

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

November 3 – 6, 2025
This Is a B Week

There are three links (given in red below) 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.

AUDITORIUM

Meeting ID: 899 9142 8608

Passcode: 252525

ROOM 15-17

Meeting ID: 890 4628 0269

Passcode: 252525

ROOM 27

Meeting ID: 874 2995 4279

Passcode: 252525

Also given are meeting IDs and passcodes for the three meeting rooms. If you don't have Zoom installed, you can still enter a class using your browser by clicking on.

<https://zoom.us/join>

and typing in the Meeting ID for the room of your class along with the passcode.

In addition, you can attend classes on your 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.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY**
Subject: Frank Loesser
Presenter: Judy Weis
Room: Auditorium
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: Peter Dichter, Arlynn Greenbaum
Tech Support: Victor Brener, Wayne Cotter

Frank Loesser is best known for writing both the words and the music for *Guys and Dolls*, his biggest hit. For *The Most Happy Fella*, he wrote the book and the words and the music, a project that took seven years. He also wrote many popular songs and music for movies. He came from a musical family who had much more regard for his brother, a classical musician who chaired the music department at a university. The next generation continues the (Broadway) musical tradition with his daughter Emily Loesser Stevenson, who has performed in many Broadway shows, and is directing an upcoming production of *She Loves Me* (Harnick and Bock).

Course: **WONDERFUL BOOKS OUT LOUD**
Subject: *The Complete Short Stories of Mark Twain*
Bantam Classics Edition
The Diary of Adam and Eve – Page 325
Luck – Page 298
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

Literary criticism of Mark Twain's *The Diary of Adam and Eve* focuses on its humorous subversion of biblical tradition, the progressive portrayal of gender roles, and its exploration of human nature, love, and companionship.

Luck uses the character of Lord Arthur Scoresby to satirize social systems and highlight the role of chance over merit, with the story's ending reinforcing the idea that luck can be more important than competence.

Mark Twain was not only brilliant but also bold in seeing fit to explore and expose what others of his era, and indeed this one, may have called taboo. Join us as we delve into the wit and wisdom of one of America's greatest writers.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3 @ 12:10 – 12:50 PM

Course: **NOONTIME MEDLEYS**
Subject: Sex, Drugs, and Rock & Roll
Room: 15-17
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine**

Let's turn up the volume on the '60s and '70s — when rules bent, minds opened, and the music got loud. We'll talk about free love, Fanny Hill and Tropic of Cancer, a little LSD and "grass," and the wild energy that pulsed from Hair to Woodstock. Books, beats, and boundary-breaking — this was the era that told the world to question everything and dance while doing it.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **GREAT DIRECTORS, PRODUCERS, ACTORS**
Subject: The Life and Loves of Fritz Lang
Presenter: Wayne Cotter
Room: Auditorium
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Wayne Cotter**, Roy Clary, Frieda Lipp
Tech Support: **Wayne Cotter**

*"Fritz Lang lived his life – and cultivated his legend
– with the glinted eyes of a maniac."*

Patrick McGilligan, author, Lang biography

The director of legendary German films, such as *Metropolis* and *M*, Lang fled Germany in 1933, eventually finding his way to Hollywood. Lang was a perfectionist who routinely alienated his actors and crew with his over-the-top demands. He also engaged in countless affairs (and a few marriages) with some of the biggest stars of his day.

Navigating the path between fact and fiction is no easy task when describing the life and loves of Fritz Lang, but we believe you'll enjoy the journey.

