

# **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**September 5 – 8, 2022**

**This is an “A” Week**

**There are three links for all classes throughout the semester: Auditorium, Classroom 15-17, and Classroom 27. Click on the appropriate classroom below to join a class no earlier than 15 minutes before its start.**

## **AUDITORIUM:**

**Meeting ID: 886 445 6806**

**Passcode: 252525**

## **ROOM 15-17:**

**Meeting ID: 821 1094 3310**

**Passcode: 252525**

## **ROOM 27:**

**Meeting ID: 875 6632 5995**

**Passcode: 252525**

**Alternatively, you can enter a class by going to the [Zoom Website](#) and selecting “JOIN A MEETING.” You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the passcode. Also, you can attend classes via phone by dialing 1-929-205-6099. You will be asked for the Meeting ID and possibly the passcode.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Unless indicated below, all classes are conducted at 25 Broadway and are listed as either “Hybrid” or “In-person.” “Hybrid” classes are available to members attending at 25 Broadway and to members attending from home via Zoom. “In-person only” classes are presented solely at 25 Broadway with no Zoom option.

**MONDAY, September 5**  
**Labor Day – No Classes**

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**TUESDAY, September 6 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course:** **FOREIGN AFFAIRS** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Subject:** **The Happiest Countries in the World**

For the last 10 years the United Nations has conducted extensive research to come up with a list of the 10 happiest countries in the world. Take a minute and make a list of those nations you think made the cut. I will give you 3 clues:

- #1 has been in first place for the last 5 years
- #2 The United States has never made the list
- #3 If you guess #9 correctly, you cheated

See you at the presentation so you can match your list with the one created by the UN.

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

**Course:** **ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** Classroom 15-17  
**Subject:** “Love, Dishonor, Marry, Die, Cherish, Perish” a novel in verse

In 2012, prize-winning humorist David Rakoff died at the age of 47 from the Hodgkin’s lymphoma that had plagued him for more than two decades. The following year, his epic 111-page novel, written as a

poem, was published and noted as poignant, beautiful, witty, and wise. Through in-class readings, we will follow the characters whose lives span the 20th century and are linked to each other by acts of generosity or cruelty in Rakoff's final work: *Love, Dishonor, Marry, Die, Cherish, Perish: A Novel*.

**Presenters:** Donna Ramer, Mary Ann Donnelly, Gloria Peropat,  
Ellen Rittberg

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

**TUESDAY, September 6 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.**

**Course:** **CONVERSATIONS EN FRANÇAIS** (*In-person only*)

**Room:** Classroom 27

**Pour notre premier cours de conversation française, Donna Basile fera une présentation sur le peintre pointilliste français, Paul Signac. À l'aide d'un diaporama PowerPoint, nous verrons et discuterons de son style distinctif et de ses œuvres d'art.**

**For our first French conversation class, Donna Basile will give a presentation on the French Pointillist painter, Paul Signac. With the aid of a PowerPoint slide show, we will see and discuss his distinctive style and works of art.**

**Presenter:** Donna Basile

**Coordinators:** Ruth Ward, Donna Basile

**TUESDAY, September 6 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course:**           **THE FABULOUS FIFTIES** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:**             Auditorium  
**Subject:**         Dwight D. Eisenhower: the Presidential Years (1953 – 1961)

**Critics of President Dwight Eisenhower have depicted him as the babysitter-in-chief, lazy, indecisive, and weak. Even today we are left with the impression that Ike was a “do nothing” president and his eight-years in office were uneventful and unproductive. The 1950s for many were considered idyllic - a wonderful period of prosperity, peace, and freedom. But many believe this was not despite Ike, but because of him.**

**The real Eisenhower was an extraordinary polymath, diplomat, a prolific author, and a keen strategist. He was also enigmatic, controlling, and had a tempestuous temper that could peel the varnish off a desk. Please join us for a look at this complex man and his innumerable milestones, frustrations, and some mighty missteps during his presidential years.**

