

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

October 17 – 20, 2022

This is an “A” Week

Instructions for Zoom Classes

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, October 17 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: CLASSIC ROCK ALBUMS (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Album: For the People in the Last Hard Town by Tom T. Hall (1973)

Tom T. Hall is recognized as one of the most unique and talented songwriters in country music. More to the point he is a ‘storyteller’ who has that special ability to take simple, everyday happenings and make them into something special. His song "Harper Valley PTA" was a world-wide hit for Jeannie C. Riley. It would be true to say that Tom T. Hall was responsible for turning many people (including our presenter Bob Reiss) on to country music.

“For the People in the Last Hard Town” features Hall’s biggest-selling hit as a solo artist “I Love” which went to #1 on the country charts. Hall wrote every song on the album except one and the record is Hall's homage to the townspeople he encountered while touring.

Presenter: Bob Reiss

Coordinators: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter

Course: HUCKLEBERRY FINN (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Many important themes of Mark Twain’s novel are presented in Chapters VIII – XVIII as Huck tries to make sense of the racial society he observes around him, and what he has been taught about right and wrong. Huck repeatedly lies and steals. What do we think of this behavior? Huck and Jim work strategically together to successfully manage their escape on the Mississippi River. However, Huck plays a mean trick on Jim. What do you think motivates him to do this? How does Jim respond to it, how does Huck feel afterwards and what does he do? What critical decision does Huck make but that he never carries out? What is the traumatic, heart-breaking experience Huck has while he is staying with the Grangerfords?

Discussion Leaders: Lynnel Garabedian, Sandy Kessler

MONDAY, October 17 @ NOON. – 12:45 P.M.

Course: LUNCHTIME ACTIVITY MUSIC OF THE HEART (In-person only)

Room: 15-17

Come listen to late Strauss...early Nina Simone! Enjoy music? Have a favorite piece? Please share it with fellow Questers in this new project. It can be any genre...any artist...any period...no longer than 6 minutes or so. You will introduce your selection (with a couple of slides if you like) and most important...tell us where and when you first encountered it and *why it resonates for you emotionally*. Then we will listen and enjoy a brief discussion. Two participants per session.

Send your ideas to Frank Montaturo...at: pepito0201@gmail.com

Presenters: Frank Montaturo, Marian Friedmann

Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine

MONDAY, October 17 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: COMEDY AND SATIRE (In-person only)

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Classical Music Comedienne Anna Russell

What would you do if you trained to be a classical opera singer but didn't have the chops? Comedy! In the 1950s-early '60s, Anna Russell recorded a series of five albums on Columbia Records, featuring classic routines such as "How To Write Your Own Gilbert & Sullivan Opera," a complete analysis of Wagner's *Ring Of The Nibelungs*, and "For Loud Singers With No Brains."

We'll listen to some recordings and watch some videos of Anna Russell live in concert.

Presenters: Steve Koenig, Victor Brener

Coordinators: Wayne Cotter, Leslie Goldman, Michael Wellner

Course: SCIENCE AND SCIENTISTS (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 27

Subject: The Air Traffic Control System

"The primary purpose of the [air traffic control] system is to prevent a collision involving aircraft operating in the system.

In addition to its primary purpose, the ATC system also:

- Provides a safe, orderly, and expeditious flow of air traffic.**
- Supports National Security and Homeland Defense missions." —from FAA Order 7110.65Z**

Our presenter, Quest member Andrew Epstein, was an air traffic controller for 23 years and 8 months. He will talk about how air traffic control works, how it got to be that way, possible futures, and maybe some anecdotes along the way.