Course: **QUESTER'S CHOICE**
Subject: Out of Africa: How Homo Sapiens Populated the Earth
Presenter: Debbi Honorof
Room: 27
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Mary Beth Yakoubian**, Vince Grosso, Bob Gotfried
Tech Support: **Steve Chicoine**

This enlightening presentation will delve into the migration of Homo Sapiens from their origins in Africa to every corner of the globe. Combining archaeological evidence, DNA studies, and historical analysis, the presentation will explore the paths taken by our ancestors, the challenges they faced, and the remarkable adaptability that allowed them to thrive in diverse environments. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of humanity's shared heritage and the connections that bind us across continents and cultures.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK**
Subject: The Art and Culture of Mali
Presenter: Susan Diehl
Room: Auditorium
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Linda Downs**, Bob Reiss, Lynnel Garabedian, Ellen Shapiro
Tech Support: **Victor Brenner**, Ellen Shapiro

Mali is a land-locked country in western Africa and is one of the world's poorest countries. Yet it has a rich culture that has produced some surprising artistic achievements. In this talk, we will take a look at the history of the country, its economy, and the diversity of its population. We will spend more time in the Dogon region where they cling to their unique religion and culture in the midst of a primarily Muslim country. Finally, we will look at a few of the contemporary artists that have emerged and are making their mark in the art world.

Course: **NEW & CLASSIC ESSAYS**
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Steve Allen**, Bob Belfort, Nina Sanders, Larry Shapiro

Topics:

1. Do Patients Without a Terminal Illness Have the Right to Die? by Katie Engelhart, from The New York Times Magazine, June 1, 2025,
2. Is Ian Still in There? by Sarah Zhang from The Atlantic Magazine, June 2025

Copies of these essays will be distributed through QuestBusiness

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4 @ NOON – 12:50PM

Course: **SE HABLA ESPAÑOL (Spanish conversation)**
Presenter: Donna Basile
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Ruth Ward**, Donna Basile

You and Technology

In this class we will dive into a discussion on technology and how it affects us in our daily lives. Do we need or want more of it? Less? What about AI? Please join us for a lively exchange on this timely topic.

Tú y la Tecnología

En esta clase, nos sumergiremos en un debate sobre la tecnología y cómo nos afecta en nuestra vida diaria. ¿Necesitamos o queremos más? ¿Menos? ¿Y qué hay de la IA? Únase a nosotros para un animado intercambio sobre este tema tan relevante.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **FEDERALIST PAPERS**
Presenter: Sandy Kessler
Room: 15-17
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Sandy Kessler**, Andrea Irvine

The Federalist Papers: A Primer on Constitutionalism

In this class we will finish our discussion of how the authors of The Federalist Papers deal with the Senate and then turn to a discussion of their treatment of the Presidency. The topics we will consider include the character of the Senate, the Electoral College, the President's term of office, presidential re-eligibility, the President's veto power, and the President's appointing power. We will also, of course, focus on how well the Senate and the President today are fulfilling their constitutional responsibilities.

Course: **FILM FOR THOUGHT**
Room: Auditorium
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Steve Allen**, Lois Klein, Ellen Waldman
Tech Support: **Michael Wellner**, Pete Weis

In this course we will see the best of contemporary short documentaries, dramas, comedies, and film excerpts. Films are selected both on their artistic merit and the probability of producing a lively discussion.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **SCIENCE & SCIENTISTS**
Subject: Medical Quackery
Presenter: Shirley Ranz
Room: Auditorium
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Jim Brook**, Steve Allen, Judy Weis
Tech Support: **Pete Weis**, Konstantin Dolgitser

There have always been snake oil salesmen ready to prey on desperate, gullible, sick people. Yet as science makes enormous advances, through rigorous adherence to the

scientific method, the world and especially the internet is flooded with worthless and sometimes harmful “alternative” treatments. Health insurance companies provide coverage, and some hospitals offer these questionable treatments. Is it all about the money? Let’s examine the most popular of these treatments.

