

QUEST CURRICULUM

The CCNY
Lifelong
Learning
Community

Fall 2019



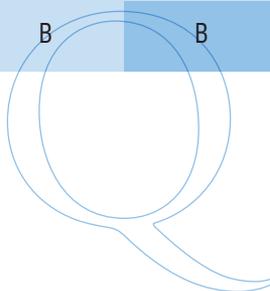
FALL 2019 CALENDAR

Week Starting	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
September 5	Labor Day No Class	A	A	A
September 9	B	B	B	B
September 16	A	A	A	A
September 23	B	B	B	B
September 30	Rosh Hashanah No Class	Rosh Hashanah No Class	A	A
October 7*	A	Yom Kippur No Class	Yom Kippur No Class	B
October 14	Columbus Day No Class	A	A	A
October 21	B	B	B	B
October 28	A	A	A	A
November 4	B	B	General Meeting 1 pm	B
November 11	A	A	A	A
November 18	B	B	B	B
November 25	A	A	Thanksgiving No Class	Thanksgiving No Class
December 2	B	B	B	B

*October 7 will follow an A Week schedule.

*October 10 will follow a B Week schedule.

Last Day of
Classes



A Week

FALL 2019 SCHEDULE

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Morning 10:30 – 12:00	Film Directors: Then and Now	Foreign Affairs	The Roaring Twenties	Contemporary Short Stories
	Classic Rock Albums	Oral Interpretation of Poetry	Memorable Members of Congress	Inventions That Changed the World
	Great Conversations		Contemporary Opera	

Lunch

Afternoon 1:00 – 2:30	Great Plays	Jazz: The Soul and the Sound	Shakespeare	Islands
	Bleak House	Chautauqua Dialogues	Science & Scientists	Between Faith and Reason: Reading the Bible
		Creative Writing Workshop		Poets' Workshop (12:30)

B Week

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Morning 10:30 – 12:00	Fascinating Non-Fiction	Artists & Their Work	Women's Voices	Across the Universe
	South of the Border Before Columbus	Movers and Shakers	Human Nature & Politics	From Grunts to Tweets
	Managing Money & Investments in Retirement			Point of View

Lunch

Afternoon 1:00 – 2:30	Law & Order	Presenter's Showcase	Guest Lecture Series	Film Today
	Contemporary Poetry	A Sampling of Israeli Literature		Explorations in Philosophy
	Life Drawing	Acting Workshop		

COURSES BY CATEGORY

ART

- Artists & Their Work
- Life Drawing

DRAMA

- Acting Workshop: Beginners
- Great Plays
- Shakespeare

GOVERNMENT & WORLD AFFAIRS

- Foreign Affairs
- Islands
- Law & Order
- Point of View

HISTORY & CULTURE

- Between Faith and Reason **NEW**
- Chautauqua Dialogues **NEW**
- Classic Perspectives on Human Nature and Politics **NEW**
- Explorations in Philosophy
- Fascinating Non-Fiction
- Great Conversations
- Managing Money & Investments in Retirement **NEW**
- Memorable Members of Congress **NEW**
- Movers & Shakers
- The Roaring Twenties

- South of The Border Before Columbus **NEW**
- Women's Voices

LITERATURE

- Bleak House **NEW**
- Contemporary Poetry
- Contemporary Short Stories
- Creative Writing Workshop
- Oral Interpretation of Poetry
- Poets' Workshop
- A Sampling of Israeli Literature **NEW**

MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

- Classic Rock Albums
- Contemporary Opera
- Film Directors Then and Now **NEW**
- Film Today
- Jazz: The Soul and The Sound **NEW**

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- Across the Universe **NEW**
- From Grunts to Tweets **NEW**
- Inventions That Changed the World **NEW**
- Science & Scientists



The Writing Desk. Childe Hassam; American, 1859-1935. The Chicago Art Institute.

SPECIAL SELECTIONS

- Guest Lecture Series
- Presenter's Showcase

SOMETHING EXTRA

- Freshman Class
- Friday Museum Tour
- Noontime French
- Noontime Knowledge

FALL 2019 COURSES

ACROSS THE UNIVERSE **NEW**

Coordinators: Michael Hamburg, Steve Allen

This course is perfect for anyone who has ever wondered what the universe actually is, where it came from and where it is headed. Prior knowledge or expertise in math or science is not required. Bring your questions and sense of wonder. We'll explore our solar system and beyond, the great scientific discoveries of the laws that govern all of the universe, the history of life on earth, and the possibility of life beyond earth. We'll be asking how we know what we know as well as looking at the instruments and methods that scientists use to unlock the answers.

