

## FALL 2022 CALENDAR

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>A</b> Week	Labor Day	6-Sept	7-Sept	8-Sept
<b>B</b> Week	12-Sept	13-Sept	14-Sept	15-Sept
<b>A</b> Week	19-Sept	20-Sept	21-Sept	22-Sept
<b>B</b> Week	Rosh Hashanah	Rosh Hashanah	28-Sept	29-Sept
<b>A</b> Week	3-0ct	4-0ct	Yom Kippur	6-Oct
<b>B</b> Week	Columbus Day	11-0ct	12-0ct	13-0ct
<b>A</b> Week	17-0ct	18-Oct	19-0ct	20-0ct
<b>B</b> Week	24-0ct	25-0ct	26-0ct	27-0ct
A Week	31-0ct	1-Nov	2-Nov	3-Nov
<b>B</b> Week	7-Nov	8-Nov	9-Nov	10-Nov
A Week	14-Nov	15-Nov	16-Nov	17-Nov

## Thanksgiving

<b>B</b> Week	28-Nov	29-Nov	30-Nov	1-Dec
<b>A</b> Week	5-Dec	6-Dec	7-Dec	8-Dec
<b>B</b> Week	12-Dec	13-Dec	14-Dec	15-Dec

#### FALL 2022 SCHEDULE Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Morning Classic Rock Foreign History of NYC Affairs Neighborhoods 10:30 - 12:00 Albums Germany Oral Huckleberry Interpretation Shakespeare Aging Finn of Poetry Lunch Afternoon Comedy & The Fabulous Indie Films Water 1:00 - 2:30 Satire 50s Science & Contemporary Reading Folk Music Short Stories Scientists Edith Wharton Creative Writing Contemporary Actina Workshop Poetry Workshop (1:00-3:00)Week Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Artists & Fascinating Across the Morning The Near East Their Work Non-Fiction 10:30 - 12:00Universe Movers & Australia: British Culture Socrates Shakers Down Under Lunch Distinguished Afternoon Russian Law & Order Guest Lecture **Great Plays** 1:00 - 2:30Geography Series Explorations in Black Women's Presenter's Philosophy / Great Showcase Voices Conversations Poets'

Contemporary

Opera

Workshop

(1:00-3:00)

## COURSES BY CATEGORY

# VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

- Acting Workshop
- Artists & Their Works
- Classic Rock Albums
- Comedy & Satire
- ContemporaryBritish Culture NEW
- Contemporary Opera
- Folk Music NEW
- Indie Films
- Great Plays
- Oral Interpretation of Poetry

## **CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**

- Black Women's Voices
- Distinguished Guest Lecture Series
- Foreign Affairs
- Law & Order
- Movers & Shakers
- Presenter's Showcase

#### HISTORY

- Australia: The Land
   Down Under NFW
- The Fabulous Fifties
- History of Germany
- The Near East
- NYC NeighborhoodsNEW

Russian Geography NFW

## **LITERATURE**

- Contemporary Poetry
- Contemporary
   Short Stories
- Creative Writing Workshop
- Fascinating Nonfiction
- Great Conversations
- Huckleberry Finn NEW
- Poet's Workshop
- Reading Edith Wharton
- Shakespeare

## **SCIENCE & PHILOSOPHY**

- Aging NEW
- Across the Universe
- Explorations in Philosophy
- Science & Scientists
- Socrates and the Problem of Philosophy NFW
- Water NFW



## **SOMETHING EXTRA**

- Art Talks
- Birth of Ideas NEW
- Conversations en Français
- Emily Dickinson Circle NEW
- Music of the Heart NEW
- Quest Book Club
- Quest Friday Events

## **ACROSS THE UNIVERSE**

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. Begin right here on Earth, soar through the Solar System, touch the stars, and continue on towards the farthest reaches of the observable universe. Prior knowledge or any technical expertise in math or science is not required. Just bring your questions and sense of wonder.