**Presenters:**       Sandy Frank, Glenn Johnston and Bob Gottfried  
**Coordinators:**   Michael Wellner, Ellen Gottfried, Bob Gottfried

**Course:**           **CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP** (*In-person only*)  
                          **(NOTE: This class runs until 3 p.m.)**  
**Room:**             Classroom 15-17

**Welcome back to 25 Broadway. Over the summer we challenged you to take your notebooks to a variety of sites that would be a catalyst to your creativity; we hope you’ll share those stories and essays with us.**

**But don’t despair if you didn’t take up the challenge; everyone is welcome to share writings created anywhere, anytime. If you need some last-minute inspiration, how about 750 words on The Nightmare?**

**Just a few reminders: This workshop is open to all genres (fantasy, mystery, science fiction, memoir) but prose must be less than 750 words (longer pieces can become multi-part stories to share over a few classes). Also, classes begin with a ten-minute free-writing exercise (sharing is optional). And we suggest you bring a notebook for in-class writing.**

**Presenter: Donna Ramer**

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

**Course: **READING EDITH WHARTON** (*In-person only*)**

**Room: Classroom 27**

**For our first class we will read Roman Fever, a short story by Edith Wharton, and we will discuss the friendship (?) of the two women. We will distribute a copy of the story in class so no need to read it beforehand. We will show some slides of Edith Wharton's home in Massachusetts and discuss her life. For the rest of the semester, we will be reading Wharton's *The Custom of the Country*. If you want input into our reading selection for the Spring 2023 session, you need to be present.**

**Presenters: Patricia Geehr & Arlene Curinga**

**Coordinators: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga**

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**WEDNESDAY, September 7 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: **HISTORY OF GERMANY** (*Hybrid*)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: The Unification of Germany**

**In 1800, the land of German speaking people, the Holy Roman Empire (roughly equivalent to modern Germany and Austria) consisted of over 300 independent sovereign territorial entities loosely bound together by allegiance to the Hapsburg Emperor in Vienna. By 1870, there was a single unified nation of Germany, but which excluded Austria, the center of Hapsburg power. In this talk, we'll tell the story of this astonishing transformation, its profound impact on power relationships throughout Europe, and the ways in which it set the stage for two devastating World Wars. A particular focus will be on the role of Otto von Bismarck who dominated German political history from 1862 until 1890.**

**Presenter: Steve Allen, substituting for Caroline Thompson**  
**Coordinators: Caroline Thompson, Steve Allen, Linda Downs**

**Course: SHAKESPEARE (*In-person only*)**  
**Room: Classroom 15-17**  
**Play: Richard II**

**Roy Clary will give a talk that will include:**

- 1. A play overview**
- 2. Historical order of the English Kings from Richard II to Richard III, as well as the order in which Shakespeare wrote the plays.**
- 3. The Divine Right of Kings and its significance.**
- 4. The impact of the play's Deposition Scene on Queen Elizabeth.**
- 5. The impact that Shakespeare the actor had on Shakespeare the playwright.**
- 6. Lincoln's love of Shakespeare**

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

**WEDNESDAY, September 7 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.**

**Course:**           **SYMPOSIUM** (*In-person only*)  
**Room:**            Classroom 27  
**Subject:**         Diotima & Socrates on Love

Using Plato's symposium as a model, we will gather together at lunch time to enjoy both food and drink. You bring the food, and we supply the drink (wine or coffee or tea).

Plato's symposium is a play within a play, with 10 characters. We have a playwright, poet, doctor, aristocrat, members of Socrates' entourage, and of course Socrates and Diotima, the priestess who came to Athens to save them from the plague. The topic is Love. Socrates says "Now and always I praise the power and courage of Love that I learned from Diotima."

