

## **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**September 2 - 6, 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: 861 6851 3691**

**Passcode: 252525**

### **ROOM 15-17**

**Meeting ID: 886 0175 9047**

**Passcode: 252525**

### **ROOM 27**

**Meeting ID: 872 5172 0128**

**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, SEPT 2**

**LABOR DAY – NO CLASSES**

**TUESDAY, SEPT 3 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **SUPREME COURT**  
**Subject:** The Supreme Court and our Future  
**Facilitators:** Sandra Abramson, David Judlowitz and Michael Wellner  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** Hybrid **(To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Michael Wellner**, Bob Gottfried, Glenn Johnston  
**Tech Support:** **Victor Brener**, Michael Wellner

Is there any other factor that may influence the upcoming super-important election more than the Supreme Court? We invite you to join us for a discussion of the impact of the current Court not only on the upcoming election, but more importantly on the future of our country.

**Course:** **NEW & CLASSIC ESSAYS**  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Steve Allen**, Martha Drezin, Ellie Schaffer, Larry Shapiro  
**Tech Support:** **Wayne Cotter**

We will discuss two recent essays: (1) "Selfishness and Therapy Culture" by Freddie deBoer (2024), published on his Substack, and (2) "The Curious Personality Changes of Older Age" by Faith Hill (2023), published in the *Atlantic Magazine*.

Freddie deBoer is a US author and cultural critic. Faith Hill is a staff writer for the *Atlantic*.

Copies of these essays will be distributed in advance of the class on QuestBusiness.

**TUESDAY, SEPT 3 @ NOON – 12:45 PM**

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

### **L'artiste Vincent Van Gogh à St. Rémy**

Désespéré, Van Gogh s'est inscrit dans un asile d'aliénés, alors même que son art était florissant. Son hospitalisation d'un an lui donna des chefs-d'œuvre, même si sa santé continuait de décliner.

### **Vincent Van Gogh in St. Remy**

In despair, Van Gogh signed himself into an insane asylum, even as his art was flourishing. His one-year hospitalization yielded masterpieces, even as his health continued to decline.

**TUESDAY, SEPT 3 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** HISTORY OF NEW YORK CITY  
**Subject:** The Real Native New Yorkers  
**Presenter:** Sandra Abramson  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** Hybrid (**To be Recorded**)  
**Coordinators:** Ilene Winkler, Susannah Falk-Lewis, Penelope Pi-Sunyer, Michael Wellner  
**Tech Support:** Michael Wellner, Ilene Winkler

What was Lenapehoking -- our area -- like in 1491? Who lived here and what did they do? What happened to them when the Dutch arrived in their homeland? How did their lives change? What is Lenapehoking like now and what are the Lenapes who live here doing to memorialize and reclaim their homeland? Join us to discover these amazing people.

**Course:** FLAWED GREATNESS OF THOMAS JEFFERSON  
**Subject:** The Declaration of Independence  
**Presenter:** Sandy Kessler  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Sandy Kessler, Andrea Irvine  
**Tech Support:** Steve Chicoine

We will begin our first session of this class by briefly discussing Thomas Jefferson's long career, his major contributions to American life, and why he is now so controversial. We will then closely examine the major principles of the Declaration of Independence and focus on what Jefferson meant when he wrote the phrase "all men are created equal." Did Jefferson intend the word "men" to include just males, just white males, or all human beings?

**Course:** CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP  
**Subject:** Revision  
**Presenter:** Helen Saffran  
**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

Revision literally means to see again. We will write a short piece in class and then “see it again.” Using descriptive writing tools, we will enhance it in any way we choose.

As always, the class begins with a 10-minute writing response to a prompt, which you can choose to share or not. You may bring in writing you have done at home in any genre in poetry or prose and the group will offer constructive responses to it. Writing that is read in class should be under 750 words, but longer pieces can be read over consecutive classes. Please bring in 14 copies of at-home writing to share with the class. At a loss for a topic? Try: A Subway Story or My Plants.

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**WEDNESDAY, SEPT 4 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** POWER: THE GLORY OF IT  
**Subject:** A Struggle for Power  
**Presenter:** Andrew Epstein  
**Room:** Room 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Andrea Irvine, David Bartash, Marion Schultheis  
**Tech Support:** Tamara Weinberg, Ellen Shapiro

Graham Greene spent a few months of 1938 in Mexico. Arguably his best novel, "*The Power and the Glory*" came from that experience. We will discuss its depiction of attempts to suppress Catholicism and how those efforts affect the protagonist, state actors, the rich and the poor.

