

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

October 9 - 13, 2023

This is an “B” 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 <https://zoom.us/> 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.

FOR ALL AUDITORIUM CLASSES (click on “AUDITORIUM” below):

AUDITORIUM

Meeting ID: 813 5977 7119

Passcode: 252525

FOR ALL MEETING ROOM 15-17 CLASSES (click on “ROOM 15-17” below):

ROOM 15-17

Meeting ID: 893 8196 3761

Passcode: 252525

FOR ALL MEETING ROOM 27 CLASSES (click on “ROOM 27” below):

ROOM 27

Meeting ID: 834 6569 8593

Passcode: 252525

PLEASE NOTE: 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 9TH, 2023
Columbus (Indigenous Peoples) Day
Quest is Closed

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10TH @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: **ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK** (Hybrid)
Room: Auditorium
Subject: Mexican Muralism

The Mexican Mural Renaissance is called a renaissance because their art completely disrupted the official Mexican aesthetic tradition. It broke away from the idealistic bourgeois art of the upper classes and attempted to give center stage to the plight of indigenous peoples, workers, farmers and soldiers. Their frescoes shocked the public and were called blasphemous. The artists aided the revolutionary spirit of the public and engaged the public with manifestoes, lectures and debates. This presentation will focus on, what the muralists themselves called, “The Golden Years.”

Presenter: Linda Downs
Coordinators: Linda Downs, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss, Ellen Shapiro
Tech Support: Susan Diehl, Ellen Shapiro, Bob Reiss

Course: **WATER** (Hybrid)
Room: 27
Subject: Maritime Disasters

There are many types of marine disasters, including floods, tsunamis, oil spills, and shark attacks- but this Maritime Disaster class will focus on a sexy subset—SHIPWRECKS--NOT INCLUDING THE TITANIC!! So sit back and let us tell you the stories of some lesser known maritime

disasters, near and far, including the world's deadliest shipping accident, the bloodiest shipwreck, the "Titanic of the East", the greatest loss of life on the Great Lakes, the deadliest pre-9/11 disaster in NYC, a pre-atomic explosion, and the most embarrassing shipwreck. Each disaster will include fascinating historical tidbits, insight into boating navigation rules and some fire safety no-nos. And just for fun, if we have the time, we have a short talk on rogue waves and whether you need to worry on your next cruise!

Presenter: Tamara Weinberg and Karen Cullen
Coordinators: Judy Weis, Pete Weis
Tech Support: Pete Weis, Steven Chicoine

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10TH @ NOON – 12:45 P.M.

Course: SE HABLA ESPAÑOL (Spanish conversation) (In-person only)
Room: Classroom 19
Subject: "Writing a Short Story as a Group"

We want to use our collective talents to write a short story in Spanish and see where our imagination takes us. One of our class members begins a story with a couple of sentences and then asks for a volunteer to add a few more sentences and so on. Let's see where the story goes and how strange we can make it. We can close down any story once we feel it has been fully told.

"Escribir Como Parte de un Grupo"

Queremos utilizar nuestros talentos colectivos para crear un cuento en español y ver a dónde nos lleve nuestra imaginación. Uno de los miembros de la clase empieza sugiriendo unas frases y después pide a un voluntario que agregue unas frases más. Veremos a dónde nos lleve el cuento y cuán extraño sea. Podemos completar el cuento en cualquier momento.

Presenter: Bob Hartmann
Coordinators: Ellen Rittberg, Bob Hartmann, Ruth Ward

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10TH @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: FILM FOR THOUGHT (In-person only)
Room: Auditorium
Subject: Award Winning Short Films

What makes a short film an award winner? Excellent writing, superb performances, great stories? This week's short films have all these qualities and deal with provocative issues - physical disabilities, drugs and depression, as well as kindness, resilience, love and empathy. Join us for some entertaining films for thought.

Coordinators: Jane Lubin, Ellen Waldman
Tech Support: Michael Wellner, Wayne Cotter

Course: HARLEM RENAISSANCE (Hybrid)
Room: 15-17
Subject: Zora Neale Hurston

Zora Neale Hurston was a major writer of the Harlem Renaissance. In contrast to many other figures of this period, she focused on the unique contributions and genius of African Americans, rather than on the position of Blacks in White society. A trained anthropologist she championed the uniqueness of Black culture, documenting folk tales, voodoo practices and Black dialect. Her novel, Their Eyes Were Watching God, and her collections of folktales were published in the 1930's and ensured her place in the literature of the Harlem Renaissance, but fell into obscurity until her revival in the late 1960's.

