaluates the material, not necessarily agreeing with the article but giving reasons for disagreement. The last thirty minutes of the class are dedicated to questions, class discussions or debate relative to the presentation.

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

## **GREAT CONVERSATIONS**

Coordinators: **Eva Shatkin**, Jane Lubin, Art Spar

Great Conversations offers works by both contemporary and classic authors across many genres and disciplines, ideal for promoting discussion among readers. Some of those featured are Tocqueville, Poincare, Freud, Conrad, and Veblen.

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

# GREAT LOVE STORIES OF ALL TIME NEW COURSE

Coordinators: **Trudy Owett**, Betty Farber, Lynnel Garabedian

Join us as we fearlessly explore the greatest love stories of all time. What was it that made them great? Some have become legendary and some have even changed history. These tales of romance can inspire and fascinate us and reaffirm our faith in love. There are endless possibilities in myth, history, literature, and real life, such as *Orpheus and Euridice*, *Romeo and Juliet*, Hepburn and Tracy. Our lives have been enriched by love stories such as these.

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

#### **GREAT PLAYS**

Coordinators: **Beverly Francus**, Wayne Cotter, Helen Neilson

Leading American and European plays are presented. Each session begins with a brief biography of the playwright followed by a "stage reading" of the play in an edited form. At the conclusion of the play, the audience is encouraged to share their insights and observations.

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

## **GUEST LECTURE SERIES**

Coordinators: **Hedy Shulman**, Debra Gillers, Barbara Oliver, Bob Reiss

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

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

# "HERE THERE BE MONSTERS": LITERATURE LOOKS AT HUMANITY'S FASCINATION WITH THE MONSTROUS NEW COURSE

Coordinators: **Art Spar**, Penelope Pi-Sunyer, Leslie Fenchel

From sea monsters to the Cookie Monster, from vampires to Voldimort, why are people so fascinated by monsters? What can we learn about ourselves and our culture by reading and thinking about monsters? Through literary selections such as Sendak's Where the Wild Things Are, Shelley's Frankenstein, as well as excerpts from Genesis and The Odessey, this class will explore why "civilized" people continue to engage with the monstrous in their cultures and their daily lives.

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

# LAW & ORDER NEW COURSE

Coordinators: **Bob Moore**, Dolores Dolan, Michael Wellner

It is not just a TV crime series. It is a topic which is galvanizing the American public. Crime in all its forms, including "white collar" and cyber crime make headlines every day. Are the police properly trained and equipped to meet modern challenges? Why are so many Americans in prison? Guns, guns and more guns? Surveillance? Is justice available to all through the legal systems? America is divided internally about many of these matters. Why? Join us as we discuss these subjects in depth, and see if we can come up with any solutions.

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

# **LIFE DRAWING**

Coordinators: Carole Abrahams, Margaret Di Piazza, Donna Rubens

This is a hands-on drawing class with professional live models. No experience needed. Bring drawing materials — pencils, charcoal, hand pastels, Conte crayons, pens, — and a drawing pad. All supplies may be stored in room 27. Not sure this is for you? We will supply your first day's equipment.

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

## LONG NINETEENTH CENTURY

Coordinators: **Caroline Thompson**, Steve Allen. Sandra Southwell

The "long 19th century" refers to the years between 1789 and 1914. This period experienced a transition to modernity from an overwhelmingly rural and autocratic society. It began with the idealism of the French Revolution and the power of the Industrial Revolution only to culminate in the chaos of World War I. Topics to be covered will include the Romantic Movement, the scientific revolution, social evolution including the change in the status of women, and events leading up to the outbreak of the First World War

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

## MIND & BRAIN

Coordinators: Steve Allen, Jan Eisler

Humans have always been curious about the mind. Today, science is illuminating fresh ways of understanding both mind and brain. Topics we will cover include meditation, the senses and intuition, Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences, gender and decision making, and the gut-brain connection. Class participants will gain familiarity with cutting-edge research as well as insights about how to utilize this knowledge in our own lives.

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

#### **MOVERS & SHAKERS**

Coordinators: **Caroline Thompson**, Richard Salter

We will examine the lives and accomplishments of outstanding people 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.

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

# NEW YORK CITY'S GREAT DEPARTMENT STORES – PAST AND PRESENT

**NEW COURSE** 

Coordinators: **Michael Wellner**, Doreen De Martini, Palma Mahl, Bob Moore

We all remember B. Altman & Company, Gimbels, Saks 34th, S.Klein on the Square, Abraham & Straus, John Wanamaker, and so many more. This course will examine the fascinating history of New York's department stores, their origin (in London?), their rise and fall, and what the outlook may be for the future.

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

#### **ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY**

Coordinators: **Art Spar**, Roy Clary, Mary Ann Donnelly

In a fun, creative, supportive environment, poetry will come alive as participants read aloud and interpret poems by three great British Romantic poets: Lord Byron, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and John Keats. Study topics will include meter, rhyme, alliteration and other prosodic elements that influence a poem's "sound meaning". Finally, we will experientially journey back in time to visit the poets and their worlds.

