

## **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**April 8 - 11, 2024**  
**This is an B Week**

There are three links for all classes for 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.

Below are given the links (in red), meeting IDs, and passcodes for the three meeting rooms. If Zoom is installed on your computer, you can enter any hybrid class by clicking on the appropriate link:

### **AUDITORIUM**

**Meeting ID: 813 5977 7119**

**Passcode: 252525**

### **ROOM 15-17**

**Meeting ID: 893 8196 3761**

**Passcode: 252525**

### **ROOM 27**

**Meeting ID: 834 6569 8593**

**Passcode: 252525**

Alternatively, you can enter a class using your browser by going to <https://zoom.us/join> and typing in the Meeting ID for the room of your class along with 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 passcode.

**NOTE:** All classes are conducted at 25 Broadway and are listed as either Hybrid or In-person only. 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.

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**MONDAY, APRIL 8 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **CLASSICAL MUSIC**  
**Subject:** From Bach to John Cage – Intersection of Classical Music and Choreography  
**Presenter:** Ze'eva Cohen  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** Hybrid **(To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Sol Makon**, Bob Reiss, Pete Weis,  
**Tech Support:** **Pete Weis**, Bob Reiss, Victor Brener

In this presentation, we will view dance works of nine major 20th century choreographers, from George Balanchine to Merce Cunningham, who worked very closely with a large range of music, composed between the 17<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Most of the stylistically diverse dances that we will view and discuss were either created for existing music or, set to music that was rearranged for the dance, or -- to music that was specifically created for the dance in collaboration with the choreographer.

The focus will be on the various relationships between music and dance, and on music and choreographic innovation.

**Course:** **WONDERFUL BOOKS OUT LOUD**  
**Subject:** *O Pioneers!*  
Part II - Neighboring Fields, Sections 7-11  
Part III - Winter Memories, Sections 1 and 2  
**Facilitator:** Ruth Ward  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Harriet Finkelstein**, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward  
**Tech Support:** **Ruth Ward**, Larry Shapiro

**NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

Marie is vaguely aware that her marriage to Frank two years earlier has devastated both Emil and herself. Meanwhile Oscar and Lou anger their "elderly" sister by insisting that Carl is only after her money and property, which they believe is rightfully theirs. Emil tells Alexandra he wants to go to Mexico City to envision his future. He silently laments that Marie can still find joy in life, while he can only feel bitterness.

Oscar and Lou convince Carl to leave immediately. Marie confides to a saddened Alexandra she is far from Frank's ideal wife. She reads Emil's animated postcards from Mexico and knits him a necktie for his imagined serenades. Alexandra remains unaware

of the frustrated love between the two. But despite her blindness to romantic relationships, Alexandra feels a deep love for the land. She feels in her own body the soil's germination. She has repeated visions of being borne aloft by a sun-yellow being who smells of ripe cornfields, and who frees her of all bodily weariness.

**MONDAY, APRIL 8 @ 12:10 PM - 12:50 PM**

**Course:** LUNCHTIME ACTIVITY  
**Subject:** 2024 Whitney Biennial  
**Presenters:** Andrea and Sheryl  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine  
**Tech Support:** Sheryl Harawitz

Join us to explore the enigmatic realm of the 2024 Whitney Biennial. Always intriguing, but this year, expect an extra layer of fascination. Whether you've attended or plan to, take a photo of your favored artwork to share with us. and the website offers a portal into their curated landscape.