Presenter: Andrew Epstein

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

Course: CONTEMPORARY POETRY (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Poems written in the 30s

How does the poetry of an era reflect the time period in which it was written? In this class, we will consider poems written in the 30s, time of The Great Depression. You will receive poetry suggestions in a separate email. Select one to read aloud, tell us about the author in five minutes or less and let's discuss it. Poems from other eras are welcome too. Let us know what you will read to be included in the poetry packet. Email mdrezin@aol.com

Coordinators: Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Frieda Lipp, Sheryl Harawitz

TUESDAY, October 18 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Empowering Women: The UN Champions Global Gender Equality

Many are astonished to learn of the United Nation's involvement in women's empowerment from its October 1945 inception right up to the present. After all, criticism of the world body is pervasive so how can it be that these international diplomats care about the issues of women and girls? Yet, in truth, the UN has been at the forefront of championing global gender equality and women's empowerment. The current UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has stated that "achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls is the unfinished business of our time and the greatest human rights challenge in our world." Join us, I think you'll be inspired.

A special treat: The current chair of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women will be there to report on the March 2022 Commission deliberations and the parallel NGO Forum.

Please wear your brightest ORANGE outfit or ORANGE accessories to our session to "stand out" against the global scourge of Violence Against Women and Girls.

Presenter: Madeleine Brecher

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

Course: ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Moliere's *The Misanthrope*

Come watch Moliere's masterpiece, *The Misanthrope*, a 17th-century comedy about Alceste, a misanthrope, who condemns French society for what he considers its insincerity.

The play has been translated into verse that is both clever and witty by Nobel Prize-winning poet Richard Wilbur. Members of the class will perform *The Misanthrope*, followed by a discussion about the play.

Presenters: Helen Saffran, Art Spar

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

TUESDAY, October 18 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.

Course: CONVERSATIONS EN FRANÇAIS (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 27

En 2016, l'Académie suédoise a décerné le prix Nobel de littérature à l'emblématique Bob Dylan (né en 1941). Nous discuterons des raisons pour lesquelles ils ont décerné ce prix à cet auteur-compositeur-interprète, des réactions et commentaires de certains auteurs et observateurs, et de la propre réponse de Dylan.

In 2016 the Swedish Academy awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature to the iconic Bob Dylan (born 1941). We will discuss their reasons for giving this award to this singer-songwriter, the reactions and comments of some writers and observers, and Dylan's own response.

Presenter: Laura Lopez

Coordinators: Ruth Ward, Donna Basile

TUESDAY, October 18 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: THE FABULOUS FIFTIES (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Subject: The Forgotten War: Korea 1950-1953

Join us as we examine the origins and forces, both historical and political, that converged to bring about this war ---- first in our history that we did not win! How did we get involved in a war over a remote peninsula on the Asian mainland that most Americans had never heard of? What was at stake in the conflict? What role did the UN play? What were the human costs to the adversaries and the civilian population? How was the U.S. different at the end of the conflict? Could the war have been avoided? And, to what extent might Russian behavior in the war have been a predictor of its current invasion of Ukraine? This presentation should provoke a lively discussion.

Presenter: John Spiegel

Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Ellen Gottfried, Bob Gottfried

Course: CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP (In-person only)

(NOTE: This class runs until 3 p.m.)

Room: Room 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. Please bring 12 copies of writing you wish to share with the class. 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

Class will read Chapter XIX up to Chapter XXIV or if using Penguin Classic edition pages 165 to 210 and be prepared to discuss society's unwritten rules and Undine's behavior.

Coordinators: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga

WEDNESDAY, October 19 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

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

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Reason and Romanticism in German Culture

Historians of Western Civilization often ask why Germany, with such an embedded culture of humanism and belief in individual freedom, could sink into the abyss of barbarism and cruelty that obliterated German culture, destroyed Germany itself and half of Europe as well. Germans, including German Jews, declared their culture superior to those of the rest of Europe. Yet this superior humanistic culture seemed impervious to the dehumanization of peoples everywhere. What went wrong?

We shall explore the development of German secular culture and thinking from the Age of Reason and the Enlightenment onward. We will make comparisons of German culture to that of Great Britain, France, and the United States. We shall try to see if German culture and thinking contributed to or mitigated this descent into madness or

at the very least try to understand why Germany departed so easily from the rule of law and reason.