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

ACTING WORKSHOP: BEGINNERS

Coordinators: Marilyn Rosen, Panny King

The Beginners class will continue with new and interesting exercises and improvisations teaching the fundamentals of acting. We will also introduce characterization with the use of short scenes.

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

ARTISTS & THEIR WORK

Coordinators: Bob Reiss, Joan Diamond, Linda Downs, Lynnel Garabedian
Coordinator Emerita: Sandy Gordon

Since the late 20th century the visual arts have increasingly served and responded to an international audience. *Artists & Their Work* recognizes this wider yet smaller world by focusing on multicultural modernism. We will study artists from the five continents to acknowledge that while geographic origin remains relevant to making art, ease and speed of communication are also influential creative factors. Some talks will relate to ongoing NYC museum exhibitions.

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

BETWEEN FAITH AND REASON: READING THE BIBLE **NEW**

Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss

Is the Bible history, literary anthology, the word of God; all or none of the above, or something else? This course will explore the variety of approaches to understanding the biblical text: how it was produced, what is its intent, what it means today.

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

FALL 2019 COURSES

BLEAK HOUSE **NEW**

*Coordinators: Lynnel Garabedian,
Sanford Kessler*

Bleak House is considered by some scholars to be the finest novel of Charles Dickens. A long-standing court case involving enormous consequences for many characters is the focus of the story and provides Dickens with a plot device to expose the corruption and injustice of Victorian England's legal system. This compelling novel with relevance for today includes intrigue, suspense and murder, but also love and compassion. *Bleak House* will be a yearlong discussion course. The Norton Critical edition is preferred.

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

CHAUTAQUA DIALOGUES **NEW**

Coordinators: Steve Allen, Jane Lubin

Each summer, the Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, New York offers lectures by leading public intellectuals on a wide range of topics. Our course will select one talk from previous Chautauqua seasons for each class—we will watch a 45-minute video of the talk followed by 45 minutes of class discussion. We will try to be guided by Chautauqua's guidelines for robust civic dialogue, which we will discuss in the class.

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

CLASSIC PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN NATURE AND POLITICS **NEW**

*Coordinators: Sanford Kessler,
Bob Gottfried*

In this course, we will consider how some of the great Western political philosophers viewed the relationship between human nature and politics. Topics to be covered include the purpose of government, political leadership, the scope of freedom, and the relationship between ethics and politics. Students will read and discuss short selections from the works of Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Marx, Mill, and Nietzsche.

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

CLASSIC ROCK ALBUMS

*Coordinators: Steve Koenig,
Wayne Cotter*

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. Our definition of "rock" will be inclusive, containing branches of reggae, soul, folk and country. Some artists we might present include The Smith, Aretha Franklin, Toots and The Maytals, Jimi Hendrix, Funkadelic, Neil Young with Crazy Horse, Moody Blues, Jethro Tull and Tracy Chapman.

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

FALL 2019 COURSES

CONTEMPORARY OPERA

Coordinators: Steve Koenig, Victor Brenner, Frieda Lipp

At each session, we view a different opera and engage in a lively discussion of the text, staging, medium, and the historical and cultural backgrounds. This semester may include Pauline Oliveros' *Njinga: The Queen King*, Carlisle Floyd's *Susannah*, Richard Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Aulis Sallinen's *King Lear*, Ernst Krenek's *Karl V.*, and Benjamin Britten's *Death In Venice*.

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

CONTEMPORARY POETRY

Coordinators: Betty Farber, Martha Drezin, Frieda Lipp, Stan Raffes

Contemporary poetry enriches the lives of its readers. Join us to learn about it, how to read it, and which poets to look out for. Class members choose poems to present in class. The poems are read and discussed.

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

CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES

Coordinators: Nancy Richardson, Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp

At each session, two class members present stories from *The O'Henry Prize Stories*, 2015 Edition. Stories are also selected by the coordinators or other members. Background information is given and discussion follows.