**Presenter:**       Sheryl Harawitz  
**Coordinators:**   Sheryl Harawitz, Donna Ramer, Mary Ann Donnelly

**WEDNESDAY, September 7 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course:**           **INDIE FILMS** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:**            Auditorium

Are you ready to return to the movies? We're ready for you! We will show the short trailer for 3 recently released, highly rated films, we'll follow with a review, a discussion with the director or maybe some cast members, and finally, we want to hear from you. If you haven't yet seen these 3 films, make time before September 7<sup>th</sup>.

**“Good Luck to You Leo Grande” will be presented by Arlynn Greenbaum. What if you suddenly realized you are in your 60s and you’ve never met your own needs? Nancy hires Leo Grande to help her fulfill her sexual bucket list. Stream it on HULU.**

**“Official Competition” will be presented by Howard Salik. This is a movie-comedy skewering wealth, art and pride. You can’t go wrong with stars like Penelope Cruz and Antonio Banderas appearing together for the very first time. Stream it on Prime Video for \$3.99.**

**“Where the Crawdads Sing” will be presented by Madeleine Brecher. For those who read the book, Kya is a beloved character. Abandoned as a young girl, she raised herself in the marshlands of Barkley Cove; and her story is mesmerizing. If you have never met her, head to your local movie theater.**

### **SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES!**

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

**Course: FOLK MUSIC (In-person only)**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: History of American Folk Music and Woodie Guthrie**

**Many of us grew up listening to American folk music. In this class we will explore some of the history of American folk music, listen to examples of classic folk songs such as, This Land is Your Land, written and first recorded by Woody Guthrie, and learn about and listen to the music of Woody, and the artists of a later generation that he inspired. Come to listen, learn, and sing along.**

**Presenter Bob Gottfried**

**Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Ellen Gottfried**



**WEDNESDAY, September 7 @ 2:30 – 3:30 P.M.**

**Course:**           **EMILY DICKINSON CIRCLE** *(In-person only)*  
**Room:**            Classroom 27

**Emily was a recluse with a robust internal life. For our first class, we will read a sample of her poems and speculate on factors that might have influenced her poetry, especially her relationship with Sue. We'll look at a timeline of her major life events and listen to a brief biography.**

**“To own a Susan of my own  
Is of itself a Bliss -  
Whatever Realm I forfeit, Lord,  
Continue me in this!”**

**Presenter:**        Martha Drezin  
**Coordinators:**   Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Sheryl Harawitz

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**THURSDAY, September 8 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course:**           **AGING** *(Hybrid)*  
**Room:**            Classroom 15-17  
**Subject:**         Retirement

**This course studies the phenomenon of aging. From biology to philosophy, we experience aging together. Today we will discuss retirement, how we are spending our lives, how we got here, and where we're going. A panel of Questers will lead today's discussion. Our distinguished panel is composed of Sheryl Harawitz, Judy Weis, Larry**

**Shapiro, Roy Clary, Bryn Meehan, and Wayne Cotter. Everyone in the class is invited to join the discussion, so come and participate.**

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

**Course: NEW YORK CITY NEIGHBORHOODS (*In-person only*)**  
**Room: Classroom 27**  
**Subject: From the Battery to the Wall**

**The first neighborhood in this course will be the first (European) neighborhood. The focus will be on the southern tip of Manhattan, where the Dutch set up business. (It was not really a colony.). We will consider its history and the principal features of the area, mostly sticking below the Dutch protection wall, which is now Wall St., of course.**

**Presenter: Paul Golomb**  
**Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss**

**THURSDAY, September 8 @ NOON – 12:45**

**Course: ZOOMER LUNCH DISCUSSIONS (*Zoom-only*)**  
**(Use Auditorium Link to enter)**

**The idea for our talk stems from a recent court case in which Andy Warhol used a photograph of Prince for a series of prints he did of the subject. Our presentation/discussion asks the question: Can an artist *legally* use a work by another artist (photo, painting etc.) as a basis for his/her own creation? Inspired Re-creation or Unlawful Appropriation?**