Presenter: David Grossman

Coordinators: Caroline Thompson, Steve Allen, Linda Downs

Course: SHAKESPEARE *(In-person only)*

Room: Classroom 15-17

Play: Richard II

The class will read aloud beginning with Act I Scene 4. We will take note of the beautiful verse of the play and especially the speech by John of Gaunt that includes praising England as being an “Eden” and “demi-paradise.”

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Ellie Schaffer

WEDNESDAY, October 19 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.

Course: SYMPOSIUM *(In-person only)*

Room: Classroom 27

Subject: What Is Justice

Some equate justice with fairness. For this lunchtime discussion we will tackle the concepts of justice and fairness. Just follow the news and you will find that most issues (e.g., personal freedom to vaccinate or not, student loan forgiveness, reparations, migrants, the homeless, changes in bail laws, income inequality, congestion pricing) deal with the application of justice and fairness. There are usually several sides to every issue. Everyone wants to be treated fairly but solutions don't come easily. Think about what justice or fairness means to you and if and how we can apply it in our divided country.

Presenter: Mary Ann Donnelly

Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Donna Ramer, Mary Ann Donnelly

WEDNESDAY, October 19 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: INDIE FILMS (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

The three films to be reviewed are:

ELVIS presented by Michele Mackey and is streaming on HBO MAX

This film tells the story of Elvis Presley, played by Austin Butler, through his long-term crooked manager, played by Tom Hanks, who tries to set the record straight when he was accused by the press of his misdeeds. Butler will bring you back to the star's heyday.

THE GOOD BOSS presented by Gale Spitalnik and is playing at the QUAD and the NEW PLAZA CINEMA. (Check before you go)

Javier Bardem stars in this Spanish language satire as the head of a factory that manufactures scales. In an attempt to win an award for business excellence he meddles in the lives of his employees under the guise of being one big family.

THIRTEEN LIVES presented by Hedy Shulman and is streaming on AMAZON PRIME

Ron Howard directed this this thrilling depiction of 12 young soccer players and their coach who were trapped in a cave in Thailand in 2018. You will be sitting on the edge of your seat with bated breath throughout the film

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

Course: FOLK MUSIC (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 27

Subject: Peter, Paul and Mary

Remember when we thought if we sang the right songs loudly and often there would be justice and peace? We are older and wiser now, but if you come to this class, you can sing along with Peter, Paul and Mary and relive your childhood dreams.

Presenter: Ellen Gottfried

Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Ellen Gottfried

WEDNESDAY October 19 @ 2:30 – 3:30 P.M.

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

Room: Classroom 27

Subject: Subject: Use of dashes in Emily poems

Emily Dickinson's frequent use of the em dash (the size of the letter "m") stands out in her work. For example:

**It's such a little thing to weep –
So short a thing to sigh –
And yet – by Trades – the size of these
We men and women die!**

Send me one Emily poem that you like or can't make heads or tails of – it will likely have dashes - and help us figure out why she used them. Send your Emily poem to: mdrezin@aol.com.

Presenter: Joyce West

Coordinators: Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Sheryl Harawitz

THURSDAY, October 20 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: AGING *(Hybrid)*

Room: 15-17

Subject: The Biology of Aging

Biology is destiny. Or is it? Although our genes are in charge, outside influences (environmental, diet, even psychological) play a role in aging. These outside influences are under our control to a large extent in determining our longevity. How? Details will be provided.

Presenter: Pete Weis

Coordinators: Art Spar, Bryn Meehan, Larry Shapiro

Course: NEW YORK CITY NEIGHBORHOODS (In-person only)

Room: 27

Subject: Park Slope

Park Slope, Brooklyn is a beautiful and varied NYC neighborhood. Alongside the magnificent Prospect Park, the area is home to extravagant Victorian brownstone mansions as well as working class multi- and single-family homes. It has gone through ups and downs since the beginning of its development in the 1860's. Join me as we walk its streets and learn what makes this area still tick.

