

# **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**September 19 – 23, 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 link below to join a class no earlier than 15 minutes before its start.**

**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 password.**

## **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**

**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 19 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: CLASSIC ROCK ALBUMS (Hybrid)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Album: Donovan- *Sunshine Superman* (1966)**

**Donovan began his career as a folkie, covering classic blues and traditional songs. By 1966, his own songwriting skills and psychedelic-tinged rock-based rhythms (some of the first psychedelic pop music) had grown to the point where he would have many charting singles and albums in the UK and the US.**

***Sunshine Superman* was Donovan's third album, and most successful, peaking at number 11 in the US and remaining on the Billboard Top LPs chart for six months. The album's "Season of the Witch" has become a rock standard.**

**The album's lyrical content encompasses Donovan's increasing ability to portray "Swinging London" and give listeners an insider's look into the mid-sixties pop scene. His songs on this album reference many luminaries of the time such as Mama Cass Elliott, folk singer Bert Jansch, and Linda Lawrence, girlfriend of Rolling Stones member Brian Jones. Linda Lawrence later became Donovan's wife and muse.**

**Presenters: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter**

**Coordinators: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter**

**Course: HUCKLEBERRY FINN (In-person only)**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**After some background information about Mark Twain and what influenced him to write his most acclaimed novel, we will begin discussing the first seven chapters of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Although any edition of the book can be used, we recommend the Third Norton Critical Edition which has footnotes on relevant pages and excellent commentaries at the back of the book. While reading the seven short chapters, we learn a great deal about Huckleberry and his**

friend, Tom Sawyer. What is their relationship? How are they alike and how are they different? What kind of boys are they?

**Discussion Leaders: Lynnel Garabedian, Sandy Kessler**

**MONDAY, September 19 @ 12:10 P.M – 12:50 P.M.**

**Course: SOMETHING EXTRA @ LUNCHTIME (In-person only)**

**Room: Classroom 15-17**

**Subject: Not Your Typical Book Group!**

We don't all read the same book, so let's share great book suggestions and talk about them. A great opportunity for readers who are seeking new authors or simply enjoy talking about books.

**Presenter: Kathy Cook**

**Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvne**

**MONDAY, September 19 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: COMEDY AND SATIRE (In-person only)**

**Room: Auditorium**

**Subject: The Funniest Decade: The 1930s (Part 1 – *The Movies*)**

Could the funniest decade in U.S. history really be the 1930s, a period characterized by bread lines and unemployment? Although the notion may seem counterintuitive, Wayne Cotter will present strong evidence supporting the idea.

Today's class, focusing on comic *movies*, is Part I of a three-part series. Part II on 1930s *radio* and Part III covering comic *theatre* will be offered in subsequent semesters.

This session will feature video clips from comic geniuses of the era, such as The Marx Brothers, Mae West, and Laurel & Hardy. And who could forget Gable and Colbert in Billy Wilder's 1934 classic "It Happened One Night"? We'll also explore why the decade's movie

theatres became the refuge of choice for so many Americans seeking escape from the realities of Depression-era life.

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

**Course:** **SCIENCE AND SCIENTISTS** (*In-Person Only*)  
**Room:** Classroom 27  
**Subject:** The Science of Smells and Smelling

How do you smell? How does any of us smell? Do animals -- say fish, insects, or birds -- smell and, if so, how do they do it? It is thought that the sense of smell was the first of the senses to arise in the evolution of animals. And yet it is perhaps the sense about which we know the least. Is there any meaningful way of categorizing the smells we may encounter in everyday life?

And what about 'The Great Stink' of 1858? This and more as we consider the science of smells and smelling.

**Presenter:** Jim Brook  
**Coordinators:** Steve Allen, Jim Brook, Marion Schultheis, Judy Weis

**Course:** **CONTEMPORARY POETRY** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** Classroom 15-17  
**Subject:** Poems for Betty

This will be the only Contemporary Poetry class attended by Betty Farber this semester. She is heading to the Midwest to be with family. We will take this opportunity to celebrate Betty by reading poems that we think she will like and listening to some that she has written herself. Please join us to read or to listen. You can send the poem in advance to Martha ([mdrezin@aol.com](mailto:mdrezin@aol.com)) to be included in a packet or simply bring it to class. Light refreshments.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**TUESDAY, September 20 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course:** **FOREIGN AFFAIRS** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Subject:** Yugoslavia - a complex country with a complex history

Yugoslavia, although nominally all “Slavs”, was a country comprised of an amalgamation of languages, alphabets, cultures, religions and traditions. These differences ensured its short existence was littered with splits, conflicts, and shocking violence. Three major populations — Muslim, Serb, and Croat inhabited this land. Despite the strong forces pulling the country apart, Yugoslavia was held together for many years by its longtime leader Marshal Tito. After Tito’s death, these conflicting forces began to increase rapidly and tore Yugoslavia apart. Yugoslavia split into numerous new countries based on the ethnic makeup of the majority of the population. Bloody wars, filled with ethnic cleansing, followed.