**Presenters: Helen Goodman and June Zaccone**  
**Coordinators: Nina Dioletis, Sandy Frank, Glenn Johnston**

**THURSDAY, September 8 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course:** **WATER (Hybrid)**  
**Room:** Classroom 15-17  
**Subject:** Water: Unique and Essential

**All forms of life on Earth share one thing in common: the need for water. This vital liquid has extraordinary properties. It is unlike any other known substance... in fact it's rather weird. We will look at the unique nature of water and how it works to protect your health and well-being.**

**Presenter:** Brenda Wilder  
**Coordinators:** Judy Weis, Pete Weis

**Course:** **CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES (Hybrid)**  
**Room:** Classroom 27 (*Note new room for Fall*)

**Stories to read**

**1. "One Sun Only", by Camille Bordas.**

**Presenter:** Arlynn Greenbaum

**Camille Bordas, (age 35), is a French writer and academic. She is the author of three novels and her short stories have been published in *The New Yorker, The Paris Review, Tin House and The Chicago Review.* Bordas was born in France and grew up in Paris and Mexico City. She and her husband now live in Gainesville where she teaches creative writing at the University of Florida.**

**First few lines of the story: "This is not a rewrite of that story in which plants and animals and people keep winding up dead over the course of a school year, but it starts the same, and it feels odd not to acknowledge, so I will. I just did. Things kept dying. My father first, in**

***June, then the puppy my ex-wife had adopted to help the children get over their grandpa, and then the school janitor, Lane...”***

**2. “*The Fugitive*”, by T.C. Boyle.**

**Presenter: Ellen Rittberg**

**T.C. Boyle (age 73). Thomas Coraghessan Boyle is an American novelist and short story writer. Since the mid-1970s, he has published 16 novels and more than 100 short stories**

***First few lines of the story: “They told him he had to wear a mask in public. Which was ridiculous. It made him feel like he had a target painted on his back—or his face, actually, right in the middle of his face. But if he wanted to walk out the door of the clinic he was going to walk out with that mask on—either that or go to jail...”***

**Links for the two stories will be sent in a separate email to all Questers via QuestBusiness.**

**A few printed copies of the stories will be available on Weds. morning in the A-week box in the lunchroom.**

**Contemporary Short Stories is an interactive discussion class. Stories, chosen by and briefly introduced by the presenters are then freely discussed by the class.**

**If you have any questions or a story to present, please email Nancy at [nancyrye@earthlink.net](mailto:nancyrye@earthlink.net).**

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

**Course: **ACTING WORKSHOP** (In-person only)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**The first class will include theater games and exercises designed to build relationships, as well as observation skills.**

**All are welcome: from those with acting experience to beginners.**

**Coordinator: Roy Clary**

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## **CULTUREQUEST**

**Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 11am - 12:15pm**

### **Chelsea Art Galleries**

**(In-Person Walking Tour)**

**The Chelsea art district in New York is one of the most important and influential in the world. It features dozens of galleries including top names as well as emerging ones. The director of our tour founded his company twenty years ago and each month, he previews hundreds of New York exhibits and selects the most fascinating ones for his groups to tour. At each stop on this Chelsea walking tour, he will talk about the artist, describe the artworks, and lead the group in a lively discussion. Our tour takes place no matter the temperature or the weather as the art is all indoors. Come and see what is extraordinary in Chelsea!**

**COST: \$12- check made out to Quest. Limited to 25 participants.**

**To reserve your place, please follow these two (2) steps:**

- **Send an email asap to Madeleine Brecher at [madbrech@gmail.com](mailto:madbrech@gmail.com). First come, first served. We will have a waitlist.**
- **Make out a check to Quest for \$12, put it in an envelope marked CultureQuest and place it in the CultureQuest mailbox in the office.**

***Important note: Please sign up only if you intend to come. Anyone who doesn't show or cancel will be placed on 'future waitlists only' when they sign up to attend live CultureQuest events. Thank you for your understanding.***