## **ACTING WORKSHOP**

Coordinators: **Roy Clary**, John Spiegel

Class focus will be on exercises and improvisations. Members will also work on monologues and scenes. Emphasis will be on the importance of relationships and relating to objects to help achieve a greater reality in creating a character.



## **AGING NEW**

Coordinators: **Art Spar**, Bryn Meehan, Larry Shapiro

The class will study the phenomenon of aging, from lectures on biology to discussion topics related to aging. We will use literary stories, the arts and sciences and innovative thinking to explore the many aspects of aging. The common thread will be its relevance to our life experience. The format will encourage learning through presentation and discussion. Topics include: Anatomy and Physiology, Medicine, Staying Healthy, Philosophy, Psychology, Literature, Performing and Fine Arts, Illness, Innovative Housing, Death, Friendship, Family and Community.

## **ARTISTS & THEIR WORK**

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

"Artists and Their Work" is an art history course that explores the lives and work of artists throughout the world. The course prompts discussion of style, meaning, media, and aesthetics as well as philosophical, social, and political issues, including public reception and lasting influence of the work under consideration. The 2022 fall semester will be devoted to photography from Louis Daguerre (1787–1851) to Annie Leibovitz (1949 -).

## **AUSTRALIA: DOWN UNDER NEW**

Coordinators: **Andrea Irvine** David Bartash, Marion Schultheis

Tucked away in the bottom of the world, isolated for tens of thousands of years. Australia stands unique in the world in so many ways. In this course we will explore the history, geography, culture and wildlife that make this place so singular. We will look up to the Southern Sky and down to the Great Barrier. We will explore the mystical with Dream Time and the concrete with economics—and the good, bad and ugly of immigration. In the end, we should have a better understanding of this unique and increasingly important part of the world. So, join us as we visit Oz.



#### **BLACK WOMEN'S VOICES NEW**

Coordinators: **Ilene Winkler**, Barbara Barnes, Susannah Falk Lewis, Penelope Pi-Sunyer

This course discusses a wide range of works by Black women—novels, memoirs, essays, and art. In the past we have presented classes on bell hooks, Faith Ringgold, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Nikole Hannah-Jones. We look forward to continuing our explorations of major themes in the history and lives of Black women while expanding to include music, ranging from classical to jazz and folk music.

## **CLASSIC ROCK ALBUMS**

Coordinators: **Steve Koenig**, Wavne 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 that 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 Jane Siberry, Dr. John, Hawkwind, Melanie, Terry Reid, Jesse Winchester, Kirsty MacColl, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Donovan, Simon and Garfunkel, and T. Rex.

## **COMEDY & SATIRE**

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

This course will explore why, when, and how we laugh. It will feature writers, performers, and artists who brought us laughter over the years and explore the extent to which their humor reflected the times in which they lived. We think now more than ever is the time to enjoy a good laugh together.

# CONTEMPORARY BRITISH CULTURE NEW

Coordinators: **Judy Hampson**, Jennifer Jolly, Donna Ramer, Sheryl Harawitz

This course focuses on the global influence of contemporary British culture, including art, music, dance, theatre, literature and fashion. We will include topics such as concert venues like *The Albert Hall, The Globe* and *Tate Modern*. We'll explore TV detectives, poets, playwrights, novelists, comedians and changes in fashion.

## **CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES**

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

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

#### **CONTEMPORARY OPERA**

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

At each session, we view a different opera and engage in a lively discussion of the text, staging and medium. This semester may include The Who's *Tommy*, Strauss' *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Joan Guinjoan's *Gaudi*, Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Kurt Weill's *Threepenny Opera*, Harry Somers' *Louis Riel*, as well as electronic and jazz opera. We will compare productions and correlate them with historical and cultural events.

## **CONTEMPORARY POETRY**

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

Contemporary poetry enriches the lives of its readers. Participants are invited to email coordinators their favorite poems several days ahead of class, so we 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.

## **CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP**

Coordinators: **Helen Saffran**, Judy Hampson, Donna Ramer

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.

# DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES

Coordinators: **Arlynn Greenbaum**, Bob Reiss, Karen Levin, Estelle Selzer

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

## **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."

## THE FABULOUS FIFTIES

Coordinators: **Michael Wellner**, Ellen Gottfried, Bob Gottfried

It's safe to say that every single one of us at Quest remembers the Fifties pretty clearly. If there is any single word that describes that decade it's transformative. Politically, it began with President Harry Truman, born in 1884, and ended with the election of JFK. Technically, it saw development of the first computers and the beginning of the information age. The Fifties changed the way we live, shop (with the rise of the suburbs and shopping malls), and travel. The first commercial jet plane took off in 1954. Join us as we examine these: the Korean War. Senator Joe McCarthy, Elvis Presley, Rock 'n Roll, and so much more.

## **FASCINATING NON-FICTION**

Coordinators: **Harriet Finkelstein**, Bob Reiss. Ruth Ward

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.

## **FOLK MUSIC NEW**

Coordinators: **Bob Gottfried**, Fllen Gottfried

We will look at folk music in the USA through the songs of folk singers. Each presentation will focus on one or two singers. We will also study the history of folk music in the USA and the origins of the music presented. Each presentation will include the playing of folk songs.

## **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.

#### **GREAT CONVERSATIONS**

Coordinators: Jane Lubin, Larry Shapiro

Great Conversations offers works by both contemporary and classic authors across many genres and disciplines, ideal for promoting discussion among readers. We will use the next book in the series, Great Conversations, Book 5. Authors include Euripides, Sartre, Hawthorne, Simone Weil, and Bertrand Russell.

#### **GREAT PLAYS**

Coordinators: **Roy Clary**, Wayne Cotter, Frieda Lipp

Important American and European plays are presented. Each session begins with a brief biography of the playwright followed by a "staged reading" of the play. The audience is encouraged to share their insights.

## **HISTORY OF GERMANY**

Coordinators: **Caroline Thompson**, Steve Allen

The German people have a long and complex history that has had a profound impact, both good and bad, on all of Europe and on the world. This three-term course examines this political, religious, and cultural history from the time of The Holy Roman Empire in 800 CE up to the current day. In this second term, we will focus on Bismarck and his role in the creation of the country of Germany in 1871 and on how unresolved conflicts led to the First World War. In cultural history, we'll examine German art, science, philosophy, literature and the intellectual legacy of finde-siecle Vienna.



## **HUCKLEBERRY FINN NEW**

## Coordinators: Lynnel Garabedian, Sandy Kessler

"All American Literature comes from one book by Mark Twain called Huckleberry Finn," Ernest Hemingway famously declared in 1935. "It's the best book we've had." Our class next fall will focus on reading Huckleberry Finn in order to understand what makes it such a great American classic. Among the themes we'll consider include the relationships between appearance and reality, race and the American character, and what Twain calls a "deformed conscience" and a "sound heart." We'll also discuss the current controversy regarding the book's language and its place in American education.

## **INDIE FILMS**

Coordinators: **Howard Salik** Madeline Brecher, Marian Friedmann, Bobbie Gold

For Quester's who love movies, "Indie Films" is a perfect fit. If you've seen a movie that is worthy of class discussion, email us with details. Films shown exclusively at a theater will be considered when released online. We'll send you three movie titles with online links. Class will include a short interview featuring the director's point of view.

#### **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.

## **MOVERS & SHAKERS**

Coordinators: **Bob Gottfried**, Ellen Gottfried

We will examine the lives and accomplishments of outstanding people whose ideas and actions have had a lasting effect on our society, whether for good or evil. Subjects covered in past talks have included Dimitri Shostakovich, Larry Page, and Sergey Brin (founders of Google), Isaac Bashevis Singer, Winston Churchill, and Martin Luther.

