

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

November 28 – December 2, 2022

This is a B 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 28 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: **THE NEAR EAST** (*In-person only*)
Room: Auditorium
Subject: Syria

Syria has been in the news quite frequently recently, but what do we know about its history? Come to the Near East course and learn about more than 2000 years of Syria's past. Discover how Syria came to be the country it is today.

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

Course: **CONTEMPORARY BRITISH CULTURE** (*Hybrid*)
Room: Classroom 15/17
Subject: From Head to Toe: The British Influence

From historic Saville Row to the Carnaby Street of the '60s and today's young designers, Britain has been setting fashion trends for decades. Join us as we explore the London fashion scene and how its diverse array of style and design has influenced what we wore then and what we wear now, from our heads to our toes.

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

MONDAY, November 28 @ 12:10 – 12:50 P.M.

Course: **BOOK TALKS** (*In-person only*)
Room: Classroom 15/17

This is not your typical book group!

We don't all read the same book, but instead, share great book suggestions with other participants and just talk about books. This is a great meeting for readers who are looking for new authors or genres or simply like to talk about books.

Presenter: Kathy Cook

Coordinators: Andrea Irvine, Sheryl Harawitz

MONDAY, November 28 @ 1:00– 2:30 P.M.

Course: GREAT PLAYS (In-person only)

Room: Auditorium

Play: A MOON FOR THE MISBEGOTTEN: Act Three

Actors: Frieda Lipp, Peter Dichter

Eugene O'Neill is unquestionably one of a half dozen all time great American playwrights. And in the early 20th Century, he was the first to consider the stage a literary medium deserving of serious ideas. Previous American theatre was largely melodrama and farce. MOON 1943 was O'Neill's last fully completed play. Initially unfavorably received when first produced in 1947, it has come to be considered among his greats. Along with *ICEMAN COMETH* and *LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT* it is one of his three autobiographical works. The Jim Tyrone character in MOON also appears in the earlier work *LONG DAY'S JOURNEY* and is based on O'Neill's older brother who died of alcoholism. There have been numerous notable productions. Perhaps the most acclaimed was in 1973 with Jason Robards, Coleen Dewhurst and Ed Flanders.

Presented by: Frieda Lipp

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Wayne Cotter, Frieda Lipp

Course: PRESENTER'S SHOWCASE (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: “Mothers of Israel”, a modern theatrical dance rooted in the Judeo/Yemenite music and dance culture of Israel.

Ze’eva Cohen’s will trace via photographs, music, videos and a short lecture, the evolution of the Yemenite immigrants’ authentic traditions and their influence on the Israeli folk dance, concert music, and theatrical modern performances.

The presentation will include the screening of “Mothers of Israel”, as performed by Ze’eva Cohen, and choreographed by the legendary Yemenite/Israeli, dance/ theater artist, Margalit Oved. The choreography delineates the Hebrew Bible’s Matriarchs —Sarah, Rebecca, Leah, and Rachel, in a defining moment that shaped their life. This dance was supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For Ze’eva Cohen, it was interesting to assess the receptivity of audiences to this dance and its authentic Arabic and Hebrew music.

Could they see and relate to its humanity and beauty regardless of its foreignness?

Presenter: Ze’eva Cohen

Coordinators: Joyce West, Steve Allen, Caroline Thompson

TUESDAY, November 29 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Subject: Staged Photography

Andrea will introduce us to the history of ‘Staged Photography’ - tracing it from Greek Theater, to Tableau Vivant so popular in the Victorian Age to the 19th century works of Hippolyte Bayard & Henry Peach Robinson, to the great photographers/thinkers/writers

Beaumont Newhall & Roland Barthes, to Cindy Sherman and finally bringing us to her guy - Gregory Crewdson and his amazing works which he is still creating in Western Massachusetts.

Presenter: Andrea Irvine

Coordinators: Linda Downs, Bob Reiss, Lynnel Garabedian

Course: **MOVERS AND SHAKERS (*In-person only*)**

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Ralph Lauren: How a Working-Class Kid from the Bronx Became an American Icon and Billionaire

Ralph Lauren, one of the country's most recognizable and lauded designers, oversees a multi-billion-dollar global fashion empire. The very definition of a self-made man, he achieved his ambitions in life by relying on his confidence, risk-taking, and innate sense of taste. His influence on American fashion and culture is immense: his impact extends beyond the way we dress, to the ads we see, the sheets and pillows we sleep on, and the way retailers market to consumers.

The presentation will take you from his Bronx origins to early business success. With the introduction of his distinctive necktie, he launched a fashion empire built on the aspirations and dreams of American consumers. In a career of many firsts, he democratized American fashion, making stylish clothes available at a range of price points. You'll also hear from his detractors and learn about what an iconic brand like Polo Ralph Lauren needs to do to stay relevant to younger generations of American consumers.

