

QUEST



CURRICULUM

Special Zoom Edition

The CCNY
Lifelong
Learning
Community

Spring 2021



ZOOM COURSES BY CATEGORY

ART

- Artists & Their Work

DRAMA

- Shakespeare

GOVERNMENT & WORLD AFFAIRS

- Antisemitism
- Borders & Boundaries
- Foreign Affairs
- Law & Order
- Point of View

HISTORY & CULTURE

- African Continent
- Explorations in Philosophy
- Exploring White Privilege
- Great Conversations
- Great Journalists & Publishers
- Reading Black Lives
- Reading Christian Scripture
- Russian History
- Women's Voices

LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

- Contemporary Poetry
- Contemporary Short Stories
- Conversations en Français
- Daniel Deronda
- Fascinating Non-Fiction
- Creative Writing Workshop
- Oral Interpretation of Poetry
- Poet's Workshop
- Sampling of Israeli Literature

MUSIC & FILM

- Classic Rock Albums
- Contemporary Opera

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- Across the Universe
- Inventions That Changed the World
- Science & Scientists

SPECIAL SELECTIONS

- Guest Lecture Series
- Presenter's Showcase

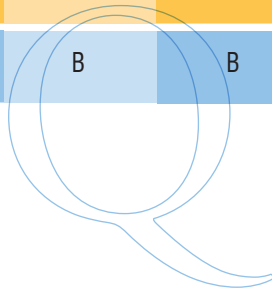
SOMETHING EXTRA

- Creativity: Lunch and Learn
- Friday Virtual Museum Tour



SPRING 2021 ZOOM CALENDAR

Week Starting	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
February 1–4	A	A	A	A
February 8–11	B	B	B	B
February 15–18	A	A	A	A
February 22–25	B	B	B	B
March 1–4	A	A	A	A
March 8–11	B	B	B	B
March 15–18	A	A	A	A
March 22–25	B	B	B	B
March 29–April 1	Spring Break			
April 5–8	A	A	A	A
April 12–15	B	B	B	B
April 19–22	A	A	A	A
April 26–29	B	B	B	B
May 3–6	A	A	A	A
May 10–13	B	B	B	Last Day of Classes



A SPRING 2021 ZOOM SCHEDULE

Week

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Morning 10:30 – 12:00	<u>Classic Rock Albums</u>	<u>Foreign Affairs</u>	<u>Great Journalists</u>	<u>Antisemitism</u>
	<u>Daniel Deronda</u>	<u>Oral Interpretation of Poetry</u>	<u>Shakespeare</u>	

Lunch

Afternoon 2:00 – 3:30	<u>Inventions that Changed the World</u>	<u>Contemporary Opera</u>	<u>Reading Christian Scriptures</u>	<u>Presenter's Showcase or Science & Scientists</u>
	<u>Reading Black Lives</u>	<u>Conversations en français</u>	<u>Contemporary Poetry</u>	<u>Contemporary Short Stories</u>
		<u>Creative Writing (2:00–4:00)</u>		

B Week

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Morning 10:30 – 12:00	<u>African Continent</u>	<u>Artists & Their Work</u>	<u>Fascinating Non-Fiction</u>	<u>Across the Universe</u>
		<u>Women's Voices</u>	<u>Exploring White Privilege</u>	<u>Israeli Literature</u>
				<u>Point of View</u>

Lunch

Afternoon 2:00 – 3:30	<u>Law & Order</u>	<u>Russian History</u>	<u>Guest Lecture Series</u>	<u>Borders & Boundaries</u>
	<u>Great Conversations</u>			<u>Explorations in Philosophy</u>
				<u>Poets Workshop (2:00–4:00)</u>

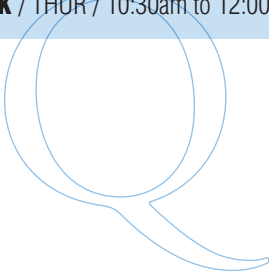
SPRING 2021 COURSES

ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

Coordinators: Michael Hamburg, Steve Allen

This class is perfect for anyone who has ever wondered what the universe actually is, where it came from, and where it is headed. We will begin on Earth and continue on towards the farthest reaches of the observable universe. Prior knowledge or technical expertise in math or science is not required. Just bring your questions and sense of wonder.

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



AFRICAN CONTINENT

Coordinators: Ann Goerd, Bob Gottfried, Bob Reiss

It is important to learn about a continent that is not well known in the U.S. African history is not taught in schools, so we have almost no basis on which to build knowledge and understanding of the countries that we occasionally hear about in the news. How many people can answer the following questions: How developed are the countries of Africa? Which countries are most active in the world economy? What interest does the U.S. have in African countries? What role is China playing in Africa? How are countries alike, and different, from north to south, east to west? This course will attempt to answer these questions.

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

ANTISEMITISM: PAST, PRESENT, FACTS, MYTHS

Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Marian Friedmann, Bob Reiss, Rick Salter

This course will explore antisemitism from ancient times to its current manifestation. It will be interesting to anyone of any faith, race, or background who wants to understand fully the magnitude of hatred toward a people and how it can distort and destroy both soul and society.

