

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

October 3 – 6, 2022

This is an “A” Week

Instructions for Zoom Classes

There are three Zoom 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

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.

PLEASE NOTE

Because several holidays this semester fall on Monday, for Monday October 3 only, B-week classes will be offered rather than the regularly scheduled A-week classes.

MONDAY, October 3 @ 10:30 – NOON

Course: THE NEAR EAST (In Person Only)
Room: Auditorium
Subject: Iraq

Iraq is a country we have all heard about, sometimes daily, in 1991 and again during the early 2000s. How did this land of Mesopotamia and the Fertile Crescent develop into the Iraq of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries? What is happening within the country today? Do we think it was helped or harmed by the American invasion in 2003 that got rid of Saddam Hussein? This presentation will address these questions, with a focus on Iraq's development and persistent problems since its independence in 1932.

Presenters: Ann Goerd
Coordinators: Ann Goerd, Bob Gottfried, Ellen Gottfried

Course: CONTEMPORARY BRITISH CULTURE (Hybrid)
Room: Classroom 15-17
Subject: British Culture and Unique British Customs

What are some of the characteristics behaviors of the English that set them apart? What are some customs that are unique to the English that in some cases have been practiced for centuries and are still going strong? What do they tell us about contemporary English culture? Do they have any global influences and why? We'll start out by looking at an odd custom practiced near my hometown in North Lincolnshire.

Presenter: Jennifer Jolly
Coordinators: Judy Hampson, Jennifer Jolly, Donna Ramer

MONDAY, October 3 @ 12:10 – 12:55 P.M.

Course: **LUNCHTIME ACTIVITY (In-person only)**
Room: **Classroom 15-17**
Subject: **The Art of Discussion**

Anne Morrow Lindbergh said that “good conversation is as stimulating as black coffee and just as hard to sleep after.” If you’re interested in expanding your presentations to include some discussion time, bring your lunch (coffee optional), questions and concerns.

Presenter: **Donna Ramer**
Coordinators: **Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine**

MONDAY, October 3 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: **GREAT PLAYS (In-person only)**
Room: **Auditorium**
Play: **True West by Sam Shepherd**

True West focuses on the struggle for power between two brothers: Austin, a high-strung screenwriter and Lee, a drifter and petty thief. This darkly hilarious version of the Cain and Abel story also satirizes the romanticized cowboys-and-Indians West of American mythology. The play was first produced in 1980 and - over the years - has starred many prominent actors, such as John Malkovich, Philip Seymour Hoffman and John C. Reilly. It is one of Sam Shepherd's finest.

Presenter: **Wayne Cotter**
Cast: **Roy Clary, Wayne Cotter, John Spiegel, Ruth Ward, John Davis**

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

Course: PRESENTER'S SHOWCASE (Hybrid)
Room: Classroom 27
Subject: The Art of Winold Reiss: An Immigrant Modernist on View at the New York Historical Society Until October 9, 2022

This exhibition of a highly skilled German American artist who arrived in New York in 1913 and introduced the latest developments in modern art, design and architecture to America, demonstrates how prejudice on many levels and in three different projects served to diminish opportunities to celebrate American diversity.

One of Winold Reiss's dreams from childhood was to meet American Indians. It took him 20 years before he could fulfill that dream and, in the process, he became acquainted with revolutionaries in Mexico at the end of the Revolution, and with the visionaries of the Harlem Renaissance. His outstanding portraits of these three groups of people did not find a path into the commercial New York art world because of American attitudes toward Germans during both World Wars and toward minorities – Mexican, Indigenous People and Black Americans.

Reiss's work also raises the issue of a white person being the first to represent Mexican revolutionaries, Indigenous People, and prominent Black Americans in the 1920's in America. The official portraits of President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama also brought this issue to mind. I look forward to a discussion about the similarity between Reiss and the official White House portraits

Presenter: Linda Downs
Coordinators: Joyce West, Steve Allen, Caroline Thompson

TUESDAY, October 4 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Hybrid)
Room: Auditorium
Subject: Erdogan's Turkey – Friend or Foe?

