

NEXT WEEK AT QUEST

May 6 - 10, 2024
This is an A 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.

MONDAY, May 6 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **ROCK AND ROOTS ALBUMS**
Album: “Marcus Garvey” by Burning Spear (1975)
Presenters: Steve Koenig, Wayne Cotter
Room: Auditorium
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Steve Koenig**, Wayne Cotter
Tech Support: **Michael Wellner**, Wayne Cotter, Victor Brener

Burning Spear is an early proponent of what came to be called Roots Reggae or Consciousness Reggae. Musically it is spare but rich and hypnotically riveting, propelled by the cream of Jamaican musicians. Lyrically it touches on Jamaican culture and society, biblical references, and slavery.

Winston Rodney (Burning Spear) was deeply influenced as a young man by the views of the political activist Marcus Garvey, especially regarding the exploration of the themes of Pan-Africanism and self-determination.

Critic Robert Christgau felt that it was the most African-sounding and most political reggae album to be released in America at the time. The album was included in Robert Dimery's *1001 Albums You Must Hear Before You Die*.

Course: **ALL THE KING'S MEN**
Room: 15-17
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Lynnel Garabedian, Sandy Kessler**
Tech Support: **Bob Reiss**

After the deaths of Judge Irwin, Willie Stark, and Adam Stanton, Jack Burden continues the painful process of reassessing his beliefs and feelings. He goes to see the people he knew through his work with Willie. What does Sadie Burke tell Jack about why Adam shot Willie, and how does Jack feel about it? How does Jack respond to a job offer by Tiny Duffy, now governor? Why does Jack lie to Sugar Boy, Lucy Stark, and his mother? What transformative changes in his feelings and actions do we see in Jack in the last pages of the book? What do you think Robert Penn Warren wants us to learn about American politics from *All the King's Men*?

MONDAY, May 6 @ 12:10 -12:50 PM

Course: LUNCHTIME ACTIVITY
Subject: Quest on Sports
Presenter: Karen Cullen and Vince Grosso
Room: 15-17
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine
Tech Support: Sheryl Harawitz

Join us for "Quest on Sports," a podcast for seniors who don't know (and don't like!) sports. After highlighting and quizzing us on some sporting events that are making the news, host Karen will be interviewing this month's special guest - award-winning sports columnist and TV commentator Vince - who will give his take on the LIV-PGA merger and a special report on golf superstar Arnold Palmer.

And don't forget to bring your lunch!

MONDAY, May 6 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: A BRAVE NEW WORLD?
Subject: Stirring the AI Stew
Presenter: Wayne Cotter (*and friends*)
Room: Auditorium
Format: Hybrid (**To be Recorded**)
Coordinators: Wayne Cotter, Leslie Goldman, Michael Wellner
Tech Support: Michael Wellner, Pete Weis

In this final session of the semester, we'll explore a variety of topics from multiple points of view. We'll offer some real-world examples of how artificial intelligence is increasing productivity in the workforce and also how AI is impacting the hiring and firing process. We'll also look at the many ways AI is helping oceanographers and marine biologists better explore and understand our oceans. As always, we welcome your comments and insights as we ponder the promises and pitfalls associated with Artificial Intelligence.

Course: DAISY MILLER & WASHINGTON SQUARE
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: Patricia Geehr, Susan Keohane
Tech Support: Sheryl Harawitz, Steven Chicoine

The class will be viewing the movie, based on the novel, *The Heiress* with Olivia De Havilland. The movie will begin at 12:30. Quest members who are not in the class are very welcome to attend.

TUESDAY, May 7 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Subject: International Courts
Presenter: David Judlowitz
Room: Auditorium
Format: Hybrid (**To be Recorded**)
Coordinators: **Bob Gottfried**, Sandy Frank, Glenn Johnston
Tech Support: **Michael Wellner**, Victor Brener

There are two courts in The Hague, the Netherlands: The International Court of Justice and The International Criminal Court. One court has jurisdiction over disputes between countries, the other has criminal jurisdiction over individuals. I will talk about both courts, their history, and their most important cases such as Nicaragua vs the United States, South Africa vs Israel, and Ukraine vs Russia, as well as the outstanding arrest warrants issued against Vladimir Putin. Currently, before the courts are international disputes involving Russia, Ukraine, and the Israel/ Hamas war genocide accusations. I will discuss why all countries do not recognize the jurisdiction of these courts. The United States is the most notable example.