Presenter: Sandra Abramson

Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss

THURSDAY, October 20 @ NOON – 12:45

Course: ZOOMER LUNCH DISCUSSIONS (Zoom-only)

Room: no classroom, participants should use the auditorium link

Bob Reiss will give a short presentation on a recent book by Becca Levy, *Breaking the Age Code: How Your Beliefs About Aging Determine How Long & Well You Live*. The book discusses how our attitude towards the ageing process influences our health and longevity.

Coordinators: Nina Dioletis, Sandy Frank, Glenn Johnston

THURSDAY, October 20 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: WATER (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Water Supply II - Water Quality

The provision of clean drinking water and its protection by adequate sewage disposal were the most significant contributions to increased public health, outweighing the contributions of improvements in medicine and housing, and resulting in a significant increase in human longevity. But it's still a major issue in the developing nations; and even in the U.S. it may become a problem again now that the Clean Water Act is before the Supreme Court.

Presenter: Pete Weis

Coordinators: Judy Weis, Pete Weis

Course: CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES (Hybrid)

Room: 27

Stories to read

1. "Culinary Lesson" by

Rosario Castellanos

Presenter: Sheilah Serfaty

Rosario Castellanos (1925 –1974) was a Mexican poet and author, one of Mexico's most important literary voices in the last century. Throughout her life, she wrote eloquently about issues of cultural and gender oppression, and her work has influenced Mexican feminist theory and cultural studies. (Wikipedia)

2. "A Private Experience" by Chimamanda Adiche Presenter:

Gloria Peropat

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (born 1977) is a Nigerian writer of novels, short stories, and nonfiction. Described as most prominent of a procession of critically acclaimed young anglophone authors who are attracting a new generation of readers to African literature,

particularly in her second home, the U.S. Adichie wrote the novels “Purple Hibiscus” (2003), “Half of a Yellow Sun” (2006), and “Americanah” (2013). (*Wikipedia*)

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

Class members will present monologues and discuss building a character and the value of working with objects.

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Art Spar

CultureQuest

Friday, October 28, 11:00 am

EDWARD HOPPER'S NEW YORK

WHITNEY MUSEUM

99 Gansevoort Street, NYC

(IN-PERSON TOUR WITH DOCENT LINDA SWEET)

The city of New York was Edward Hopper's home for nearly six decades (1908-67), a period that spans his entire mature career and coincides with a historic time of urban development. As skyscrapers punctuated the skyline and elevated trains and construction sites roared below, Hopper's New York betrays only glimpses of the broader

changes underfoot. His city was human-scale, decidedly non-iconic and largely rooted in a past that had fallen out of step with the present; “I just never cared for the vertical,” Hopper reflected in 1956. This exhibition will be the first of its kind to focus on Hopper’s rich and sustained relationship with New York: how the city served as the subject, setting and inspiration for so many of the artist’s most celebrated and persistently vexing pictures.

Edward Hopper’s New York will take a comprehensive look at Hopper’s life and work through his city pictures, from his early impressions of New York in sketches, prints and illustrations, to his late paintings, in which the city served as a backdrop for his evocative distillations of urban experience. Drawing from the Whitney’s extensive holdings by the artist and amplified by key loans, the exhibition will bring together many of Hopper’s iconic city pictures as well as several lesser known yet critically important examples. The presentation will be significantly informed by a variety of materials from the Museum’s recently acquired Sanborn Hopper Archive- printed ephemera, correspondence, photographs, and journals that together inspire new insights into Hopper’s life in the city. By exploring the artist’s work through the lens of New York, this exhibition offers a fresh take on this formidable figure and considers the city itself as a lead actor.

COST: Free entry with Quest/CUNY ID or Whitney Membership Card/ or AAM or UCOM Membership Card/ or Senior ticket \$18

To reserve your place, please send an email asap to Linda Downs (ladowns18@gmail.com).

Limited to 25 participants. Linda will 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 consideration.

THE WHITNEY STUDIO BAR IS AVAILABLE FOR LUNCH.