

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

November 14 – 18, 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, November 14 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: CLASSIC ROCK ALBUMS (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Album: “Genuine Negro Jig” by The Carolina Chocolate Drops

Genuine Negro Jig explores a near-forgotten brand of banjo-driven string-band music originating more than a century ago in the foothills of North Carolina. The album includes a mixture of traditional folk songs, early 20th century “Race” music, and recent pieces.

The Carolina Chocolate Drops are one of the few black string bands playing today; this album won a 2010 Grammy Award in the best traditional folk album category. One of the three founders of the Chocolate Drops is Rhiannon Giddens, who has been described as “an electrifying artist who brings alive the memories of forgotten predecessors, white and black.”

Presenter: Mary Beth Yakoubian

Coordinators: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter

Course: HUCKLEBERRY FINN (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 15-17

We will begin class by covering Chapters XXIV – XXVII, which we did not have time for during the last class, before going on to Chapters XXVIII – XXXVII. Chapter XXXI is generally considered to be the most important chapter of the book. Huck has a painful crisis of conscience as he weighs the Christian doctrine and rules of Southern society he has been taught against his own strong instincts of justice and compassion. He makes two critical decisions with regard to Jim. What are they? The king and duke caused a lot of trouble for Huck and Jim, and Huck knows very well they are scoundrels. How does he feel, however, when he sees them cruelly punished? Tom Sawyer comes

back into the story with ridiculous schemes. What do we think of them and the way he treats Huck?

Discussion Leaders: Lynnel Garabedian, Sandy Kessler

MONDAY, November 14 @ 12:10 P.M. – 12:50 P.M.

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

Room: 15-17

Andrea will introduce “And The Band Played Waltzing Matilda” as part of her exploration of AUSTRALIA: DOWN UNDER.

Ze’eva will discuss an excerpt from a Dvorak piece that she first heard as a teenager in Tel Aviv, Israel. Listening to this music opened a new way of feeling and understanding the capacity of music to provide an imaginary and much-needed space - as if time could stop right there. Two different interpretations of the same excerpt will be played.

Presenters: Andrea Irvine, Ze’eva Cohen

Coordinators: Frank Montaturo, Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine

MONDAY, November 14 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: COMEDY AND SATIRE (In-person only)

Room: Auditorium

Subject: French Humor

French humor may not be fully understood or appreciated outside of its borders - one of the reasons being language, which sometimes makes it difficult for non-French speakers to understand. We'll discuss some of the quirks and codes connected to its language and culture

From Moliere to Netflix, we'll explore the roots of French humor through the years and the look at some examples in theater, opera, media, movies, TV and the current popularity of standup comedy in France.

We'll also highlight some offerings you may want to further explore on your own, that are currently available, on streaming platforms and other sources.

And if you want a head start, check out the French comedy series “Call My Agent” on Netflix prior to the class.

Presenter: Paul Adler

Coordinators: Wayne Cotter, Leslie Goldman, Michael Wellner

Course: SCIENCE AND SCIENTISTS (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 27

Subject: The Institute for Advanced Study

The Institute for Advanced Study (IAS), knowledge for the sake of knowledge, was incorporated in 1930. How did it start and what was it supposed to be about? Albert Einstein, the most famous scientist in the world, was recruited, and announced the IAS early star power. Subsequently, many prestigious and colorful members joined. The evolution of the IAS will be traced. Some of the major accomplishments and criticisms (you may be surprised by whom), will be included.

Presenter: Mark Cardillo

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

Course: CONTEMPORARY POETRY (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Modern poetry can be demanding and can challenge and sometimes baffle the reader. New forms, approaches to line breaks and spacing are only just a few of the components to consider. Do you have to know what a villanelle, tanka, and erasure is to fully appreciate it? How might one approach and find a poem’s meaning?