Come and join me as I talk about these courts.

Course: NEW & CLASSIC ESSAYS
Subject: One New essay and One Classic Essay
Room: 15-17
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Steve Allen**, Martha Drezin, Ellie Schaffer, Larry Shapiro
Tech Support: **Ruth Ward**

1. "How to Worry Less and Be Happier" by Arthur Brooks from *The Atlantic Magazine* (2024)
2. "Less than One" by Joseph Brodsky (1986)

Copies of these essays will be distributed through QuestBusiness.

TUESDAY, May 7 @ 12:10 – 12:50 PM

Course: **DÉJEUNER FRANÇAIS**
Presenter: Adrienne Sprouse
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Ruth Ward, Donna Basile**

Peccadet

Peintre surréaliste français du milieu du XXe siècle, Peccadet a produit des images mémorables du monde sous-marin qu'il a exploré dans sa jeunesse à Bandol, et plus tard en tant que plongeur de reconnaissance et militant de la Résistance pendant la Seconde Guerre mondiale. Après une carrière distinguée en France, Peccadet a fait de l'Upper West Side de Manhattan sa maison et son atelier pour les 25 dernières années de sa vie.

The surrealist mid-20th Century French painter, Peccadet, produced memorable images of the underwater world which he explored in his youth in Bandol, and later as a reconnaissance diver and Resistance activist during World War II. After a distinguished career in France, Peccadet made the Upper West Side in Manhattan his home and studio for the last 25 years of his life.

TUESDAY, May 7 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **FOLK MUSIC AND MELLOW ROCK**
Subject: Bluegrass
Presenter: Mary Beth Yakoubian
Room: 15-17
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Bob Gottfried, Michael Wellner**
Tech Support: **Michael Wellner**

Bluegrass is authentic American roots music and is now performed and enjoyed all over the world. The instruments of a bluegrass band are fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar, bass; the vocal harmony is unique, with the tenor above the lead (melody), and the baritone below. It's impossible not to smile and tap your foot while listening to a high energy bluegrass tune – and you'll hear the best in this class!

Course: **ACROSS THE UNIVERSE**
Subject: All In The Family: What's New In The Story Of Human Evolution?
Presenter: Marion Schultheis
Room: 27
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Michael Hamburg**, Vickie Costa
Tech Support: **Pete Weis**, Bob Reiss

There are new limbs on the human family tree. Paleoanthropology has made major strides in just the past decade. As a result, the human family tree is being redrawn. Marion Schultheis will discuss some of these new discoveries as well as: does brain size matter? are homo sapiens still evolving?

Course: **CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP**
Subject: Writing Fantasy/Science Fiction
Presenters: Helen Saffran and Donna Ramer
Room: 19
Format: In-Person Only (**Note: This class ends at 3:00 p.m.**)
Coordinators: **Helen Saffran**, Judy Hampson, Donna Ramer
Tech Support: None Assigned

Our imagination can take us anywhere. In this class, our last Creative Writing Workshop class for the Spring semester, we will pull out all the stops and write using fantasy or science fiction to take us anyplace we choose to venture. Feel free to bring your own ideas, or present techniques that have worked for you.

As always, we'll start with a 10-minute exercise using a prompt, and leave time to share our prose, poetry or other script written at home. Reminder: prose pieces should not exceed 750 words and plays should be about 5 minutes. Need some inspiration? How about endings? And please bring 15 copies of your at-home writing to share with the group.

WEDNESDAY, May 8 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **QUESTER'S CHOICE**
Subject: Exploring Positive Psychology
Presenter: Diane Reynolds
Room: 27 (**Note Room Change; Click on Link to Room 27 for Hybrid**)
Format: Hybrid

Coordinators: Bob Gottfried, Vince Grosso, Hedy Shulman, Mary Beth Yakoubian
Tech Support: Steven Chicoine, Tamara Weinberg

Positive Psychology is the study of what makes life worth living. It's the study and practice of what's strong in addition to what's wrong. The most basic assumption that positive psychology urges is that human goodness and excellence are as authentic as disease, disorder, and distress. Join us as we examine the sunny side of the psychological street -- how to increase our positive emotions and determine our core character strengths.