Pres. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has overseen a radical transformation of Turkey since coming to power in 2002. Turkey, once a pillar of the Western alliance, has embarked on a militaristic foreign policy and its democracy, sustained by the aspiration to join the EU, has given way to one-man rule. Erdogan, with his iron fist hold on the country, has turned away from traditional Western allies, secularism, and democracy. He's embraced Putin's Russia and other revisionist powers and replaced a frail democratic regime with an authoritarian and Islamist one. Turkey is now at a crossroads between democracy and autocracy. Are Turkey's democratic instincts and its economic ties to the Western Alliance resilient enough to resist Turkey from becoming a fully autocratic regime?

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

Course: ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY (Hybrid)
Room: Classroom 15-17
Subject: "The Glass Essay" by Anne Carson

Anne Carson is a poet, essayist, translator, and classicist who mixes all these genres with no hesitation then ties together unlikely subjects, writers, and eras. And it all makes emotional sense! In "The Glass Essay," she visits her mother who lives on a moor, carrying the spirit of Emily Bronte. "Whenever I visit my mother, I feel I am turning into Emily Bronte. My lonely life around me like a moor...." Come listen to a reading of "The Glass Essay" and discuss it with us. Copies of the script will be sent out ahead of time and will also be available in class.

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

TUESDAY, October 4 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.

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

Ensemble nous allons découvrir l'histoire, les traditions et la cuisine de la Corse. Située en plein coeur de la Méditerranée, depuis des siècles elle à retenue son caractère particulier. J'espère vous présenter ce lieu de naissance de Napoléon, surnommé “ L'Île de beauté ”, un endroit que peu de gens connaissent.

Together we will discover the history, traditions, and cuisine of Corsica. Situated in the heart of the Mediterranean, over the centuries it has retained its unique character. I hope to introduce you to this birthplace of Napoleon, nicknamed “ The Beautiful Island, ” a place with which few people are familiar.

Presenter: Paul Adler
Coordinators: Ruth Ward, Donna Basile

TUESDAY, October 4 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: **THE FABULOUS FIFTIES** (Hybrid)
Room: Auditorium
Subject: Broadway Musicals of the 1950s

Do you remember with fondness when many songs on the hit parade originated in Broadway shows? Do you also remember, as a kid, hearing, with not so much fondness, how orchestra seats cost \$4.80 and over a relatively short period escalated to an astronomical \$7.20? Come and relive with us an hour on the fantastic Broadway musical world of the

1950's, and if you're so inclined, share with us your memories of shows of that decade (or their subsequent revivals).

Presenter: Bob Hartmann

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 which will be shared first with a partner and then with the class. Please bring in a prose piece or poem to read to the group who will offer feedback. This workshop is open to all genres (fantasy, mystery, science fiction, humor, romance, memoir). Prose must be less than 750 words (longer pieces can become multi-part stories to share over a few classes). Reading your work in the class is always optional and it is fine to come to class without a piece of writing. We suggest you bring a notebook for in-class writing.

Coordinators: Helen Saffran, Judy Hampson, Donna Ramer,

Course: READING EDITH WHARTON (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 27

The class will have read Chapters XI up to Chapter XIX, or if using the Penguin Classic edition, from page 85 to 165 and be prepared to discuss the social customs of this period.

Coordinators: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga

WEDNESDAY, October 5
No Classes (Yom Kippur)

THURSDAY, October 6 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: AGING (Hybrid)
Room: Classroom 15-17
Subject: The Philosophers Have Their Say

“One of the problems with and for old age is that, while there has been too little serious thinking about it over the years, there have been quite enough pronouncements.” (Helen Small) “They live by memory rather than by hope.” (Aristotle)

“Notwithstanding the great decline of my person, (I have) never suffered a moment’s abatement of my spirits; insomuch, that were I to name the period of my life, which I should most choose to pass over again, I might be tempted to point to this later period. I possess the same ardor as ever in study, and the same gaiety in company.” (David Hume)

“The old are expected to be philosophical.” (Helen Small) We’ll discuss all this and more.

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

Course: NEW YORK CITY NEIGHBORHOODS (In-person only)
Room: Classroom 27
Subject: Greenwich Village

The history of Greenwich Village will be related through the idiosyncratic characters who lived and performed there: the beats,

bohemians, radicals and rogues. I look forward to our Quest rogues offering their experiences to enrich the presentation.

Presenter: Bob Reiss
Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss

THURSDAY, October 6 @ NOON - 12:45 P.M.