Presenter: Ellen Rittenberg

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

TUESDAY, November 15 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Pakistan

Since 1956, Pakistan has had 13 Presidents, 3 military coups, assassinations, political corruption, internal and external upheaval, Afghanistan's 20-year war, next door, Al Qaeda and terrorism, wars with India, and, not to be ignored, nuclear capability. Throughout this chaotic history, the United States has been involved, but with its own interests at the base of its policy with Pakistan, principally military. Pakistan's democracy is again under trial. The United States has been one of Pakistan's major benefactors but is equally responsible for its malfunction. Now, a policy change is essential.

It has been a fascinating 6 months of researching!

Presenter: Sandy Gordon

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

Course: ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: "The Ballad of Reading Gaol" by Oscar Wilde

Oscar Wilde's "The Ballad of Reading Gaol" was written after he was released from prison and living in poverty in Paris. What is the true

story behind this poem? Why did Wilde write about this event and being a prisoner? The events leading up to his imprisonment and our own exclusive interview with Wilde will highlight the reasons for his imprisonment and discuss his experiences in Reading Gaol. During this session we will also talk about his death and internment in Pere Lachaise Cemetery in Paris (one of my favorite cemeteries).

Presenter: Joyce Hinote

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

TUESDAY, November 15 @ NOON – 12:50P.M.

Course: CONVERSATIONS EN FRANÇAIS (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 27

L'été passé j'ai passé deux semaines en France avec ma famille à l'invitation de ma nièce, Aline. Nous étions d'abord à Paris, puis sur la Côte d'Azur, où ma nièce et son mari ont trois maisons. Nous avons visité les jolis petits villages à proximité. C'était comme être dans un beau film, et un moment très heureux pour moi parce que j'étais avec les gens que j'aime le plus au monde.

Last summer I spent two weeks in France with my family at the invitation of my niece, Aline. We were first in Paris, then on the Côte d'Azur, where my niece and her husband have three houses. We visited pretty little towns nearby. It was like being in a beautiful movie, and a very happy moment for me because I was with the people I love the most in the world.

Presenter: Lynnel Garabedian

Coordinators: Ruth Ward, Donna Basile

TUESDAY, November 15 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: THE FABULOUS FIFTIES (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Movies of the Fifties

Many of us have favorite movies dating to the 1950s. Some of the best films were made in this decade, which saw the release of many memorable movies of all types - Westerns, thrillers, comedies, dramas, romances and musicals. Come join us as we revisit some of them.

Presenter: Laura Lopez

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

- **Open to all writing genres.**
- **Keep prose to under 750 words or create multiple parts to share over a few classes.**
- **Class begins with a ten-minute free-writing exercise (sharing is optional).**
- **Bring a notebook for in-class writing.**

Bring 12 copies of your writing.

In this class we will be thinking about how to make our characters more interesting, by looking at their behavior, mannerisms, and how they interact with other people.

Presenter: Judy Hampson

Coordinators: Helen Saffran, Judy Hampson, Donna Ramer

Course: READING EDITH WHARTON (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 27

The class will read Chapter XXXI to Chapter XXXIX or in Penguin Classic edition pages 256 to 309 and discuss what you think will happen or should happen to Undine.

Coordinators: Patricia Geehr, Arlene Curinga

WEDNESDAY, November 16 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: HISTORY OF GERMANY (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Fin de Siècle Vienna.

In 1918, at the close of World War I, the Hapsburg Empire came to an end, after 500 years of playing a prominent role in European history. But in the decades immediately preceding its end, known as the “fin de siècle” (French for “turn of the century”), Vienna, the capital city of the Hapsburg Empire, witnessed an amazing burst of creativity and conflict with a lasting impact on all of Europe and the World. Examples of leading cultural figures were Sigmund Freud, the painter Gustav Klimt, the composers Gustav Mahler and Alban Berg, the writers Stefan Zweig and Arthur Schnitzler, the philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein, and the journalist turned leader of the Zionist movement Theodor Herzl. At the same time, popular politics in Vienna was becoming dominated by intense nationalism, rejection of cosmopolitan ideas, and fierce antisemitism. It was in this turbulent atmosphere that a 16-year-old Adolph Hitler came to Vienna in 1907 as a “starving artist” aspiring to be a painter.