Course: **AMERICAN UPHEAVALS**
Subject: Political Violence and Retribution in the United States
Presenter: Ned Parker
Room: 15-17
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Michael Wellner**, Terri Hicks
Tech Support: **Michael Wellner**, Wayne Cotter

Ned Parker, an investigative reporter with Reuters, will talk to us about political violence and retribution in the United States. Ned and his colleagues won the 2025 Toner Prize for Excellence in National Political Reporting for their series on this subject, called "The Politics of Menace". Prior to reporting on U.S. politics, Ned was a foreign correspondent reporting from Afghanistan, Libya and Iraq, where he was the Baghdad bureau chief for the Los Angeles Times and Reuters. In 2015 Ned was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for his reporting from Iraq and in 2011-12 he was the Edward R. Murrow Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 @ 12:10 – 12:50 PM

Course: **BOOK CLUB: CREATIVE NONFICTION**
Book: *Wild Things: A Life of Paul Gauguin*
Author: Sue Prideaux
Presenter: Linda Downs
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Carole Blane**, Debbi Honorof

Join us for the Creative Nonfiction Book Club where we will discuss creative nonfiction books. Creative nonfiction, also known as narrative nonfiction, is a genre that brings true stories to life through the techniques of fiction writing, including vivid descriptions, character development, and engaging narratives. These books are designed to both inform and entertain, presenting factual information in a compelling, novel-like manner.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES**
Speaker: Luis A. Miranda Jr.
Subject: Relentless: My Story of the Latino Spirit That is Transforming America
Room: Auditorium
Format: **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**
Coordinators: **Arlynn Greenbaum**, Karen Levin, Bob Reiss, Estelle Selzer
Tech Support: **Bob Reiss**, Wayne Cotter

Luis A. Miranda Jr. arrived in New York City from Puerto Rico in 1974 to study psychology at NYU but soon found himself drawn to community action when he organized his neighbors to fight for better schools for their children. In the 1980s he was a special advisor for Hispanic Affairs to Mayor Ed Koch, and he continued to serve in key roles for the Dinkins and Giuliani administrations. As a founding partner of the MirRam Group, Miranda has consulted on several successful political campaigns, including the senatorial campaigns of Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton, Senator Chuck Schumer, and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand. Most recently he managed New York Attorney General Letitia James' successful reelection.

Miranda is the founding president of the Hispanic Federation and is currently the chairperson of the Latino Victory Fund, the Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance, Viva Broadway, and the Public Theater. He is a board member of The City and former chair of the Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies at the CUNY Graduate Center.

He also happens to be the father of a well-known Broadway personality.

Luis Miranda will be interviewed on stage by Bob Reiss. Please join us for this special presentation.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **EARTH: GEOGRAPHY**
Subject: Greenland
Presenter: Peter Dichter
Room: 15-17
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Judy Weis**, Pete Weis
Tech Support: **Paul Golomb**, Bob Reiss, Konstantin Dolgitsier

“Trump has not ruled out force to take control of Greenland.” Greenland? Greenland is the world's largest island, a self-governing territory within the Kingdom of Denmark. And Greenland is famous for its towering glaciers, massive icebergs, Inuit culture, arctic wildlife, and breathtaking landscapes. Is that all? Naamik (No, in Greenlandic). Whether you're drawn by the magic of the Northern Lights, the thunder of calving glaciers, musk oxen, or a fascinating culture, Greenland delivers a memorable and offbeat experience. Nuuk, the capital, blends modern life and Indigenous spirit with a National Museum, a colorful harbor, and local restaurants serving reindeer stew and Arctic char. So much to learn! Let's take a guided tour and take control – no force necessary.

Course: ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY
Subject: Ancient Roman Poetry
Class Leader: Joyce Hinote
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: Joyce Hinote, Peter Dichter

Roman poets were influential figures in ancient literature, blending Greek influences like mythology with Roman themes and culture to explore topics like love, politics, mythology, and heroism. Among the most prominent were Virgil, known for The Aeneid, an epic that glorifies Rome's origins; Ovid, whose Metamorphoses is a mythological masterpiece full of transformation tales; Horace, famous for his odes and satires that praised moderation and criticized excess; and Catullus, whose passionate, personal poems explored love and heartbreak. Roman poets specialized in various genres, including Epic Poetry, Lyric Poetry, Elegiac Poetry and Satire. These poets not only reflected Roman society and values but also helped shape Western literary traditions for centuries.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 @ 12:20 PM – 12:45PM