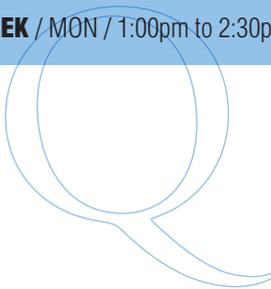
A WEEK / THUR / 10:30am to 12:00pm

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

Coordinators: Hilda Feinstein, Donna Rubens, Helen Saffran

Creative Writing Workshop welcomes all genres, from prose and poetry to script writing, fiction, even op-eds. Time is also devoted to spontaneous writing exercises and discussion of artistic approaches and styles. See with a *writer's eyes*, spark new ideas and gain confidence, as you experiment with your creativity.

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



FALL 2019 COURSES

EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY

*Coordinators: Steve Allen,
Larry Shapiro*

Our focus will be on how philosophy approaches particular issues, as opposed to an in-depth analysis of specific philosophers. A short reading will be assigned as preparation for each week's discussion, but each class will start with a brief summary of the reading to allow some participation by "drop-ins."

B WEEK / THUR / 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. Selections range from transit maps to Mt. Everest expeditions, American politics, Western women's diaries, young Ernest Hemingway, black migration, the sinking of the Lusitania, Frank Sinatra, American restaurants, the evolution of mankind. Every semester an eclectic array of fascinating non-fiction awaits its audience.

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

FILM DIRECTORS—THEN AND NOW NEW

*Coordinators: Sol Makon,
Arlynn Greenbaum, Bob Reiss*

Through movie clips and discussion, film lovers will have the opportunity to explore a broad range of noteworthy directors from the silent era to today. We will learn about their techniques, motivations and originality. What makes their films resonate and pass the test of time?

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

FILM TODAY

*Coordinators: Howard Salik,
Bobbie Gold, Rita Buttolph*

Two critical parts of a Film Today class are: (1) Identify 4 new outstanding movie releases. Members then volunteer to present a 5-8 minute critique of each film at our next class meeting followed by audience comments. A follow-up summary is sent to those on our mailing list. (2) Film-related past events are highlighted in a 20-minute segment. Past specials included milestones in film history.

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

FALL 2019 COURSES

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Sandy Frank, Ellen Gottfried, Glenn Johnston

In this course we investigate worldwide issues. The presenter selects a critical international topic based on an article published in *Foreign Affairs*, *The Atlantic*, *The Economist* or other reliable source that includes essential foreign issues. The last thirty minutes of the class are dedicated to questions and discussion.

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

FROM GRUNTS TO TWEETS: EXPLORING HOW WE'VE COMMUNICATED THROUGH THE AGES **NEW**

Coordinators: Beth Callender, Patricia Geehr

This course will explore seven key communications inventions that changed the course of human history. We'll start with speech and writing, the inventions that enabled us to become fully human and to develop large-scale culture. We'll then examine the impact of inventions such as the printing press and telephone that made modern life possible. The last module will look at how cell phones and social media are changing the way we communicate and experience the world.

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

GREAT CONVERSATIONS

Coordinators: Jane Lubin, Larry Shapiro
Coordinator Emerita: Beverly Francus.

Great Conversations offers readings by contemporary and classic authors and lively class discussions. This term will include Simone de Beauvoir's introduction to *The Second Sex*, Grace Paley's *An Interest in Life*, Selected Poems by Wislawa Szymborska, Michel Foucault's *The Body of the Condemned*, and *Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri.

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

GREAT PLAYS

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Wayne Cotter, Frieda Lipp

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. The audience is encouraged to share their insights.

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



FALL 2019 COURSES

GUEST LECTURE SERIES

Coordinators: Arlynn Greenbaum, Arlene Hajinlian, Bob Reiss, Estelle Selzer

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

INVENTIONS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD **NEW**

Coordinators: Pete Weis, Jim Brook

This course will explore major advances in applied science or technology that have fundamentally altered how we all go about our daily lives. Topics will take us from the invention of the plow to the coming of the internet or anything in between. We will also consider processes such as the assembly line or automation that have had a profound effect on everyday life. Each presentation will explore what the world was like before the innovation, the story of its invention and how it forever changed our lives for the better—or perhaps the worse.

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

ISLANDS

Coordinators: Steve Baker, Pete Weis

This course will continue discussion of islands, focusing not on islands as part of a region but rather on specific insular entities be they single countries confined to an island, multiple islands united as one nation or two countries sharing one isolated land mass but divided by a vertical border. Each of these water-girt nations shares a colonial past and an uncertain future, interesting in its own right and of particular fascination for each presenter. A partial list includes Indonesia, New Guinea, Madagascar, and Hispaniola.