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

**Course:** **ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY** (*Hybrid*)  
**Room:** Classroom 15-17  
**Subject:** Ovid’s Metamorphoses

On Tuesday, we will continue our exploration of epic poetry. by delving into a classic, Ovid’s Metamorphoses. We will begin, at the beginning with Book I, which tells the story of the creation of the Greek World, the Grecian flood story, the repopulating of the world from their great mother’s bones, and other iconic stories. Bring your spirit and let your mind be transformed as you read. There is plenty new to be found in the text and from our peers.

**Copies of the text were sent separately.**

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

**TUESDAY, September 20 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.**

**Course:** **CONVERSATIONS EN FRANÇAIS** (*In-person only*)  
**Room:** Classroom 27

**Sujet :** La Loi Veil: Survivante de l'Holocauste Simone Veil était magistrate et ministre de France, aussi bien que la première femme présidente du Parlement européen. En 1975 elle a été responsable de la promulgation de la Loi Veil, une décriminalisation de l'avortement en France, qui est toujours en vigueur aujourd'hui. Explorons son accomplissement dans l'espoir que nous pourrions l'imiter un jour.

**Subject:** The Veil Law: Holocaust survivor Simone Veil was a magistrate, minister of France, as well as the first woman president of the European Parliament. In 1975 she was responsible for the promulgation of the Veil Law, a decriminalization of abortion in France, which is still in force today. Let's explore this accomplishment in hopes that we can someday emulate it.

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

**Course:** **NEW MEMBERS MEETING** (*In-person only*)  
**Room:** Classroom 15 17

**This meeting, the first in a series of four, is designed to introduce you to Quest. It is a terrific opportunity to get your questions answered. The Quest web site, a wonderful tool to explore our activities, will be demonstrated.**

**This meeting is open to all summer and fall 2022 new members and all others who want more in-depth information on how to use the Quest web site.**

**New Member Committee co-chairs: John Spiegel, Pam Gemelli, Susan Keohane:**

**TUESDAY, September 20 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: THE FABULOUS FIFTIES (Hybrid)**  
**Room: Auditorium**  
**Subject: Baseball in the Fifties**

*“Whoever wants to know the heart and mind of America had better learn baseball.” Jacques Barzun*

**The Fifties represented the Golden Age of baseball and arguably it paralleled the golden age of New York City. This talk will focus on the relationship between N.Y.C. baseball in the Fifties and American society as a whole. The breaking of the “color line” happened here and signaled the beginning of the civil rights movement in the U.S. Sadly, the move of the Dodgers and Giants to the west coast marked the beginning of the city’s decline. We will go light on the statistics and highlight some of the personalities that became part and parcel of American culture.**

**Presenter: Bob Reiss**  
**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**

**In our next class we will begin with a ten-minute free-writing exercise, with the option to share with a partner, and then with the class. Then we will talk about how including the senses in our writing can add depth and interest to our stories and poems. Describing how a character perceives their surroundings through their senses draws the reader into**

sharing those emotions. You are welcome to bring in a prose piece or poem to read to the group.

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). And we suggest you bring a notebook for in-class writing.

**Presenter:** Judy Hampson

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

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

**Room:** Classroom 27

We will be discussing book 1 in *The Custom of the Country* by Edith Wharton. If you have not purchased the book yet we recommend the Classic Penguin Edition which can be purchased at Amazon or Barnes and Noble. Also, please bring a list of 3 books you might like to discuss in the Spring session.

**Coordinators:** Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga

\*\*\*\*\*

**WEDNESDAY, September 21 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

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

**Room:** Auditorium

**Subject:** German Art: 'A Troublesome' Relationship Part I:  
Nineteenth Century

We tend to think that the disruption of German art started in 1937 with the "Degenerate Art Exhibition," organized by the Nazi's to demonstrate the "depravity" of modern German artists.