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

SPRING 2021 COURSES

ARTISTS & THEIR WORK

*Coordinators: Linda Downs,
Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss,*

Presentations will focus on international multicultural artists throughout the centuries with a particular emphasis on artists who explore aspects of humanity and nature.

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

BORDERS & BOUNDARIES

*Coordinator: Stephen Baker,
Pete Weis*

Defining a nation-state and its sub-national components requires physical delineation acknowledged by those within and beyond its geographic limits. Establishment of boundaries is vital, and borders and boundaries have often been a key component of history. This course will discuss boundary formation for our 13 original states and for newer states in which boundaries were formulated before non-indigenous populations had accumulated within them. Next, we will discuss our national borders and the problems engendered by Covid restrictions. Finally, we address global examples in which the imposition of borders remains a nagging source of tension.

B WEEK / THUR / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

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. This term might include Janis Ian, Joe Jackson, Isaac Hayes, The Smiths, Tracy Chapman and Devo.

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

CONTEMPORARY OPERA

*Coordinators: Steve Koenig,
Victor Brener, Frieda Lipp*

At each session, we view a different opera and engage in a lively discussion of its text, staging, medium, and historical and cultural background. This semester might include Douglas J. Cuomo's "Doubt," Harry Somers' "Louis Riel," Britten's "A Turn of the Screw," Alban Berg's "Lulu," and "Brexit: The Opera."

A WEEK / TUES / 2:00pm to 3:30pm



SPRING 2021 COURSES

CONTEMPORARY POETRY

*Coordinators: **Betty Farber**,
Martha Drezin, Sheryl Harawitz,
Frieda Lipp*

Contemporary poetry enriches the lives of its readers. Participants are invited to email their favorite poems several days ahead of class, so coordinators can create a packet to distribute. In class, participants will introduce the poets, read the poems aloud and engage the class in rich discussion about content and poetic elements. No previous experience with poetry is necessary.

A WEEK / WED / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES

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

At each session, one or two class members present background and other information on a story they have selected, followed by a lively class discussion.

A WEEK / THUR / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

CONVERSATIONS EN FRANÇAIS

*Coordinators: **Ruth Ward**,
Donna Basile*

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

A WEEK / TUES / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

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

Workshop your writing in a warm and supportive setting. We welcome all genres, from prose and poetry to script writing, fiction, even op-eds. Participate in class writing exercises and discuss writing approaches and styles.

A WEEK / TUES / 2:00pm to 4:00pm

SPRING 2021 COURSES

DANIEL DERONDA

*Coordinators: Lynnel Garabedian,
Sanford Kessler*

Daniel Deronda was George Eliot's last book and her most controversial because of her sympathetic view of the plight of the Jews and the beginning Zionist movement. Set in Eliot's own time, the 1860's, the author presents an aristocratic decaying English society marked by religious prejudice. The story centers on two main characters — a compassionate adopted son of a wealthy man who searches for his true identity and a haughty, beautiful young woman who makes a drastic mistake. Both characters must change their perceptions of the world and of themselves and seek personal and moral growth. The spring term will continue discussion of the novel with Book IV, Chapters 28-34.

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

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 / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

EXPLORING WHITE PRIVILEGE

*Coordinators: Diane Crothers,
Sheryl Harowitz, Diane Reynolds*

The Rebellion is afoot and change begins with looking within ourselves and our role in society. Worldwide protests have called attention to systemic racism in American society which damages Black lives. All are welcome to join this exploration of the frequently unacknowledged ways white people participate in and benefit from systemic racism. All of us can choose to perpetuate or work to change these systems.

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

SPRING 2021 COURSES

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

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

In this course we investigate worldwide issues. The presenters will select an issue of importance to discuss. There will be time for class discussion.

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

GREAT CONVERSATIONS

*Coordinators: Jane Lubin,
Larry Shapiro*

This class offers works by both contemporary and classic authors across many genres and disciplines, ideal for promoting discussion among readers. Some of those to be featured are Immanuel Kant, Matthew Arnold, Shirley Jackson, Liesel Mueller and Clarice Lispector.

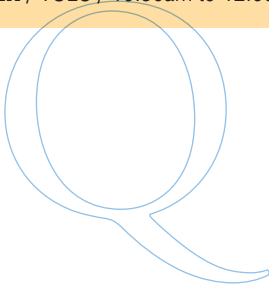
B WEEK / MON / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

GREAT JOURNALISTS & PUBLISHERS

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

Over the past few years this country's First Amendment rights have been more tarnished than treasured. This course will profile some of history's most courageous journalists and publishers from Thomas Paine to Christiane Amanpour. Their stories underscore the strength and fragility of our First Amendment.

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



SPRING 2021 COURSES

GUEST LECTURE SERIES

Coordinators: Arlynn Greenbaum, Bob Reiss, Estelle Selzer

The bimonthly 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 / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

INVENTIONS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

Coordinators: Pete Weis, Jim Brook

This course will conclude with four presentations relating to our present day lives, including the final development in transportation, the workplace and in leisure activities. The history of these developments, as well as the impacts on our lives—for better or worse—will be presented.