**Course:** SHAKESPEARE: THE TEMPEST  
**Presenter:** Roy Clary  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** Roy Clary, Jim Brook, Ellie Schaffer  
**Tech Support:** Ellie Schaffer, Bob Reiss

We will discuss why this play is categorized as a Romance and note similar themes such as Forgiveness and Restoration. Several video clips of the play's opening storm scene will be shown:

1. The Tempest film starring Helen Mirren.
2. The Stratford, Canada stage production starring Christopher Plummer.
3. The Brownsea Open Air Theater production.
4. Jim Brook will talk about "Shakespeare in Performance."

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT 4 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **CINEMA QUEST: CURRENT & CLASSIC**  
**Films:** 1. Ferrari (Lois Klein)  
2. Coup de Chance (Arlynn Greenbaum)  
3. Thelma and Louise (Howard Salik)  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** Hybrid (**To be Recorded**)  
**Coordinators:** **Howard Salik**, Marian Friedmann, Vince Grosso  
**Tech Support:** **Michael Wellner**, Bob Reiss

**From Italy and The Ferrari Family to Woody Allen's Paris  
To Not-So-Ordinary Housewives in Colorado.**

**"Ferrari"** 2023 Reviewed by Lois Klein (Rotten Tomatoes: 81.) In the midst of the excitement and peril of 1950s Formula 1, former racer Enzo Ferrari (portrayed by Adam Driver) finds himself in a crisis. The shadow of bankruptcy looms over the company that he and his wife, Laura (played by Penelope Cruz), had painstakingly built from nothing a decade earlier. Their tumultuous marriage is further strained by the grief of losing their only son. Streaming: Apple, Prime, Fandango at Home (formerly Vudu)  
2hr. 10 min.

**"Coup De Chance"** 2023 Reviewed by Arlynn Greenbaum (Rotten Tomatoes: 86/82). Fanny and Jean look like the ideal married couple; they're both professionally accomplished, live in a gorgeous apartment in an exclusive neighborhood of Paris, and seem to be in love just as much as they were when they first met. But when Fanny accidentally bumps into Alain, a former high school classmate, she's swept off her feet. Streaming: Prime, Apple, Fandango at Home (formerly Vudu) 1 hr. 36 min.

**"Thelma And Louise"** 2023 Reviewed by Howard Salik (Rotten Tomatoes: 86/82) Thelma, a reserved homemaker, embarks on a brief fishing trip with her friend Louise, a confident waitress. Their excursion takes a drastic turn when Louise intervenes to protect Thelma from a man attempting to assault her, resulting in the man's death. Fleeing to Mexico, the two women encounter various challenges, including Thelma's romantic involvement with the charismatic young thief J.D. (played by Brad Pitt) and the efforts of Detective Slocumb (played by Harvey Keitel) to persuade them to surrender before facing

dire consequences. Streaming: Prime, Apple, Fandango at Home (formerly Vudu) 1 hr. 36 min.

**Course:** **HEALTH AND MEDICINE**  
**Subject:** Oh, My Aching Back!  
**Presenter:** Karen Cullen  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Karen Cullen**, Bob Gottfried, Donna Ramer  
**Tech Support:** **Pete Weis**, Tamara Weinberg

Do you have to stretch for ten minutes before you can get out of bed in the morning? Is your back killing you by the end of the day? And where are you on the merry-go-round of PT, pain shots, and surgery? Come. In this first of seven classes on Health and Medicine, we'll review the anatomy of the spine and examine and discuss the specific causes of back pain and treatment options. Intervertebral foramen, degenerative disc disease, laminectomy? We'll cover them all. And let's not leave without sharing our day-to-day tricks of the trade for living with our aching backs. (Ice packs anyone?)

#### **THURSDAY, SEPT 5 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **SCIENCE AND SCIENTISTS**  
**Subject:** Antoine-Laurent Lavoisier  
**Presenter:** Jim Brook  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Jim Brook**, Steve Allen, Judy Weis  
**Tech Support:** **Pete Weis**, Konstantin Dolgitsier

Lavoisier (1743 - 1794) is generally regarded as being “the father of modern chemistry.” This presentation will cover the experiments, the results and what he proved (and disproved) that justify this statement.

It will also cover the part he played in the tumultuous times and place when and where he lived – including what caused his unfortunate demise.

**Course:** **QUESTER'S CHOICE**  
**Subject:** A Wonderful Village: Life in Utopia  
**Presenter:** Trudy Deweese  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** Hybrid

**Coordinators:** Bob Gottfried, Vince Grosso, Hedy Schulman, Mary Beth Yakoubian  
**Tech Support:** Steve Chicoine

Fontaine-Daniel is a place out of time from our current world and yet so alive. The Cistercian monastery was founded there in 1205, followed by a textile industry and village in 1806. It was the dream of a remarkable woman. The spirit of this utopian village with its lake, forest and gardens has remained. It is a place everyone should see or know how it has remained a Treasure of France.