#### THE NEAR EAST

Coordinators: **Ann Goerdt**, Bob Gottfried, Ellen Gottfried

Search for a map of the Near, or Middle East and you will not find a consistent set of countries. In this course, we will discuss the countries that are geographically east of the Mediterranean Sea, thus eliminating the countries of North Africa. The Middle East to be presented is a conglomeration of countries that in most cases have some degree of shared history. Nonetheless, they vary a great deal today in terms of their development, prosperity of citizens, and role on the world stage. For each country addressed, we will provide some history, so that you better understand its current level of development, the major issues it is dealing with today, and how it interacts with and affects the larger region of the Middle East...and perhaps the world.

## NYC NEIGHBORHOODS NEW

Coordinators: **Paul Golomb**, Sandra Abramson

New York City is a tapestry. It is a 400-year development entailing subsequent waves of immigration and architectural styles. The course will focus in each session on a definitive neighborhood, describing its history, architectural and topographic features, significant landmarks, course of development and its contribution to the City as a whole. Where possible, walking tours will be scheduled.

#### **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.

## POETS' WORKSHOP

Coordinators: **Judith Winn**, Judy Hampson, Helen Saffran

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.



## PRESENTER'S SHOWCASE

Coordinators: **Joyce West**, Steve Allen, Caroline Thompson

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.

## READING EDITH WHARTON

Coordinators: **Patricia Geehr**, Arlene Curinga

We will read *The Custom of the Country* published in 1913 after *The House of Mirth* (1905) and before *The Age of Innocence* (1920). All three novels, set in the 19th century, portray the leisure-class of fashionable New York City with its virtues and its failings. Willful and petulant Undine Spragg who "wants everything" is the novel's heroine and studies countless customs related to conduct, speech, and attitude in her quest to excel. Yet, no matter her initiative and drive, Undine lives in an age that stifles women's lives as is the *custom of the country*.

## **RUSSIAN GEOGRAPHY NEW**

Coordinators: **Stephen R. Baker** Pete Weis

The history of Russia, a country encompassing one sixth of the land on our planet, has been in large measure molded by the exigencies of its geography and influenced more by its rivers than its mountains. It has been influenced in the East more by its climates than its cultures and in the peripheries to an equal degree by ice and water. Each of these factors has contributed forcefully to its uniqueness. This lecture series seeks to provide specifics with facts and impressions related to Russia's particular terrestrial situations and configurations.

## **SCIENCE & SCIENTISTS**

Coordinators: **Steve Allen** Jim Brook, Marion Schultheis, and 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

#### SHAKESPEARE

Coordinators: **Roy Clary**, Jim Brook, Ellie Schaffer

The class will read aloud and discuss *Richard II.* It is the first play of a series of four plays that chronicle the rise of the house of Lancaster to the British throne; the others being the two parts of *Henry IV* and *Henry V.* It marks a triad with *Romeo and Juliet*, a lyrical tragedy, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the most lyrical of all comedies. Richard is not a good king, but is a remarkable poet. The Folger Library Edition is the preferred text.

# SOCRATES AND THE PROBLEM OF PHILOSOPHY NEW

Coordinators: **Sandy Kessler**, Steve Allen

What role should philosophy play in our public and private lives? In our class, we will consider this question by examining the character and ideas of Socrates as they appear in the writings of Plato, Aristophanes, Nietzsche and contemporary authors. Issues we will discuss include whether philosophy is necessary for a good life, whether there is an inherent conflict between philosophy and religion. whether philosophy undermines or strengthens the moral foundations of society and, finally, whether philosophy can, in fact, help us understand the nature of reality.

## WATER NEW

Coordinators: **Judy Weis**, Pete Weis

Water. Something we interact with every day. We wash in it, cook with it, put our wastes into it, swim in it and travel in boats on it. In cold winter it freezes and we can skate or ski or sled on it. We shelter from it when it falls down from the sky. "Bad weather" usually involves it. Too little of it and there's a drought, too much and there's a flood. Our bodies are mostly made of it. Lots of plants and animals live in it, and life in water is very different from life on land. It is also the subject of art, music and literature. All of these topics and more will be included in this course. Although it will be primarily science, we will include some art or music or literature topics each semester.