Presenter: Steve Allen

Coordinators: Caroline Thompson, Steve Allen, Linda Downs

Course: SHAKESPEARE (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Play: Richard II

The class will read aloud and discuss Act IV of Richard II which continues themes of the legitimacy and illegitimacy of power, rivalry, pride, and moral struggles, as well as the deposition of a monarch. As the only Shakespeare play written in complete verse, the class will note the ongoing poetical language.

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Jim Brook, Ellie Schaffer

WEDNESDAY, November 16 @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.

Course: SYMPOSIUM (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 27

Subject: Good Wives/Bad Wives

The word “wife” describes a person, traditionally and today, as a woman, solely in her relationship to a man, her husband. A wife can be a good wife or a bad wife. I am going to start by looking at the woman for whom I am named, Penelope, wife of Odysseus, who had waited for his return from war for 20 years. She was a faithful, perfect wife, waiting patiently and chastely, weaving every day to keep her many suitors at bay. That was Greek Homer’s story. Eight centuries later, the Roman poet Ovid, had a different story. Penelope wrote a letter to her husband, letting him know in no uncertain words that she was fed up, and angry at his dalliance, abandoning her in a lonely cold bed. She was writing her own story. Good wife or bad wife? We might look at Dorothea in Middlemarch, and maybe at Hillary Clinton. These stories should lead to a good discussion about these old and current expectations of wives.

.Presenter: Penelope Pi-Sunyer

Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Donna Ramer, Mary Ann Donnelly

WEDNESDAY, November 16 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: INDIE FILMS (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

We'll start with **Lois Cardillo** reviewing the chilling movie: **"THE GOOD NURSE"** Nurse Amy Loughren, (Jessica Chastain) is shocked when Charlie Cullen, (Eddie Redmayne) one of her colleagues, is found responsible for the murder of dozens of patients for sixteen years, across two states and nine hospitals, without being charged. (Rotten Tomatoes: 78...Stream it on NETFLIX)

Next, see who truly dominated **"THE HOUSE OF GUCCI."** **Stan Lieblein** will disclose that when Patrizia Reggiani, (Lady Gaga) an outsider from humble beginnings, marries the Gucci family, their culture is upended. Her uninhibited ambition begins to unravel their legacy and triggers a reckless spiral of betrayal, decadence, revenge, and ultimately, murder. (Rotten Tomatoes: 83.Stream it on PRIME, VUDU, PARAMOUNT)

In our final selection, **Bobbie Gold** will review **"SIDNEY"** (POITIER) This new film rises above the usual bio-doc thru the ardent tributes from the many generations affected by his roles as a different kind of black actor, and folks like Harry Belafonte who was right there with him. (Rotten Tomatoes: 91 Stream it on APPLE)

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

Course: FOLK MUSIC (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Phil Ochs

In 1965, folk singer/songwriter/activist Phil Ochs wrote, "I want to be destroyed by art. I want to hear work that is so good poetically, so exciting musically, so original in arrangement and execution that it can

turn me inside out with the communication of feeling. It is perhaps the foundation of my career to utilize the highest levels of artistic social realism to carry topical songs to that point and beyond. Can an artist be satisfied with any less of a goal?" It's a tall order. Come listen and see whether you think he got there. And whatever happened to him, anyway?

Presenter: June Jacobson

Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Ellen Gottfried

WEDNESDAY November 16 @ 2:30 – 3:30 P.M.

Course: EMILY DICKINSON CIRCLE (In-person only)

Room: 27

Subject: Emily Poems

Why is it that Emily Dickinson, 1830-1886, never goes out of style? How does she manage to remain forever modern? Come sit with us, read her poems and enjoy the richness of a fully realized inner world. We will be mostly reading from "Poems by Emily Dickinson," published by the Emily Dickinson Museum and available on their website. Please select one or two Emily poems you'd like to discuss.