Course: SHAKESPEARE: CYMBELINE
Room: 15-17
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: Roy Clary, Jim Brook, Ellie Schaffer
Tech Support: Ellie Schaffer, Bob Reiss

Beginning with Act V, scene IV, the play begins to tie up loose ends. With the assistance of a visit from Jupiter, the lovers, Imogen and Posthumous, are reunited. The two "lost boys" are recognized as Princes and Imogen's brothers. The death/resurrection ordeal is completed. There will be time for discussion of the play's various themes. In addition, Jim Brook will lead a discussion about costuming.

WEDNESDAY, May 8 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: CINEMA QUEST: CURRENT & CLASSIC
Films
1. *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (Marian Friedmann)
2. *One Life* (Elaine Martin)
3. *Navalny* (Howard Salik)
Room: Auditorium
Format: Hybrid (**To be Recorded**)
Coordinators: Howard Salik, Marian Friedmann, Vince Grosso
Tech Support: Michael Wellner, Bob Reiss

**From nurse Ratched's TLC In
"One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"
to
One man's effort to Save Jewish children from the Nazis In
"One Life"
to
Alexei Navalny's battle with Vladimir Putin
In the documentary
"Navalny"**

1. Marian Friedmann will take us back to the world of “**One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest**” where everyone’s favorite Healthcare Professional, Nurse Ratched, provides tender loving care for Randell McMurphy (Jack Nicholson)
Streaming: Apple, Prime, Fandango at Home (Vudu)
2. Elaine Martin will review “**One Life**,” a true story that follows one man’s heroic efforts to save mainly Jewish and other children in Czechoslovakia just before the Nazi invasion. Streaming: Apple, Prime, Fandango at Home (Vudu)
3. Howard Salik will discuss the documentary about Russian patriot **Alexei Navalny**. We will provide updates on the events that led to orders to poison, arrest, convict, jail, and murder him in a Russian gulag. Streaming: MAX

Course: **WOMEN SPIES**
Subject: What Kind of Spy Would You Be?
Presenter: Tamara Weinberg
Room: 15-17
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Penelope Pi-Sunyer**, Judy Hampson, Donna Ramer, Tamara Weinberg
Tech Support: **Tamara Weinberg**, Steven Chicoine

Many celebrities have cloaked their celebrity status over their spying activities. Given a description of a range of celebrities – in sports, politics, music, and other fields – can you figure out who they are? Would you have found and caught them?

Spy training exercises will follow, assuming you need some training. In a series of specific exercises, you will be asked to test your memory, your ability to tell and detect lies, and other skills needed to be an effective spy in the dark underworld of spying.

This exercise will round out our classes in Women Spies that have included skills and tools for spying, and descriptions of individuals and spy organizations across the world, preparing you for further sleuthing next spring.

THURSDAY, May 9 @ 10:30 AM – NOON

Course: **SCIENCE AND SCIENTISTS**
Subject: The Science of Decision Making
Presenter: Steve Allen
Room: Auditorium
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Jim Brook**, Steve Allen, Judy Weis
Tech Support: **Pete Weis**, Tamara Weinberg

Over the past 75 years the scientific study of decision making by mathematicians, psychologists, and economists has made significant advances both in understanding the factors that influence decisions and in suggesting ways that better outcomes can be achieved. In this talk, we'll look at the contribution of major figures like John Von Neumann, John Nash, Amos Tversky, and Daniel Kahneman. We'll look at how the decision making of governments and companies has been impacted by these studies. And we'll consider how some of these findings could be used to understand and modify our own behavior.

Course: CONTEMPORARY POETRY
Subject: Mary Oliver
Presenter: Carol Rubin
Room: 15-17
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: Ellen Rittberg, Martha Drezin, Mary Ann Donnelly, Frieda Lipp
Tech Support: Ruth Ward

Mary Oliver was a multiple award-winning best-selling prolific, beloved poet whose poems about nature and later about herself and nature reflected both the world we live in and served as a welcome directive for us to pay attention and appreciate the small things. "Mary Oliver's poetry is an excellent antidote for the excesses of civilization," a reviewer for the *Harvard Review* wrote. She stated she was greatly influenced by Walt Whitman and has been favorably compared to Ralph Waldo Emerson and other poets who have stood the test of time. A Vassar College and Ohio State University dropout, she lived in Provincetown for almost forty years with her life partner, Molly Malone Cook, a photographer, before moving to Florida. We will explore both her life, her poems and the secrets to her popular success and widespread acclaim.