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

JAZZ: THE SOUL AND THE SOUND **NEW**

Coordinators: Vivian Oliver, Stewart Parker, Deborah Yaffee

This semester will see a revival of Quest's jazz course, with a focus on one of the oldest jazz instruments, the trumpet. We will present some of the earliest jazz trumpeters, as well as many who followed throughout the 20th century and into today's music. The focus will be on their lives, influences, evolution of style, and legacy to the world of jazz. With extensive use of video and audio material, the course will examine artists from different periods and with a variety of styles.

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

FALL 2019 COURSES

LAW & ORDER

*Coordinators: Michael Wellner,
David Judlowitz, Bob Gottfried*

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.

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

LIFE DRAWING

*Coordinators: Carol Abrahams,
Paul Adler, Gary Friedland,
Marilyn Weiss*

Discover the artist living in your head. This is a hands-on drawing class with professional live models. Bring drawing materials—pencils, charcoal, pastels, Conte crayons, pens—and a drawing pad. All supplies may be stored in room 27. Not sure this is for you? We will provide your first day’s equipment. Release your hidden talents—beginners and dabblers are welcome. Everyone works at their own level. Just enjoy being creative!

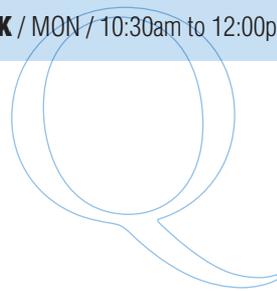
B WEEK / MON / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

MANAGING MONEY AND INVESTMENTS IN RETIREMENT **NEW**

*Coordinators: Peter Fleischman,
Steve Allen, Marion Shulthies*

Managing money in retirement is one of the most important responsibilities Quest members have for themselves and their families. It’s a complex decision balancing current spending needs, future spending needs, bequests, investment choices, and the selection of an investment advisor. The goal of the course is to learn from each other, thereby making ourselves better and smarter money managers. In addition, we will have some sessions in which one or two money management topics are presented. Topics that may be presented include asset allocation; risk and risk tolerance; market conditions; ETFs and the types of brokers and advisors with whom we interact; and the meaning of a “fiduciary”.

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



FALL 2019 COURSES

MEMORABLE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS **NEW**

Coordinators: Ellen Gottfried, Bob Gottfried

Most people think that Congress in 2019, although more diverse than ever before, is dysfunctional and too prone to partisan politics. Although members do not resort to fistfights or duels as in years past, there is no one able to rise above the mediocre mass and lead a bipartisan Congress which resolves the crucial issues facing the country. This was not true in the past, and this course will be about Congressional leaders who have changed, and may change in the future, the course of America's history.

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

MOVERS & SHAKERS

Coordinators: Caroline Thompson, Pam Gemelli, Ruth Ward

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. Subjects covered in past talks have included Dmitri Shostakovich, Larry Page and Sergey Brin (founders of Google), Isaac Bashevis Singer, Winston Churchill, and Martin Luther.

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

ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY

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

In a fun, creative, supportive environment, poetry will come alive as participants read aloud and interpret poetry. This semester we will travel back to the 19th century, and immerse ourselves in the poetry, life and times of Elizabeth and Robert Browning, Matthew Arnold, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Emily Bronte, and Emily Dickinson. Study topics will include meter, rhyme, alliteration and other prosodic elements that influence a poem's "sound meaning".

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

POETS' WORKSHOP

Coordinators: Helen Neilson, Helen Saffran, Judith Winn

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 / 12:30pm to 2:30pm

FALL 2019 COURSES

POINT OF VIEW

*Coordinators: **Barbara Gordon**,
Bob Hartmann, Terri Hicks*

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.

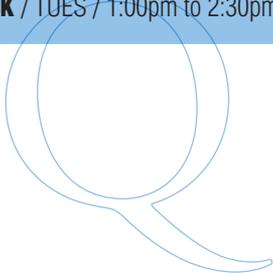
B WEEK / THUR / 10:30am to 12:00pm

PRESENTER'S SHOWCASE

*Coordinators: **Palma Mahl**,
Steve Allen, Joyce West*

Quest Members have a wide diversity of interests and experiences. Each session is a chance to encounter something new or an encore of a talk that will be new to many members. 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.