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

# THE OTHER AMERICAS – OUR COUSINS TO THE NORTH & SOUTH NEW COURSE

Coordinators: **Jane Pittson-Chianese**, Liesje ten Houton

Twenty-one countries share the same land mass as we do. But how much do we know about our neighbors, their history and their culture? What makes each country unique? How does the indigenous population fit into modern society? Join us as we explore the evolution of each nation from colonial times to the present day, and its relationship with its continental neighbors, the United States, and the rest of the world.

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

#### POETS' WORKSHOP

Coordinators: **Helen Neilson**, Trudv 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.

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

#### POINT OF VIEW

Coordinators: **Barbara Gordon**, Irwin Greenberg, Bob Hartmann

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.

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

#### PRESENTER'S SHOWCASE

Coordinators: **Palma Mahl**, Steve Allen, Marian Friedmann

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. This term will feature a particular emphasis on music, opera, dance, and other performing arts.

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

# SCIENCE & GREAT SCIENTISTS NEW COURSE

Coordinators: **Steve Allen**, Brenda Wilder

Advances in science keep uncovering wonders that transform our lives and deepen our understanding of humanity, life, and the universe. Science literacy is the key that opens doors to the extraordinary beauty of science. This course will explore various pathways of scientific inquiry, their impacts and limits, and highlight some of the men and women responsible for groundbreaking research. Presenters will strive to communicate in a way that all can understand.

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

#### SHAKESPEARE

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

The class will read aloud and discuss As You Like It which is one of the Bard's most loved comedies. In its Forest of Arden, Shakespeare gives us idyllic romance and an optimistic philosophy of simple goodness, as well as cynical irony. Here also is one of the most famous speeches in all of literature: "all the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players."

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

# SUPREME COURT, CONSTITUTIONS, & OTHER LEGAL ISSUES

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

Every day brings us a new set of legal issues confronting our country and our legal system. Many of them end up before the Supreme Court; others do not. But all are issues that this course will review, analyze, and discuss.

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

# THE TUMULTUOUS SIXTIES NEW COURSE

Coordinators: **Wayne Cotter**, Leslie Goldman, Art Spar

The class will examine a decade that transformed America, politically, socially and culturally. The 1960's introduced us to Medicare, the War on Poverty and The Beatles, but also brought the Vietnam War and political assassinations into our living rooms. The course will explore how the events and personalities of that decade shaped our lives.

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

# TURNING POINTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY NEW COURSE

Coordinators: **Harriet Finkelstein**, Bob Reiss, Richard Salter, Sandra Southwell

America is a phenomenon — a country that was formally established only 240 years ago has — evolved into the most powerful nation on earth and has been in that position for roughly half of those 240 years. How did we get to where we are today? This course will highlight the events which forged America's social, economic, and political character. We will start at the beginning — America before the white man arrived. Additional topics will include the beginnings of slavery. Roger Williams's conviction of sedition and heresy as a gamechanger, the effect of Peter Stuyvesant's expulsion of the Jews on future freedom of immigration, the impact of the Peter Zenger trial on freedom of the press, and the Boston Tea Party.

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

# THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT NEW COURSE

Coordinators: **Joyce Hinote**, Judith Weis, Vivian Oliver

The second wave of feminism began in the late 1960's. Among the issues addressed by feminists were unfair employment practices, equal education and sports opportunities, reproductive rights, the Equal Rights Amendment, family life, domestic abuse, and politics. Everything has changed in America and elsewhere as a result of the women's movement. This course will discuss the issues, the people, the organizations, and what still needs to be done

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

# WRITERS' WORKSHOP

Coordinators: **Hilda Feinstein**, Donna Rubens, Helen Saffran

Creative writing class welcomes all genres, from prose to poetry, from script writing to fiction, even op-eds. Time is also devoted to spontaneous writing exercises and discussion of artistic approaches and styles. Come and share your writing and ideas. As Stephen King so aptly says: "The scariest moment is always just before you start."

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

# **SOMETHING EXTRA**

## **NOONTIME KNOWLEDGE**

Steve Allen, Palma Mahl, Bob Moore
Noontime Knowledge 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 Noontime Knowledge format.

VARIOUS / TUES / 12:00pm

## **NOONTIME FRENCH**

Stella Gold, Yvonne Kress

If you speak some French, join us at lunchtime. We 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** 

## 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.

# USER GROUP FOR SMART PHONES AND MOBILE DEVICES

Steve Allen, Linda Redding

This is a chance to get hands-on help and instruction in the use of mobile devices such as iPhones and iPads and an opportunity to exchange tips with other uses. Each session combines time devoted to a single selected topic with time for addressing specific issues of individual members. All users of mobile devices are welcome, regardless of level of experience.

**VARIOUS / 2:30pm** 

# QUEST

# **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 250 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 memberelected eleven-member Council. All work is carried out by our member-volunteers and 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 Summer Session (June & July). 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.

Division of Interdisciplinary studies at the Center for Worker Education

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