In this class we will look at her folktales, her voodoo research, in which she joined in the voodoo practice to better understand it, and her

documentary about the last living Black man to have come to the South on a slave ship.

Ellen Shapiro, a trained and gifted story teller, will join me to bring to life some of the folktales that Zora Neale Hurston recorded.

Presenters: Ellen Shapiro & Susannah Falk Lewis

Coordinators: Richard Byrd, Ilene Winkler, Hedy Shulman, Stuart Parker

Tech Support: Steven Chicoine, Ilene Winkler

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11TH @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: FASCINATING NON-FICTION (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

**Subject: Five Days in London: May 1940
by John Lukacs**

NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED

Winston Churchill, asked once what year he would like to relive, answered, "1940, every time, every time." If pressed, Churchill might have narrowed it down to May 24-28, which is the focus of the remarkable book, Five Days in London: May 1940.

Historian John Lukacs drew on previously unavailable documents to illuminate the five days of War Cabinet meetings in which Churchill persuaded fellow Conservatives who viewed him as erratic and untrustworthy, and in some cases believed that a German victory was inevitable, to trust him with the survival of England.

During a week when Hitler came as close as he every would to winning World War II, Churchill argued that England must prolong the war by refusing to surrender, no matter the cost. "Then and there," Lukacs writes, "he saved Britain, and Europe, and Western civilization."

Presenter: Larry Shapiro
Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward
Tech Support: Bob Reiss, Wayne Cotter

Course: UPHEAVALS IN AMERICAN VALUES (In-person only)
Room: 15-17
Subject: Separation of Church and State

The discussion this week will be "Separation of Church and State". We will look at the history of this concept from the founding of the country to the present. Questions to discuss include: What role has religion played in the development of our culture and our laws? Should we allow prayer at civil events? Are we a Christian Nation? Should we protect the separation of church and state?

Presenter: Terri Hicks
Coordinators: Michael Wellner, Maureen Berman, Terri Hicks
Tech Support: Steven Chicoine, Michael Wellner

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11TH @ 12:10 – 12:55 P.M.

Course: BOOK CLUB (In-person only)
Room: Classroom 27
Book: So Long, See You Tomorrow
By: William Maxwell

This National Book Award winner begins in rural 1920's America, where a murder ruptures the friendship between two young boys. As one of them looks back as an adult, recounting their interconnected stories, Maxwell creates a quiet gem of a novel.

Presenter: Nan McNamara

Coordinators: Jan Goldstein, Susannah Falk Lewis, Joan Vreeland

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11TH @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Course: DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES (Hybrid)

Room: Auditorium

Title: Every Good Boy Does Fine, a memoir

Speaker: Jeremy Denk, Classical Pianist

Jeremy Denk is one of America's foremost pianists, proclaimed by the New York Times "a pianist you want to hear no matter what he performs." Denk is also a New York Times bestselling author, winner of both the MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship and the Avery Fisher Prize, and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

He is also known for his original and insightful writing on music, which has been praised for its "arresting sensitivity and wit." His New York Times Bestselling memoir Every Good Boy Does Fine was published to universal acclaim by Random House in 2022, with features on CBS Sunday Morning, NPR's Fresh Air, The New York Times, and The Guardian.

Please join us to learn more about his illustrious career and to hear him perform.

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

Tech Support: Bob Reiss, Wayne Cotter

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH @ 10:30 A.M. – NOON

Course: NYC AND ITS ENVIRONS (Hybrid)
Room: Auditorium
Subject: Gramercy Park

Gramercy Park is a hidden gem in New York City. It's both a park and a quaint little neighborhood in Manhattan. Learn about its early history, its ownership and the beautiful brownstones surrounding the Park.

We'll also talk about 3 historic homes located in Gramercy Park - The National Arts Club, The Players Club and the Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site and the people who lived there in the 19th century.