The extraordinary achievements of German visual arts, more so than other cultural productions such as music and literature, tended to raise



**aesthetic, stylistic, religious, nationalistic, and moral issues as early as the Reformation in the sixteenth century.**

**This two-part presentation (PART I: Nineteenth Century, on September 21; and PART II Twentieth Century, on November 2) will present highlights of outstanding art and architectural works as well as the controversies they prompted.**

**Presenter: Linda Downs**  
**Coordinators: Steve Allen, Linda Downs**

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

- 1. Ellie Schaffer will give a talk covering the feudal monarchy of Richard II to the more centralized monarchy of Henry V, as well as Shakespeare's exploration of the elements of a "kingly nature."**
- 2. The Class will read aloud Act I.**

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

**WEDNESDAY, September 21 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.**

**Course: SYMPOSIUM (In-person only)**  
**Room: Classroom 15-17**  
**Subject: The Art of War by Sun Tzu**

**At the last symposium, we discussed Love as seen through the eyes of Diotima and Socrates. This week we move to the opposite side of the spectrum and study the Art of War, written by Sun Tzu in 500 BCE. The book remains popular today. His prescriptions for victory on the battlefield have taken on new meaning for a somewhat unlikely crowd: Western business leaders. A classic dictum attributed to Sun Tzu is "To win without fighting is best." – What are the moral imperatives in this book? Please pick one or two favorite sayings. A link to the text of The Art of War can be found online. Sheryl will send the link via QuestBusiness.**

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

**WEDNESDAY, September 21 @ 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 21. We will keep you posted with streaming and in-theater locations as there are often changes.**

**Playground** – Presented by Vince Grosso (Belgium Academy Award Nominee) Streaming on Apple-Prime-Vudu

**When 6-year-old Nora witnesses her brother Abel being bullied by other kids, she rushes to protect him. But Abel forces her to remain silent. Caught in a conflict of loyalty, Nora tries to find her place, torn between children's and adult worlds.**

**Happening** – Presented by Sandy Gordon Streaming on Apple-Prime Vudu (Graphic scenes)

**Shows without judgment what a college student in 1963 France experienced when she wanted to terminate an unplanned pregnancy, at a time when abortion was illegal in France.**

**Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, A Journey, A Song** – Presented by Marian Friedmann (Streaming location TBA)

*Hallelujah* doesn't presume to be a comprehensive view of Leonard Cohen's career, but it effectively conveys his artistry through an admiring retrospective on one of his most iconic works.

**SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES!**

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

**Course:** **FOLK MUSIC** (*Hybrid – for this class only*)

**Room:** Classroom 15-17

**Subject:** Guest Speaker Folksinger Happy Traum

Renowned folk singer, writer, teacher, recording artist and first-rate fingerstyle guitarist Happy Traum began playing guitar and 5-string banjo as a teenager, and was an important participant in the legendary Greenwich Village folk scene of the 1950s and '60s. He was a student of blues guitar legend Brownie McGhee, a major influence on his picking style. In this class, Happy will play some songs and then revisit the early days of the folk revival, especially the impact of the Washington Square music gatherings, on young folk enthusiasts. He will recount his memories of contemporaries such as Bob Dylan, Phil Ochs, Peter Yarrow, Dave Van Ronk, and others. Happy's first singing group, the New World Singers, were the first to record Dylan's "Blowin' in the Wind." Many historic slides and music clips will illustrate his talk.

**Presenter:** Happy Traum

**Coordinators:** Bob Gottfried, Ellen Gottfried

**WEDNESDAY, September 21 @ 2:30 – 3:30 P.M.**

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

**Room:** Classroom 15-17

**Subject:** Emily's Poems

We will continue to read and discuss the poems written to and about Sue. If you email me, I will send you those poems ([mdrezin@aol.com](mailto:mdrezin@aol.com)) and I will have some hard copies in class. In addition, we invite you to bring in any Dickinson poems or letters that interest you or relevant

**biographical information, critiques, or essays. We meet for one hour only and encourage informal participation.**

**Here's a sample of Emily's humor:**

**“Faith is a fine invention  
When Gentlemen can see –  
But microscopes are prudent  
In an Emergency.”**

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**THURSDAY, September 22 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON**