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



THE ROARING TWENTIES

*Coordinators: **Wayne Cotter**,
Leslie Goldman, Michael Wellner*

The 1920s witnessed dramatic social, political and cultural change. For the first time, more Americans were living in cities than on farms. As the nation's total wealth more than doubled during the decade, many Americans were filling their free time with jazz, the cinema and demon alcohol. In this course, we'll focus on Prohibition, women's suffrage, silent films, the Jazz Age, and the advent of radio. We'll also look at some of the larger-than-life personalities that dominated the decade.

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

A SAMPLING OF ISRAELI LITERATURE **NEW**

*Coordinators: **Martha Drezin**,
Mary Ann Donnelly, Art Spar*

In this discussion course, we will read *A Tale of Love and Darkness*, a memoir by Amos Oz, to get a taste of Israeli life in the final years of the British Mandate and early years of Israel. We will also sample the work of David Grossman, A.B. Yehoshua, Mahmoud Darwish and other fine Israeli poets and essayists from diverse time periods and factions. We will discuss each work in terms of its artistry, meanings and the context in which it emerged. We begin with writers from the 1920s and work our way to contemporary literature.

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

FALL 2019 COURSES

SCIENCE & SCIENTISTS

*Coordinators: Steve Allen,
Gil Santiago, Brenda Wilder*

Advances in science uncover wonders that transform our lives and deepen our understanding of humanity, life, and the world around us. Science literacy is the key that opens doors to the extraordinary beauty of our natural world. 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.

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

SHAKESPEARE

*Coordinators: Roy Clary,
Sondra Lipton Sahlman*

The class will read aloud and discuss *The Tragedy of King Richard III*. Written in 1592, it concludes the three parts of *Henry VI*. It is one of Shakespeare's most popular works and the title character's wickedness is the object of our fascinated attention. A supreme villain, Richard is evil incarnate. He is shrewd and unscrupulous, brutal and arrogant. Behaving with unrestrained energy and versatility, he is brilliantly theatrical with a charisma that totally captivates. The Folger Library Edition is the preferred text.

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

SOUTH OF THE BORDER BEFORE COLUMBUS **NEW**

*Coordinators: Frank Montaturo,
Ruth Ward*

This course proposes a closer look at a few of the many ancient cultures that thrived in the Pre-Columbian Period. We hope to concentrate on the Olmecs, Maya (of Mexico and Guatemala), Zapotecs, Moche and Incas (Peru). Each presentation will touch on universal issues: origins, development, settlements, architecture, monuments/art, sport, music, dance, ceramics, cosmology, religion, food (cultivation and preparation), war, literature, daily life and death and relation to time.

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

WOMEN'S VOICES

*Coordinators: Sandra Abramson,
Diane Crothers, Diane Reynolds*

As the Women's Movement that exploded in the 1960s opened up opportunities for girls and women, it also provided opportunities for women's voices to be heard. We can see this in many forms—from music and books to art, from corporate board rooms to legislatures and executive offices. We'll listen to these voices and look at the impact they have had on life in America for everyone. We'll explore how class, race, sex, gender and ethnic diversity amplify, modulate and transform these voices.

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

FALL 2019 COURSES

SOMETHING EXTRA

FRIDAY MUSEUM TOURS

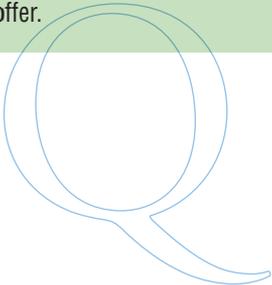
*Renee Woloshin, Linda Downs,
Bob Reiss*

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.

FRESHMAN CLASS

Pam Gemelli, Betty Farber

The Freshman Class meets once a month to acquaint new members with the benefits and opportunities Quest has to offer.



NOONTIME FRENCH

Ruth Ward

If you speak some French, join us for conversations on subjects of interest to our participants. The class meets during the lunch hour and is conducted all in French. Members have the opportunity to present mini-lessons and to lead group discussions on topics of their choice.

B WEEK / MON / 12:00 Noon

NOONTIME KNOWLEDGE

*Steve Allen, Palma Mahl,
Joyce West*

Noontime Knowledge sessions are scheduled during the lunch hour. 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 / 12:00 Noon

QUEST CURRICULUM

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 stimulating program for mature adults who want to learn, exchange ideas, meet new friends, and develop new interests. We offer a peer-learning environment whose membership includes retired and semi-retired individuals who want to share their experience, knowledge and passions with each other.

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 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 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.

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 (10:30AM–12:00 noon) and afternoon (1:00–2:30PM) 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

The City College
of New York

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