So bring your lunch & together we will immerse ourselves in the dialogue surrounding contemporary art - where opinions collide and creativity flourishes

**MONDAY, APRIL 8 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** GREAT PLAYS  
**Play/Playwright:** “Creatures” and “Thread Count”  
**Cast includes:** June Jacobson, Frank Montaturo, and Larry Shapiro  
**Presenter:** Gloria Peropat  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Roy Clary, Wayne Cotter, Frieda Lipp  
**Tech Support:** Wayne Cotter, Ruth Ward

This afternoon's two short plays are part of a collection of The Best American Short Plays of 2010-2011. The “over the top” very short play, “Creatures,” looks at whether or not small or big secrets between partners really matter. The second play, “Thread Count,” is a romantic comedy that takes place in the luxury linen department of Macy's before and after dark. The play asks: “What could possibly instigate a love match between a NYC sales executive and a down-to-earth woman visiting NYC for the first time?”

**Course:** **SCIENCE CLUBHOUSE**  
**Subject:** Comparison of health care quality between the US and other industrialized countries  
**Presenter:** Steve Allen  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Steve Allen**, Jim Brook, Marion Schulteis  
**Tech Support:** **Steve Chicoine**

We'll follow up on last sessions' discussion of the comparative quality of the US health care system by examining some data. We'll also be looking at some possible explanations of differences between the US system and those of other industrialized countries.

As always, we'll review other science news and look forward to lively and wide-ranging discussions.

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**TUESDAY, APRIL 9 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK**  
**Subject:** Egon Schiele  
**Presenter:** Jane Lubin  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** Hybrid (**To be Recorded**)  
**Coordinators:** **Linda Downs**, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss, Ellen Shapiro  
**Tech Support:** **Susan Diehl**, Ellen Shapiro, Tamara Weinberg

During the last few years, the rising popularity of Egon Schiele has fostered much new interest and research on his work and his major contributions to the art world. He remained largely unknown outside Austria until the 1960's. He is now a widely known and immensely popular artist having had numerous international exhibitions devoted to him. Schiele's short life is a fascinating tale of closely woven themes seen in his drawings and paintings.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9 @ 12:10 PM – 12:50 PM**

**Course:** **SE HABLA ESPAÑOL (Spanish Conversation)**  
**Presenter:** Sheilah Serfati  
**Room:** 19  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Ellen Rittberg**, Richard Elrauch

Two political figures who are in the news lately are Claudia Sheinbaum in Mexico and Nayib Bukele in El Salvador. Come learn about them and use your Spanish. We welcome everyone at whatever level they are at .

**Class:** **CHAUTAUQUA PREVIEW**  
**Presenter:** **Sandy Gordon**  
**Room:** **27**

If you are one of the lucky ones to be going to Chautauqua this June with Quest, or if you are curious about Chautauqua, you'll enjoy this preview. Long-time Chautauqua devotee Sandy Gordon will share images, insights, and information about Chautauqua in this special lunch-time session.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **FILM FOR THOUGHT**  
**Subject:** Award-winning short films  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Jane Lubin**, Ellen Waldman, Steve Allen  
**Tech Support:** **Michael Wellner**, Tamara Weinberg, Wayne Cotter

Join us as we continue viewing the best award-winning short films, documentaries, dramas, and comedies selected on their artistic merit and the probability of producing a lively discussion.

**Course:** **HARLEM RENAISSANCE**  
**Subject:** Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington: Becoming American Cultural Icons  
**Presenter:** Stuart Parker  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Richard Byrd**, Stuart Parker  
**Tech Support:** **Steven Chicoine**

In last semester's Harlem Renaissance class on Armstrong and Ellington, we discussed how in the 1920s Armstrong and Ellington emerged as two forces in modern American music that white America could not and did not want to ignore. In this class, we will discuss how in the rest of their careers they became two of the most admired and beloved musical artists in American history. Central to the presentation will be recordings, movie clips and videos of Armstrong and Ellington from the 1930s, 40s, 50s and 60s.