**Course: AGING (Hybrid)**  
**Room: Classroom 15-17**  
**Subject: Death with Dignity – Assisted Dying**

**The tools for extending and ending life have evolved dramatically since Socrates drank hemlock, but many questions remain the same. Should Americans have the legal right to choose when and how they die, and should medical science assist them? This class will clarify current laws in the United States and introduce some advocacy groups that assist Americans who do and do not legally qualify. We'll discuss why and how some Americans travel to Switzerland to end their lives. What should we do now to maximize and communicate our choices? Please come and share your experience, knowledge, and opinions.**

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

**Course: NEW YORK CITY NEIGHBORHOODS (In-person only)**  
**Room: Classroom 27**  
**Subject: Jackson Heights**

**When the subject of the borough of Queens comes up, Jackson Hts. is not a neighborhood that often comes to mind. It is one of New York City's younger neighborhoods. It is distinguished by having been carefully planned as a neighborhood, and has over its short - by New York standards -- history kept much of its original character, and simultaneously become very different from the vision of its founders. Its establishment influenced several other developments or neighborhoods more familiar to many of us.**

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

**THURSDAY, September 22 @ NOON – 12:45**

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

**How has life changed during the pandemic? Are these changes permanent or will life get back to some version of normal? Let's hear what you and the experts have to say.**

**Presenter: Nina Dioletis**  
**Coordinators: Nina Dioletis, Sandy Frank, Glenn Johnston**

**THURSDAY, September 22 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.**

**Course: WATER (Hybrid)**  
**Room: Classroom 15-17**  
**Subject: Quantity**

**The availability of water for our bodies and for growing our food has diminished greatly in our time. Behind the problem: weather, politics, lifestyles, climate change, the growing population. The problem is critical in the southwestern US and especially critical in some**

**developing countries, which don't have resources and infrastructure to aid starving people. Conversely, there is too much water at one time in some areas, again aggravated by politics and climate change. This is Part 1 of 2; next time we'll present Water Quality.**

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

**Course: CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES (Hybrid)**  
**Room: Classroom 27**

### **Stories to read**

**1. *"The Third-Born,"* by Mohsin Hamid Presenter: Larry Shapiro**

**Mohsin Hamid (born 1971). By the time "The Third Born" was published in The New Yorker in 2012, Mohsin Hamid was already one of the world's most-praised young writers. He is the author of the novels *"Exit West"* and *"The Last White Man,"* and his work has been published in 40 languages.**

**2. *"Kangaroo Candy"* and *"Water Colors"* by Ray Smith**

**Presenter: Frieda Lipp**

**Frieda wrote: Ray Smith is my friend and neighbor. Before retiring, he was an Emmy award winning writer/producer on the NBC "Today" show. He always loved to write and share his writing with his friends. His piece "Water Colors" so deeply resonated (no doubt because I am currently discovering my own father through his writings) and impelled me to pay more attention to Ray's other writings. "Kangaroo Candy", in such sharp contrast, took my aging, seen-it-all self to a joyous, magical young boy's world. Quite a trip.**

**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 in the A-week box in the lunchroom,**

Any questions, 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

Members of the Class will present exercises and monologues. The Workshop is still open for anyone who would like to join.

**Coordinators:** Roy Clary

\*\*\*\*\*

## **CultureQuest**

**Friday, September 30, 10:45 am - 12:00 pm**

**MOUNT VERNON HOTEL AND MUSEUM**

**(In-Person Tour)**

**421 East 61<sup>st</sup> Street, New York, N.Y. 10065**

**(Between 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and York Avenue)**

Housed in one of the few pre-1800 buildings left in Manhattan, the Mount Vernon Hotel and Museum transports visitors back to 1826 when the hotel served as a day's respite from the dirt and noise of the streets below 14<sup>th</sup> street where most Manhattanites lived.

The docent-led tour will guide you through eight furnished period rooms, including a fully restored kitchen and an elegant Ladies Parlor where guests spent the day chatting and listening to musical performances. The Museum showcases the luxury furnishings of the era: fine bone China, artisanal furniture, and multiple tea services. You'll also have the chance to visit one of the few small historic gardens in New York City.

There are 6 steps up the Museum entrance, and the tour visits the Museum's two floors

**COST: \$8- Please bring a check made out to “Cash” or \$8.00 in cash with you. Limited to 20 participants.**

**We’ll be having lunch after the tour at Sea Salt, a Modern Greek and Mediterranean Restaurant, 1123 First Avenue (62<sup>nd</sup> Street.)**

**To reserve your place, please send an email asap to Maureen Berman at [bermanmaureen@gmail.com](mailto:bermanmaureen@gmail.com). First come, first served. We’ll have a waitlist.**

***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.***