**Course:** OLD TESTAMENT AS LITERATURE & IN THE ARTS  
**Subject:** From the Comedic to the Tragic: Biblical Women as Seen by Women Choreographers  
**Presenter:** Ze'eva Cohen  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Joyce Hinote, Peter Dichter, Jamie Sykes  
**Tech Support:** Ilene Winkler

The biblical stories about Eve, Sarah, Hagar, Rebecca, Leah, Rachel, Deborah, Lot's wife and Jephtha's daughter are the springboard of this presentation. Following a brief introduction to these nine iconic women's stories as written in the Old Hebrew Testament, we will be looking at choreography created by a few culturally diverse contemporary choreographers, including me, whose reactions to these stories range from sad and angry to lighthearted and imaginative.

**THURSDAY, SEPT 5 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** WORLD OF RELIGION  
**Subject:** Introduction and Judaism  
**Presenter:** Paul Golomb  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** Ruth Ward, Bob Gottfried  
**Tech Support:** Ruth Ward

Before delving into the thought and practices of Judaism, this presentation will serve as an overall introduction to religion itself. The lines between religious and non-religious are not sharp, but something distinguishes the topics of the course from relating to, for instance, the Masons (with all due respect to Masons).

**Course:** **CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES**  
**Stories:** 1. Man Mountain (Martha Kline)  
2. People Like That Are the Only People Here (Steve Allen)  
**Room :** 15-17  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Nancy Richardson**, Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp  
**Tech Support:** **Felix Pina**

**Stories to read:**

**1. *Man Mountain***", by **Catherine Lacey** Presented by Martha Kline

Not yet 40, **Catherine Lacey** is *NOW*, as she asserts "labels are for jars," and cleverly reveals views on AI in her story "Man Mountain" where Burning Man meets Mt. Everest climbs. Raised in a fundamentalist family, receiver of NYPL Young Lions Fiction Award, Lacey understands the complexities of the self. "Everybody I know has multiple, distinct aspects to their personalities, many of them at odds with each other ...we contradict ourselves. I'd be very wary of someone who didn't."

**2. "*People Like That Are the Only People Here*"**, by **Lorrie Moore** Presented by Steve Allen

**Lorrie Moore** was born in 1957 and raised in the small town of Glens Falls, NY. She graduated from the MFA program at Cornell in 1980 and almost immediately started being published. She writes novels and essays in addition to short stories but is best known for her short stories. She taught creative writing for 30 years at The University of Wisconsin Madison, and for the past ten years at Vanderbilt University. She is widely acknowledged as one of the modern masters of the short story.

**Links for the two stories have been sent separately to all Questers via QuestBusiness.**

**A few printed copies of the stories will be available in the A-week box in the lunchroom.**

Any questions, please email Nancy at [nancyrye9@gmail.com](mailto:nancyrye9@gmail.com)

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

Our first class will focus on acting approaches, trust exercises, and theater games.

## **CultureQuest**

### **Sugar Hill in Harlem: A Walking Tour**

**Friday, September 13, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

#### **This is an in-person tour led by Hank Orenstein**

Join us for a walking tour of Harlem's magnificent Sugar Hill neighborhood, named for the "sweet life" enjoyed by the African-American middle class. Historic architecture abounds, including free-standing mansions and elegant townhouses.

On this tour, we'll learn about former residents who were important participants in the Harlem Renaissance, including Duke Ellington, who invited us to "Take the A Train" to Sugar Hill in Harlem. We'll visit Sylvan Terrace, a charming block of restored wooden townhouses built in 1882. And no tour of Sugar Hill is complete without Manhattan's oldest house, the Morris-Jumel Mansion. You'll learn about Eliza Jumel, a fascinating woman with connections to many historic individuals, including George Washington and Aaron Burr. Since 2013, Hank Orenstein has hosted a Meetup walking tour group with more than 8,000 members. He is a Licensed NYC Tour Guide, Licensed Real Estate Broker, and a former MSW Social Worker.

**WHEN:** Friday, September 13, 2024. Please arrive by 10:45. The tour will begin promptly at 11 a.m.

**WHERE:** Riverbank State Park, Main Entrance, 679 Riverside Drive at 145th Street

**COST:** \$12 – Limited to 20 participants. Please leave a check made out to Quest Lifelong Learning in our CultureQuest mailbox in the Office by Thursday, September 6.

**TO RESERVE:** Send an email ASAP to Debbi Honorof at

[\*\*dhonorof@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:dhonorof@gmail.com)

Please put Sugar Hill Tour in the subject line of your email. Your email will be acknowledged within a few days. We will have a waitlist.

**IMPORTANT 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.

**LUNCH (OPTIONAL):** Hilltop Park Restaurant, which is a seven-minute walk from Jumel Mansion, the end point of the tour. When you RSVP, please let us know if you plan to join us for lunch.