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**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **FASCINATING NON-FICTION**  
**Subject:** *Mapping the Darkness: The Visionary Scientists Who Unlocked the Mysteries of Sleep*  
By Kenneth Miller  
**Presenter:** Harriet Finkelstein  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** Hybrid **(To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Harriet Finkelstein**, Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward  
**Tech Support:** **Bob Reiss**, Wayne Cotter

**NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

Award-winning journalist Kenneth Miller seamlessly weaves science with history to tell the story of four outsider academics who carried the study of sleep from fringe discipline to mainstream obsession through spectacular experiments, technological innovation, and single-minded commitment. Attendees of this session will gain a deeper understanding of how sleep works and why it affects so much of our lives.

**Course:** **UPHEAVALS IN AMERICAN VALUES**  
**Subject:** Christian Nationalism  
**Presenter:** Terri Hicks  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Michael Wellner**, Maureen Berman, Terri Hicks  
**Tech Support:** **Michael Wellner**

We will examine this recent social movement and its connection to White Power groups and ultra conservative politics. Finally, we will see how Trump is using religion to campaign for re-election.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10 @ 12:10 PM – 12:50 PM**

**Course:** **BOOK CLUB**  
**Book:** Stoner  
**Author:** John Williams  
**Presenter:** Madeleine Brecher  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Jan Goldstein**, Susannah Falk Lewis, Joan Vreeland

This quiet gem has widely been called the greatest American novel you've never heard of. It's the story of William Stoner, a dirt-poor farm boy who enters the University of Missouri in 1910 and becomes a teacher of literature there until his death in 1956. The book chronicles what might be considered a "small life", but with a simple yet deep compassion that gives it beauty and power.

**Meeting:** TRAVEL MEETING  
**Format:** In Person Only  
**Room:** 15-17

The travel committee would like to invite you to a lunchtime meeting to discuss two trips planned for January 2025.

1. The Civil Rights Movement: Atlanta, Montgomery, Selma, and Birmingham: January 5-12, 2025
2. See Cuba Today: Havana, Cienfuegos & Trinidad: January 18-25, 2025

Please join us to learn more about these Road Scholar trips.

**Meeting:** NEW MEMBERS MEETING  
**Room:** 19  
**Format:** In-Person Only (**Note: This meeting begins at 12:00 noon sharp**)  
**Coordinators:** Susan Keohane (co-chair), Renee Woloshin (co-chair), John Davis, Marian Friedmann, Vince Grosso

This meeting, the last in our series for this semester, will provide new members with valuable information about various aspects of the Quest experience.

**At the meeting you will:**

- Meet Wayne Cotter, Vice-President of Quest, Chair of the Marketing and Communications Committee, and Co-Chair of the Technology Committee
- Meet Nan McNamara, Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
- Meet Paul Adler, Art Editor of the QReview and Co-Chair of the Emergency Response Committee
- Be able to ask questions about any aspect of Quest's activities
- Engage with other new members

**Who is invited:** Spring 2024 and Fall 2023 new members

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURER**  
**Subject:** The Future Has Arrived: Older Adults and Artificial Intelligence  
**Lecturer:** Ed Baig  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** Hybrid **(To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Arlynn Greenbaum**, Estelle Selzer, Karen Levin, Bob Reiss  
**Tech Support:** **Bob Reiss**, Wayne Cotter

As the world continues to explore the potential of artificial intelligence (AI), it can be equally exciting and threatening to consider how this technology may impact our lives. How might AI impact social isolation, healthcare management or the news one reads? Can AI really write a poem? Plan a trip overseas, manage my investments or craft visual art? This interactive conversation will include several demonstrations of the technology's current capabilities.

Ed Baig is a personal tech writer at AARP. Previously, he spent more than 20 years at *USA Today* as the publication's personal tech columnist and chief product reviewer. Prior to joining *USA Today*, Baig worked on the editorial staffs of *Business Week*, *U.S. News & World Report* and *Fortune Magazine*. He also wrote a software book called *Mac for Dummies*.

Please join us for this special presentation.