Presenter: Maureen Berman

Coordinators: Ellen Gottfried, Bob Gottfried

TUESDAY, November 29 @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: LAW AND ORDER (*Hybrid*)
Classroom: Auditorium
Subject: Using DNA to Solve Crimes

Almost every criminal leaves some genetic evidence at a crime scene, and it has become commonplace for the police to enter the information into a national database of people who have been arrested or convicted of a crime, find a match and make an arrest. Much more controversial is the newer technique of using genetic genealogy databases to locate often distant relatives and building a family tree which leads to a potential perpetrator. The police tout the success they have in solving cold crimes, while some individuals raise privacy concerns. This presentation discusses these issues.

Presenter: Ellen Gottfried
Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Bob Gottfried and David Judlowitz

Course: BLACK WOMEN'S VOICES (*In-person only*)
Room: Classroom 15-17
Subject: Toni Morrison
Formidable Black Woman, Novelist, Essayist and More

Did she write for Black people or White people? “For Black people,” she once said. “As a Black woman writing for an audience of readers like me,” she later said. Do you think she wrote for white people as well?

Toni Morrison was a reader who wrote openly about subjects most authors shy away from: racism, segregation, incest, rape, slavery, infanticide, exploitation, love, family, heritage and history. Her narratives wove together spirituality, African and southern folk tradition and myth. Most importantly, she wrote about the impact these topics had on the lives of Black individuals and communities.

I am going to focus on *The Bluest Eye*, Morrison's first novel that many of you have probably read, noting some of the critical points or themes that recur in many of her later books. Her writing is frequently dense; I recommend reading even a little of any one of her books to get the weight and the beauty of her style. Your understandings and comments on what her stories have meant to you are welcome.

Presenter: Penelope Pi-Sunyer

Coordinators: Ilene Winkler, Barbara Barnes, Susannah Falk Lewis, Penelope Pi-Sunyer

Course: CONTEMPORARY OPERA (*Zoom-only* Use Room 27 link to enter session)

Subject: *Quadrophenia* by Pete Townshend; performed by The Who.

***Quadrophenia* is set in London and Brighton in 1965. The existentialist story follows young mod Jimmy and his search for self-worth and importance, as he navigates motorcycles, girlfriends, drugs, parents, dead-end jobs, and a psychiatrist.**

This session we join Jimmy as he takes the 5:15 train up to the seaside resort Brighton to try to figure out where he belongs in the world.

Coordinators and Presenters (all Zoom): Steve Koenig, Frieda Lipp, Victor Brener

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

Course: FASCINATING NON-FICTION (*Hybrid*)
Room: Auditorium
Subject: Kitchen Confidential: Adventures in the Culinary Underbelly
By: Anthony Bourdain

NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED

In this autobiography (more or less), Anthony Bourdain tells us about the dark recesses of the restaurant underbelly; the true joys of making really good food at a professional level; the look and smell in the clatter and hiss of a big-city restaurant kitchen; and the strange delights of the language, patois and death's-head sense of humor on the front lines. He recounts a life in the restaurant business that is without "normal" social interaction. If you've ever eaten in a restaurant, you might want to dip into this book.

Presenter: Bob Reiss
Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward

Course: SOCRATES & THE PROBLEM OF PHILOSOPHY (*In-person only*)
Room: Classroom 15-17

In our next class, we will finish our discussion of Plato's Socrates by considering the last few paragraphs of the Crito and the "Death Scene" from the Phaedo.

We will then consider the critiques of Socratic philosophy presented in the writings of Augustine, Machiavelli, Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud. These critiques focus on the merits of Socratic morality and on Plato's view that reason as the highest human faculty can provide us with access to the truth.

Presenter: Sandy Kessler
Coordinators: Sandy Kessler, Steve Allen

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

Course: DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURER SERIES (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Speaker: Ivan Schwartz, Founder of StudioEIS

Subject: Michaelangelo Meets Rodin in the 21st Century and They Both Meet the Brooklyn Boy Who Loves American History

Ivan Schwartz is the founder and director of StudioEIS, which he founded in 1976. He is a sculptor, painter, and designer, with a keen interest in American history and the use of sculpture in the development of our national symbols. StudioEIS has now produced more important American History projects than any studio in U.S. history.

Ivan was the recipient of a distinguished alumni award from Boston University in 2003, and has shown his work in New York since 1981. He was a member of the Dean's Advisory Board at Boston University's College of Fine Arts until the end of 2009 and was also a founding board member of Art Omi, an international arts workshop.