Course: CHAIR MEDITATION
Presenter: Ken Sasmor
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinator: Donna Ramer

Please join us for lunchtime chair meditation every Thursday afternoon

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **EMOTIONAL DICHOTOMIES WITHIN**
Subject: Happiness and a Life Well Lived
Presenter: Tracey Lee
Room: 15-17
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: Elaine Martin, Donna Ramer
Tech Support: Felix Pena, Donna Ramer

Happiness. We all want it. But can we increase the happiness in our lives and is there something more to life than momentary happiness? The answer is yes. In this session we will examine some physiological, psychological and philosophical underpinnings of happiness and how some actions relate to the pursuit of happiness and a life well lived.

Course: **EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY & LITERATURE**
Subject: Philosophy and Music
Facilitator: Larry Shapiro
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: Larry Shapiro, Steve Allen, Bob Belfort
Tech Support: Steve Chicoine, Larry Shapiro

Let's devote a class to listening and reacting to music that has a connection of some kind to philosophy and see where it leads-ideally to some new understanding of music and/or philosophy. I might send a selection of writings relevant to this activity via Quest Business. If you don't receive any, that means I wasn't satisfied with what I found. In any case I hope you'll enjoy my selection of music, which will be classical from the 18th to the 21st centuries, and might include jazz.

Course: **POETS' WORKSHOP**
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: Judith Winn, Judy Hampson, Helen Saffran

Write a poem using the cue word "wonderful" 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. Members of this workshop typically have no experience writing poetry. You may also attend as an observer without writing a poem.

NEW MEMBERS MEETING

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 19 @ 12:00 – 12:50 PM, Room 15-17

**All Spring, Summer, and Fall New Members
Are Invited to Attend**

CULTUREQUEST

**A TOUR OF ANCIENT AMERICAS
The Michael C. Rockefeller Wing of the MET Museum**

**Friday, November 14, 2025,
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

The newly renovated Michael C. Rockefeller Wing at the Met Museum, devoted to the Arts of the Ancient Americas, presents a journey through time and space from the royal courts of the Classic Maya and their peers to the south, the Moche, to the massive city of Teotihuacan in central Mexico, to centers of innovative sculptural production in Western Mexico and Ecuador, and finally to the imperial capitals of the Inca and the Mexica. Please join us on this exciting adventure!

- **WHEN:** Friday, November 14, 11:00 AM (arrive at 10:45 AM)
- **WHERE:** Met Museum at Fifth Avenue and 81st Street-level entrance
- **TOUR GUIDE:** Docent Lauren F. Ebin will meet us on the ground floor by the coat racks, just inside the 81 St doors.
- **COST:** \$25 per person (regardless of whether you already have a Met Museum membership)
- **TO RESERVE:** Send an email ASAP to LINDA DOWNS at ladowns18@gmail.com
Please put CultureQuest in the subject line of your email. Your email will be acknowledged within a few days. We will have a waitlist. LIMITED TO 20 PEOPLE.
- **PAYMENT:** You will receive an email if you make the cut for the tour. When you do, please write a check or pay through Zelle. Checks are made out to Quest Lifelong Learning and are due in the CultureQuest box in the Office by Wednesday, November 5

by 2:30 PM. If you pay through Zelle, use Quest's Zelle email address, q25broadway@gmail.com, and send payment before Wednesday, November 5 at 2:30 PM. You must include "CultureQuest Met Museum Tour" in the message box to credit it correctly. Again, the amount is \$25.00. If we do not receive payment by the due date, please understand that we will go to the waitlist.

- **LUNCH** (optional): Petrie Court Café, Met Museum (no reservation required)

NOTE: Please sign up only if you intend to come. Anyone who doesn't show or cancels will be placed on future waitlist only when they sign up to attend future CultureQuest events. Thank you for your understanding.