A WEEK / MON / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

ISRAELI LITERATURE

Coordinators: Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Art Spar

We are excited to continue our discussion of Israeli literature. We will read short stories, poems, plays and essays by writers that represent different aspects of Israeli life during different eras. Presentations may include readings, dramatizations and other modalities designed to inspire class participation. Our goal is both an immersion in fine literature and a deeper understanding of the complexity of this vibrant country.

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

LAW & ORDER

Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Bob Gottfried, David Judlowitz

It is not just a TV crime series; it's a topic that has galvanized virtually every segment of our society. Black Lives Matter, Blue Lives Matter, white supremacy, reparations for over 200 years of slavery, statues of Confederate leaders, crime in all its forms. What to do about the police? What's happening in the courts? Guns, guns and more guns? Surveillance? Is justice available to all? America is divided internally about many of these matters. Join us as we discuss these subjects in depth, and see if we can come up with any solutions.

B WEEK / MON / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

SPRING 2021 COURSES

ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY

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

In a fun, creative and supportive environment, poetry will come alive as participants read it aloud and interpret it. Class leaders will introduce an engaging list of poets. Study topics will include meter, rhyme, alliteration, and other prosodic elements that influence a poem's "sound meaning" as we explore how to enrich a poem by reading it aloud.

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

POETS' WORKSHOP

*Coordinators: Judith Winn,
Helen Neilson, Helen Safran*

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.

B WEEK / THUR / 2:00pm to 4:00pm

POINT OF VIEW

*Coordinators: Terri Hicks,
Barbara Gordon, 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, 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.

A WEEK / THURS / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

SPRING 2021 COURSES

READING BLACK LIVES

Coordinators: **Diane Crothers**,
Barbara Barnes, Judy Hampson,
Penelope Pi-Sunyer

By reading and discussing historical and contemporary accounts of Black lives, we hope to gain a better understanding of those lives and the current condition of every life in our country. We will explore Black lives through readings in individual biographies and political, social, and cultural movements. Possible readings include: patrisse khan-cullors' and asha bandele's *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir*, and Les Payne's and Tamara Payne's *The Dead Are Arising: The Life of Malcolm X*.

A WEEK / MON / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

READING CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES: BETWEEN FAITH AND REASON II

Coordinators: **Paul Golumb**,
Bob Martin

In fall 2019, we explored Hebrew scripture. This class now moves on to the Bible that Christians call *The New Testament*. We will look at the Bible in its setting, the first and second centuries of the Christian Era, and at its conceptual origins in the Hebrew Bible. We will consider the Jesus of history, of the evangelists and of the apostle Paul. And we will investigate what makes Christian Scripture Christian. Participants should make a point of having a copy of the Bible at hand.

A WEEK / WED / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

RUSSIAN HISTORY: FROM THE 10TH CENTURY UP TO WORLD WAR II

Coordinators: **Caroline Thompson**,
Steve Allen

Russian history is a study of fascinating contrasts: a country in close contact with Western Europe but maintaining a very separate set of traditions, including a history of serfdom and absolute authority exercised by the Tsar. We will begin with a quick summary of the three lectures that were given before the course was interrupted. We will then pick up with the legacy of Peter the Great and follow events from Catherine the Great through Napoleon's invasion, the freeing of the serfs, the Russian Revolution, Lenin and Stalin. We will also discuss Russia's enormous contributions to Western literature, music, dance, theater, and intellectual traditions. Hopefully, a study of Russian history can help us understand modern Russia of today.

B WEEK / TUES / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

SPRING 2021 COURSES

SCIENCE & SCIENTISTS

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

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 / THUR / 2:00pm to 3:30pm

SHAKESPEARE

*Coordinators: Roy Clary,
James Brook*

William Shakespeare's *King Lear* is a symphony about old age, loss of possessions, loss of power, loss of love. It is about the catastrophe of absolute tyranny. It is about a world where good and evil people suffer in equal measure. It is about loyalty, understanding, forgiveness, and the restoration of love. It is about the entire human condition. In short, it is one of the greatest plays ever written. The Folger Library Edition is preferred, but any edition is acceptable.

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

WOMEN'S VOICES

*Coordinators: Sandra Abramson,
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 their impact. We'll explore how class, race, sex, gender and ethnic diversity amplify, modulate, and transform these voices. Presentations will be 20-25 minutes and the remainder of the classes will be for attendees to talk about their personal experiences. We will look at women in politics, theater and film, in law, and as professors, teachers, lawyers, librarians and mothers.

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

SPRING 2021 COURSES

SOMETHING EXTRA

CREATIVE LUNCH & LEARN

Beth Callender, Mary Ann Donnelly

Creativity Lunch sessions are held monthly to provide an informal setting for Quest members to share their talents in the arts, crafts, literature, music, drama or other unique areas. We *know* our Quest members are creative and this is a great way for members to showcase their interests and for all of us to enjoy and learn.