Ivan's visual memoir, "Scratching the Surface," was published in 2021. In February of 2023, he has been invited to the University of Texas for a public discussion with Doris Kearns Goodwin on the subject of Abraham Lincoln.

Please join us as Ivan tells us about the monumental projects his studio has worked on and is planning to work on in the future.

Coordinators: Arlynn Greenbaum, Estelle Selzer, Karen Levin and Bob Reiss.

THURSDAY, December 1 @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

**Course: ACROSS THE UNIVERSE & AUSTRALIA: DOWN UNDER
(Hybrid)**

Classroom: Room 15-17

When you travel to the Southern hemisphere and then look up at the night sky, what can you see? This presentation will cover some of the more prominent objects in the "sky down under" as well as a look at the heavens from the aboriginal point of view.

Presenter: Michael Hamburg

The Australian government of the 1950's acceded to the UK's request for access to some places to test atomic bombs. Between 1952 and 1957 one-dozen bombs were exploded on Australian land. How was this agreed to? Was this considered safe? Were there any radiation casualties? Were there any political casualties? What are the lingering effects?

Presenter: Andrew Epstein

Coordinators: Michael Hamburg, Steve Allen, Andrea Irvine, Marion Schultheis, David Bartash

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

Course: CREATIVITY WORKSHOP (In-person only)

Classroom: Lunchroom

Subject: Working with Polymer Clay

Polymer clay, commonly known as Sculpey, is a synthetic modeling material that can be baked in a toaster oven.

Available in a wide range of colors, Sculpey provides diverse possibilities, especially for jewelry making, from creating realistic faux stones to intricate floral patterns.

In this class, we will watch a demo and practice some basic techniques using Sculpey Premo polymer clay.

Presenter: Mary Beth Yakoubian

Coordinators: Mary Ann Donnelly, Beth Callender

Course: GREAT CONVERSATIONS (Hybrid)

Room: Classroom 15-17

Subject: Hecuba by Euripedes (part II)

Hecuba, one of the most tragic figures in classical literature, is portrayed as a helpless victim of the degradation caused by war. Men's violence against women in the first half of the play turns into women's violence against men in the second half. How do we judge her character and actions as she becomes an inexorable force of vengeance?

We continue our reading and discussion (p.27) copies available in lunchroom file.

Discussion leader: Jane Lubin

Coordinators: Jane Lubin, Larry Shapiro

Course: POETS' WORKSHOP (In-person only)

Room: Classroom 27 (Note: This class ends at 3 p.m.)

Write a poem using the cue word "knot" or a word of the poet's choice. Authors will read their poems and bring copies of each poem to the class for a second reading by a classmate. A discussion of the poem will follow.

Coordinators: Judith Winn, Judy Hampson, Helen Saffran

THURSDAY, December 1 @ 2:45 P.M.

Course: **SOLE MATES (*In-person only*)**
Our Q'xtra Fortnightly event in "B" Week

Meet: by elevators on 7th floor. Marian Friedmann, Andrea Irvine & Laura Lopez will lead us on our FIFTH walk along the Hudson River.

Leaving Quest at 2:45, we will proceed to Battery Park and then head North. It is up to you how far you walk - lots of transport options in the Oculus Train Station with option of ending at a 'watering hole' for wine and good cheer before heading home.

No signups, no commitments - just serendipity, community and a healthy heart. A great way to end a week of Questing.

Coordinators: Andrea Irvine, Laura Lopez, Marian Friedmann

CultureQuest

Friday, December 2ND, 10:30 am -12:00pm

Abstraction in African-American Painting

ZOOM TOUR WITH DOCENT DEBORAH GOLDBERG

Use Auditorium Link

This talk will explore some of the pioneer African-American artists who have ventured into abstraction from the 1940s to

the present. We will look at painters from Abstract Expressionism and the Washington Color School to more contemporary artists who work in mixed media and add social or conceptual concerns to their work. Artists will be included such as Ed Clark, Sam Gilliam, and Alma Thomas, all who have received increased attention in recent years. (Clark and Gilliam recently passed away). Some of the artists discussed are in the permanent collection galleries of MoMA, the Met ("The Epic Abstraction" installation), the Brooklyn Museum, The Whitney Museum of American Art, and in the current Jewish Museum exhibition.

Deborah A. Goldberg earned a Ph.D. from the Institute of Fine Arts at NYU. She teaches in the Art History and Fine Arts Departments at the School of Visual Arts in New York City, and lectures regularly at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The Museum of Modern Art. She writes about modern and contemporary art, design, and decorative arts. She recently published essays on the public sculpture of Kathy Ruttenberg and a rediscovered marble table by Isamu Noguchi.