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

THURSDAY, November 17 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: AGING (Hybrid)

Room: 15-17

Subject: Beliefs of Aging

This presentation describes the thesis in a recent book by Yale Prof. Becca Levy, *Breaking the Age Code: How Your Beliefs About Aging Determine How Long & How Well You Live*. The book discusses how our attitude towards the aging process influences our health and longevity. She attributes the longer lifespans enjoyed in Japan at least in part due to their society's positive attitude toward seniors. She also describes interventions that changed the outlook of seniors towards aging and in so doing saw improvements in various aspects of their health, well-being and longevity.

Presenter: Bob Reiss

Coordinators: Art Spar, Bryn Meehan, Larry Shapiro

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

Room: 27

Subject: Fort Greene

**"Convoluting, the saga of Fort Greene decodes a human genome that comprises the patriotism of our forebears, the might of men, horses and steel, a spectrum of performing arts, and an architectural scene that makes the eye smile."
(Howard Pitsch)**

Fort Greene is an untouched oasis of land surrounded by considerable change. It is the scene of a significant portion of America's history. a heinous war crime, and a birth, demise and rebirth of a special place.

Presenter: Doreen De Martini

Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss

THURSDAY, November 17 @ NOON – 12:45

Course: ZOOMER LUNCH DISCUSSIONS (Zoom-only)

Room: no classroom, participants should use the auditorium link

Subject: Chautauqua, A "Brigadoon":

With the physical setting of a small town, with homes, some dating from the late 1800's, surrounding a central plaza, with a water fountain that often has young children dipping their toes and squealing with joy, you have the feeling of being in a Norman Rockwell calendar.

This is a place removed from the world's pace, that emphasizes learning, peaceful reflection, and offers a quality buffet of speakers, music, dance, art, writing, opera, and theater, with a diverse community that shares the beauty of this natural setting on Lake Chautauqua in summer.

Truly, a Brigadoon!

Presenter: Sandy Gordon

Coordinators: Nina Dioletis, Sandy Frank, Glenn Johnston

THURSDAY, November 17 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: WATER (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Water and Music

“Water get no enemy,” Fela Kuti. Every culture in this world produces music, and every culture has music about water. Dances and symphonies, work songs and love songs, rituals, portraits in music, prayers and praise and purification, ancient and contemporary. For the sake of discussion, I propose that this music reveals something about the societies that created it. I've taken an immersive listening journey to look for music I would like to share and discuss. I also invite anyone reading this to send me links to music about water that I could add to the playlist.

Presenter: Larry Shapiro

Coordinators: Judy Weis, Pete Weis

Course: CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES (Hybrid)

Room: 27

1. “Passion” by Alice Munro

Presenter Anita Hunter

Alice Munro: If you’ve ever dated someone you did not quite connect with, you’ve already experienced something like what Alice Munro writes about in her short story “Passion.” Alice Munro is a Canadian short story writer, 91 years of age, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature and much admired by her thousands of fans and other writers.

2. “Occupational Hazards” by Jamil Kochai

Presenter: Ze’eva Cohen

Jamil Jan Kochai (born 1992) is an Afghani/American writer born in an Afghani refugee camp in Pakistan. He won the O. Henry Award prize for his first book, “99 Nights in Logar” (1999). His second book was published this past summer. “Occupational Hazards” is from the May 2022 New Yorker.

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 continue working on dramatic monologues and theater exercises.

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Art Spar

CultureQuest

**ZOOM TOUR OF EDWARD HOPPER'S NEW
YORK EXHIBITION
AT THE WHITNEY MUSEUM**

**Whitney docent, Linda Sweet has graciously agreed to give an all-
Quest member zoom tour on:**

Friday, November 18th at 10:00 am.

Participants should use the auditorium link

**We thank Linda Sweet for agreeing to present on zoom and we thank
Bob Reiss for officiating the zoom tour and working overtime.**

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!