## SOMETHING EXTRA

#### **ART TALKS**

Andrea Irvine, Sheryl Harawitz

This noontime class, which meets one day a month, offers short presentations on art that encourage lively discussion in an informal, relaxing environment. We invite you to introduce an artist that pleases you or simply come and participate.

#### **BIRTH OF IDEAS NEW**

Sheryl Harawitz, Mary Ann Donnelly, Donna Ramer

Each day we have between 35 and 48 thoughts every minute, the vast majority of which drive our daily routines and needs. But there are those moments when a seemingly random thought sparks an idea that fuels the synapses and is a link in a chain of ideas that ignites significant change. In this course, we will uncover the genesis and stages of social, philosophical, industrial and cultural ideas that changed the world and others that are changing it.

## **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 minilessons and to lead group discussions on topics of their choice.

# EMILY DICKINSON CIRCLE

Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Sheryl Harawitz, Joyce West

Would you like to spend time digging into Emily Dickinson poems? We will read her poems in an informal setting from 2:30 to 3:30 once every two weeks, leaving ample time for discussion. Supplementary material is welcome if you're moved to bring it in, but we will not preplan.

## SOMETHING EXTRA

#### MUSIC OF THE HEART NEW

Frank Montaturo

Members are invited to submit a piece of music that "speaks to your heart." The presenter will speak of its emotional significance for him/her and then we will listen together. There will be time for brief discussion. Two presenters per class. Class will meet one day each month at lunchtime.

## **QUEST BOOK CLUB**

Jan Goldstein, Susannah Falk Lewis, Joan Vreeland

The Quest Book Club reads a wide cross-section of novels by both new and more established authors, from this country and abroad, across a range of genres. The books chosen are not necessarily what you yourself might ordinarily pick up — think of it as a chance to discover something you didn't know you liked! We meet each month in person on the second Wednesday, from 12:10–12:55 pm.

## **QUEST FRIDAY EVENTS**

Madeleine Brecher, Linda Downs, Bob Reiss

The CultureQuest program offers tours of the latest museum exhibitions as well as other cultural experiences throughout the New York area. The events take place every month on selected Fridays on a sign-up basis.



# **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).

Today, we are a vital part of the CCNY family of no more than 270 members with a mission to provide an intellectually stimulating, peer-learning program for retired and semi-retired adults who want to learn, exchange ideas, share passions, meet new friends, and develop new interests.

Quest is a volunteer-run organization so our success is wholly dependent on the participation of our members.

- We administer Quest by a member-elected 11-member Council.
- We design our own curriculum and teach our own classes.
- We offer more than 40 courses each semester, all of which are conceived and coordinated by members on subjects ranging from literature and history to science, politics, current affairs, philosophy and the arts, as well as writing and acting workshops.

- We have off-site social activities and trips.
- We publish an annual literary and art magazine, Q Review.
- We also feature a Distinguished Guest Lecture series program to invite prominent people across a wide variety of disciplines to discuss their careers and life experiences.

There are three semesters each year: Fall (September–December), Spring (February–May) and Summer (June–July). Fall and Spring classes are held Monday–Thursday, from 10:30 am–Noon and 1:00 pm–2:30 pm. Summer classes are held Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 10:30 am–Noon. In our stimulating, participatory community, there are no exams and no grades but there may be a little homework for some classes.

No matter how members choose to participate, all find that Quest provides a rewarding experience that enriches both their intellectual and social lives.

If you are interested in learning more, contact us to schedule a day at Quest so you can experience how our lifelong learning community can enrich your life.

Division of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Center for Worker Education

The City College of New York

Bowling Green Campus, 25 Broadway, 7th floor, New York, NY 10004

Phone: 212.925.6625 Ext.229 • Email: questlifelonginfo@gmail.com • Web: www.questlifelong.org