Presenters: Susan Keohane and Karen Levin
Coordinators: Paul Golomb, Bob Reiss
Tech Support: Paul Golomb, Ilene Winkler

Course: SCIENCE CLUBHOUSE (In-person only)
Room: 15-17

The coordinators will be making short presentations based on some recent articles on science topics. As always, we look forward to lively and wide ranging discussions of these and whatever topics pop up!

Coordinators: Steve Allen, Jim Brook, Marion Schultheis
Tech Support: Steve Chicoine

Course: WONDERFUL BOOKS OUT LOUD (Hybrid)
Room: 27
Subject: I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings: Chapters 17 and 18

by Maya Angelou

NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED

Maya's brother, Bailey, sees a film with the movie star Kay Francis and thinks she is his mother. Weeks later, Bailey tries to run away.

In the "Store," Maya ponders over the workers who allowed themselves to be worked like oxen. Exhausted as they are, everyone goes to the revival meeting. After the service was over, they basked in the righteousness of the poor and the exclusiveness of the downtrodden. But, soon, reality comes back to the fore. The old questions come back - how long oh God? How long?

At the conclusion of the book reading, we will read the handout - "How the Black Church saved Black America."

Presenters: Harriet Finkelstein and The Class

Coordinators: Harriet Finkelstein, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward

Tech Support: Ruth Ward

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH @ 1:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

**Course: CONSTRUCTION: BEYOND BRICKS AND MORTAR
(In-person only)**

Room: 15-17

Subject: Tunnels

Welcome to the fascinating world of tunnels. One was dug by hand in China, another reshaped the geography of Europe, and a third doubles as a drainpipe. We're going to explore some of the more interesting tunnels still operating today, famous tunnels in history, underwater tunnels, and secret tunnels in NYC.

With over 60% of the world's population living in cities, the networks beneath our feet – are more important than ever before. Yet we never truly see how these amazing feats of engineering work. Until now.

Presenter: Marion Schultheis

Coordinators: Andrea Irvine, Marion Schultheis, David Bartash

Tech Support: Ilene Winkler, Steve Chicoine

Course: EXPLORATIONS IN LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY (Hybrid)

Room: 27

Subject: Spinoza and the Beginning of the Modern Era

Benedict Spinoza was either the last medieval or among the first modern philosophers. Either way, he stood at an inflection point in the history of Western thought. We will examine Spinoza's Ethics in order to assess his ongoing influence.

Copies of the reading will be sent via Quest Business.

Discussion Leader: Paul Golomb

Coordinators: Larry Shapiro & Steve Allen

Tech Support: Larry Shapiro

Course: POETS' WORKSHOP (In-person only)

Room: 19

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

Write a poem using the cue word "almost" 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

Tech Support: None Assigned

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH @ 2:30 P.M.

Course: SOLEMATES (In-person only)

Room: Gather by elevator on 7th floor at 2:45 p.m.

Marian and Andrea will lead us along the Hudson River - starting at Battery Park and heading north - always ending with opportunity to socialize at a "watering hole." It's up to you how far you walk - lots of transportation options at Oculus.

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

Coordinators: Andrea Irvine, Marian Friedmann

FRIDAY OCTOBER 13TH 11:30am-12:30pm

CultureQuest

African Fashion Exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum

Friday, October 13, 2023 11:30am-12:30pm

(In Person Tour)

Brooklyn is home to one of the most diverse and dynamic African diasporic communities in the country. The Brooklyn Museum is the perfect showcase for this dazzling array of

textile design, jewelry, haute couture and easy to wear fashion. We will hear about the iconic designers from 20 African countries who have been pivotal in illuminating Africa's cultural renaissance. Here, as in all cultures, clothing has a political dimension.

PLEASE JOIN US!

To Reserve Send an Email to Lois Klein

Loisnataliek@gmail.com

The Brooklyn Museum is located at 200 Eastern Parkway. Twenty Questers will be accepted on the tour. We will meet in the Museum lobby no later than 11:15am. There will be a waitlist. I will confirm your request by October 6th. The tour is free of charge.

IMPORTANT: Sign up only if you intend to come. Anyone who fails to cancel will be placed on a future waitlist when they sign up for another CultureQuest tour. Thank you for your understanding.

Optional lunch: We have scheduled a lunch at the Museum's Norm restaurant for 1:15pm. Please review the restaurant link below and let me know if you'd like to join us for lunch.
<http://thenormbkm.com/>