THURSDAY, May 9 @ 12:10 -12:50 PM

Course: LUNCHTIME ACTIVITY
Subject: Volunteer Opportunities
Presenter: Arlynn Greenbaum
Room: 15-17
Format: In Person Only

Do you do volunteer work that you find rewarding? Are you looking for a new volunteer opportunity? If so, you are invited to a noon time session on Thursday, May 9 in Room 15-17. One of the great things about Quest members is how eclectic our interests are. Join us to share your outside volunteer activities and get to know other members better. You never know you just might get inspired!

THURSDAY, May 9 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM

Course: **WATER**
Subject: Water Deities
Presenter: Jim Brook
Room: 27 (**To be Recorded**)
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Judy Weis**, Pete Weis
Tech Support: **Pete Weis**, Steve Chicoine

Seemingly every polytheistic society has a god or gods, inevitably high in its pantheon, personifying the waters that are part of the environment. There are gods of the sea, of rivers and natural springs. This presentation will cover some, but by no means all, of such deities. From the Sumerians' Enki, the Greeks' Poseidon to Sedna, the Inuits' Goddess of the Sea and its Creatures. What do their gods tell us about these peoples and their relationship to the bodies of water that they encounter in their daily lives?

Course: **CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES**
Stories: 1. So Late in the Day (Lois Klein)
2. *"How to Tell a True War Story"* (Mark Altschuler)
Room: 15-17
Format: Hybrid
Coordinators: **Nancy Richardson**, Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp
Tech Support: **Ruth Ward**

Stories to read:

1. ***"So Late in the Day"* by Claire Keegan** **Presenter: Lois Klein**

Claire Keegan is the celebrated author of five powerful short story fiction collections. The NY Times cites her as among the form's most masterful practitioners. *"So Late in the Day"* is the lead story in her latest collection of the same title, and the story also appears in the New Yorker. Our story, as much of her work, revolves around the tension and drama of relationships between men and women.

2. ***"How to Tell a True War Story"* by Tim O' Brien** **Presenter: Mark Altschuler**

This is both a story about war and a story about the nature of storytelling. It comes from **Tim O'Brien's** 1990 book of short stories *The Things They Carried*. These stories all concern a platoon of American soldiers fighting on the ground in the Vietnam War, based on O'Brien's war experiences. The book received many awards, was a finalist for both the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Critics Circle Award and has become a staple in middle schools and high schools. O'Brien, born in Minnesota in 1946, was drafted into the army in 1969, shortly after graduating from college. He teaches at a public university in Texas and leads workshops in creative writing for MFA students.

Links for the two stories have been 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,

If you have any questions, please email Nancy at nancyrye9@gmail.com

Course: **ACTING WORKSHOP II**
Room: Auditorium
Format: In-Person Only
Coordinators: **Roy Clary**, Donna Kerren
Tech Support: None Assigned

The class will continue to rehearse its year-end production: Potpourri II which will be presented on May 15. It includes material from Doubt, The Christians, The Belle of Amherst, Alice in Wonderland, and Politically Correct Bedtime Stories. The Workshop looks forward to once again sharing its efforts with members of Quest.

CultureQuest

NYC Subway Tour: Our Glorious Underground Art Museum
(Back by popular demand)

Friday, May 10 at 11:00 AM
(In-person tour with Bob Reiss)

The original mandate in building the New York Subway included that the subways be “designed, constructed, and maintained with a view to the beauty of their appearance, as well as to their efficiency. MTA Arts & Design is committed to preserving and restoring the original ornament of the system and to commissioning new works that exemplify the principles of vibrant public art, relating directly to the places where they are located and to the community around them. This tour will sample some extraordinary examples found in our wonderful underground art museum.

JOIN US

This tour is of moderate difficulty. There is a fair amount of walking when changing lines, and up and down several staircases. Please consider this before you RSVP.

When: Friday, May 10, 11:00 AM–1:00 PM
Please arrive by 10:45 AM.

Where: Assembly point will be sent to those with reservations.
The tour is limited to the first 20 persons to make their reservation.

Cost: Bring your Metro card or Omni

Reserve: Email bobreiss42@gmail.com

Lunch: We will be eating at Kashkaval Garden, a Mediterranean, small plates restaurant. There are other choices. **Please note in your response if you wish to have lunch with the group.**