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**THURSDAY, APRIL 11 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **NYC AND ITS ENVIRONS**  
**Subject:** Washington Heights  
**Presenter:** Sharon Katz  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** Hybrid **(To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Paul Golomb**, Bob Reiss  
**Tech Support:** **Bob Reiss**, Paul Golomb

Activate your senses with the pleasing aromas and flavors of Washington Heights. Feel the frenetic energy of the neighborhood or enjoy the quiet and peacefulness of the many parks. There is so much history in a tiny area of Northern Manhattan, along with beautiful architecture and museums. Learn about the origin of the New York Yankees and the Polo Grounds. Through the years, the Heights had been a safe haven for many different cultures such as The Irish, German, Jewish and Dominicans.



Come join me with a walk through the fabulous Heights.

**Course:** **YOUNG BEETHOVEN**  
**Subject:** Beethoven's Six String Quartets, Op 18  
**Presenters:** Arlene Hajinlian, Larry Shapiro, and three Guest Musicians  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Arlene Hajinlian**, Larry Shapiro  
**Tech Support:** **Steve Chicoine**

This week, we will have three guests joining Arlene, to demonstrate examples from the Opus 18 string quartets, Beethoven's first published set in this revered musical genre. These six quartets were composed between 1798 and 1800, and published in 1801, to fulfill a commission from Prince Lobkowitz, one of Beethoven's devoted patrons. Our guest musicians are Natalie Wolford and Frank Yoon on violin, Martha Kessler on cello, and Arlene will play viola. Larry will add his relevant excellent historical perspectives as well.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 11 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **CONSTRUCTION: BEYOND BRICKS AND MORTAR**  
**Subject:** Walls  
**Presenter:** Sheryl Harawitz  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Andrea Irvine**, Marion Schultheis, David Bartash  
**Tech Support:** **Pete Weis**, Ruth Ward

Walls serve as shields against threats, anxieties, and assemblages of our aspirations, while also echoing through the corridors of poetry, art, and literature as symbols of confinement, protection, and the human condition. These barriers manifest in diverse forms. Sheryl will focus on the distinctiveness of Japanese Walls, from imposing sea defenses guarding against tsunamis to the delicate paper partitions of traditional Japanese residences - even the architectural marvels devoid of conventional walls.

**Course:** **EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE**  
**Subject:** Pragmatism and Science  
**Facilitator:** Steve Allen  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Larry Shapiro**, Steve Allen  
**Tech Support:** **Steve Chicoine**, Larry Shapiro

In this session, we'll look at how philosophical pragmatism addresses issues concerned with science and scientific method. The history of science teaches us that scientific conclusions are fallible and that new advances may seriously revise previous assumptions. Can we reconcile the need to be open to challenges to established theories with our confidence that the established theories are correct? We'll discuss how pragmatic philosophy's views on this issue relate to its views on the ethical issues we've discussed in previous sessions this term. An essay by Richard Rorty will be distributed through QuestBusiness prior to the class.

**Course:** **POETS' WORKSHOP**  
**Room:** 19  
**Format:** In-Person Only (Note: This class ends at 3:00 p.m.)  
**Coordinators:** **Judith Winn**, Judy Hampson, Helen Saffran  
**Tech Support:** None Assigned

Write a poem using the cue word "challenge" 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.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 11 @ 2:45 PM**

**Course:** **SOLE MATES**  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Room:** Gather by elevator on 7<sup>th</sup> floor at 2:45 PM  
**Coordinators:** **Andrea Irvine**, Marian Friedmann

Andrea and Marian will lead us on a walk along the Hudson River. They will start at Battery Park and head north ending at a "rest" stop for a glass of wine, a cup hot soup, socialization. It is up to you how far you walk. No signups – No commitments just serendipity – community and a healthy heart. A great way to end a week of Questing.

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**HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE LAVISH NY  
“WONDER THEATERS”?**

**Tour the United Palace Showpiece with  
CULTUREQUEST**

**Friday April 12, 2024  
10:30 AM - 12 Noon**

**THIS TOUR IS SOLD OUT**