Course: ZOOMER LUNCH DISCUSSIONS (Zoom-only)
Room: No classroom, participants should use the auditorium link
Subject: Superstitions: Are you a believer?

At first glance if you asked us if we were superstitious, we would reply no, it's unscientific, not based on critical thought, and just plain mishegoss (craziness). But are some superstitions we follow based on logic and rational thought? Many of us are superstitious in our own small ways. We have these little notions of a particular color, number, object, or person being lucky or unlucky for us. We believe these little things can do us good or harm. None of us, we feel, are completely non-superstitious no matter how much we argue and reason against superstitious beliefs. These superstitions remain to be what they strangely are, our little support systems. Let's explore what is folklore versus reflections of truth that have morphed into traditions or rituals over time.

Discussion

Leaders: Sandy Frank and Glenn Johnston
Coordinators: Nina Dioletis, Sandy Frank, Glenn Johnston

THURSDAY, October 6 @ 1:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

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

Sharks have been around for a very long time: before people, before dinosaurs, even before trees. They have survived four major extinctions. They are some of the oldest vertebrate animals alive today, and also some of the most threatened. Despite this, they are misunderstood. Cows kill more people a year than sharks. The real shark story is about evolution, adaptation, and diversity.

Presenter: Marion Schultheis
Coordinators: Judy Weis, Pete Weis

Course: CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES (Hybrid)
Classroom: 27

1. “Houyhnhnm” by André Alexis

Presenter: Linda Downs

“Houyhnhnm,” titled after the intelligent horses in Jonathan Swift’s *Gulliver’s Travels*, was written by the Trinidadian Canadian writer André Alexis. It is about a father, then the son, who develop close relationships with a horse that they both believe can converse in English. Alexis has won many prizes for his novels including the highest Canadian literary prize, The Scotiabank Giller Prize in 2015 for his novel, *Fifteen Dogs*, which explores human and animal consciousness, death, and mourning.

2 “The Paper Menagerie” by Ken Liu

Presenter: Joan Vreeland

Ken Liu was born in 1976 in China and came to the US at age 11. He studied English literature and computer science at Harvard. He worked as a software engineer, then graduated from Harvard Law School. He began publishing fiction in 2002 and has written many short stories and novels. “The Paper Menagerie” is the first work of fiction to win all of the Nebula, Hugo, and World Fantasy Awards.

- **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**

Coordinators: Nancy Richardson, Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp

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

Room: Auditorium

Members will begin to work on dramatic monologues, as well as perform specific theater exercises.

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Art Spar

CULTUREQUEST

Friday, October 14th, 10:15 a.m. - 12:50 p. m.

BROOKLYN NAVY YARD: Past, Present & Future (In-Person Tour)

The Brooklyn Navy Yard has a long history. It was established in 1801 as a ship building site. The Yard supplied military ships for the Civil War, WWI and with great import for WW2. Today, however, it has become the center of great innovation and expansion. New tech and manufacturing businesses are flourishing. There are food courts (Russ and Daughters, Wegmans supermarket), roof gardens, and soaring employment. We will be guided into this complex and interesting history by our guide from Turnstile Tours.

We will meet promptly at the Wall Street-Pier 11 ferry landing at 10:15 am. Our guide will already have your one-way ferry tickets. It takes 12 minutes to get to the Navy Yard. On the tour we will be walking 1.5

miles. There are places to sit as well as restrooms. All visitors are required to wear a mask while indoors, which includes the Museum in Building 92. The tour will conclude at approximately 12:50 pm.

COST: \$20.00 (Tour \$16 + \$4 one-way ferry ticket). Limited to 20 people. To reserve your place, please follow these two (2) steps:

- **Send an email asap to Lois Klein, loisnataliek@gmail.com. First come, first served. We will have a waitlist.**
- **Make out a check to Quest for \$20.00, put it in an envelope marked CultureQuest and place it in the CultureQuest mailbox in the Office**

IMPORTANT: Please sign up only if you intend to come. We will have a wait list. Anyone who doesn't show or fails to cancel will only be placed on future wait lists when they sign up to attend another CultureQuest tour.

Thank you for your understanding.

We hope to gather at Il Porto Italian restaurant across from the Yard after the tour for good food and conversation! Let me know if you wish to join us for lunch.