

## **NEXT WEEK AT QUEST**

**October 7 - 10, 2024**  
**This Is a 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: 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, OCTOBER 7 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY**  
**Subject:** Annie Get Your Gun  
**Presenter:** Ellie Schaffer  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** Peter Dichter, Arlynn Greenbaum, Sol Makon  
**Tech Support:** Victor Brener, Wayne Cotter

Mention the 1946 delightful Irving Berlin hit musical, *Annie Get Your Gun*, about the romance and rivalry between sharpshooters Annie Oakley and Frank Butler, and those who know it invariably smile and sing a line from “I Can Do Anything Better Than You” or “There’s No Business Like Show Business.” My favorite, “a man may be hot but he’s not when he’s shot,” is from Annie’s frustrated lament, “You Can’t Get a Man with a Gun.” Come listen as we explore the genesis of the show, the real Annie Oakley, the musical’s creators, and the brilliant songs of this love story and tribute to show business.

**Course:** **WONDERFUL BOOKS OUT LOUD**  
*Dubliners* by James Joyce  
**Subject:** *A Painful Case*, p. 103 in the Penguin Classics edition  
*A Mother*, p. 134 in the Penguin Classics edition  
**Facilitator:** Larry Shapiro  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** Harriet Finkelstein, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward  
**Tech Support:** Ruth Ward, Larry Shapiro

### **NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

James Joyce's *Dubliners* is a vivid and unflinching portrayal of Dublin at the turn of the twentieth century.

In this session we will take turns reading aloud and discussing *A Painful Case* and *A Mother*. In the "Age of COVID," sharing books is not a good idea; please bring your own book to class.

*Dubliners* is a fabulous read - join in the James Joyce experience!

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 @ 12:10 -12:50 PM**

**Course:** **NOONTIME MONDAYS**  
**Subject:** New Art Exhibits in Manhattan  
**Presenter:** Andrea Irvine, Sheryl Harawitz  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine**  
**Tech Support:** **Sheryl Harawitz**

Andrea will introduce us to two new exhibits in Manhattan: *Sevres Extraordinaire!* at Bard Gallery on West 86th street and *Madayin* at Asian Society on Park Avenue and 70th street. The former, a collection of exquisite sculpture 1740 to today from the Sevres Collection in Paris - the latter, eight decades of amazing Aboriginal Australian Bark Paintings.

Bring your lunch, let's explore and discuss art. As an added bonus, Sheryl will introduce us to a private museum.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 7 @ 1:00 - 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **CONTEMPORARY POETRY**  
**Subject:** Frank O'Hara and Lunch Poems  
**Presenter:** Mary Ann Donnelly  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Ellen Rittberg**, Mary Ann Donnelly, Karen Millard, Martha Drezin, Frieda Lipp  
**Tech Support:** **Felix Pina**

Frank O' Hara was a member of what was labeled The New York School of Poetry, and the lens through which readers saw New York. His poems capture an authentic urban flavor and sound like the city at its best: cosmopolitan, wry, romantic and full of potential. The poet John Ashbery described it as "... a scent of garbage, patchouli and carbon monoxide drifts across it..."

We'll focus on his Lunch Poems, many written during his lunch hour while working at MOMA in the early sixties, which he called his "I do this, I do that poetry" veering away from stuffy academic poetry. As we read his poems, we'll see how much of the bygone city we recognize.

No prior reading is required.

**Course:** **GREAT PLAYS**  
**Presenter:** Roy Clary  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Roy Clary**, Wayne Cotter, Frieda Lipp  
**Tech Support:** **Wayne Cotter**, Ruth Ward

“Radio Quest,” WQUE, 725 FM” presents COUPLES. Readings from four different Shakespeare plays with four different couples will be presented: Hotspur and Kate from *Henry IV, Part 1*, Brutus and Portia from *Julius Caesar*, Othello and Desdemona from *Othello*, and Macbeth and Lady Macbeth from *Macbeth*. The “Radio Quest” cast is Roy Clary, Jennifer Jolly, and Dorothy Kiara Lahm. Questers are encouraged to come and be part of the “Studio Audience.”

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**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK**  
**Subject:** The Art of Dutch Daily Life in the Golden Age  
**Presenter:** Tamara Weinberg  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** Hybrid **(To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Linda Downs**, Lynnel Garabedian, Bob Reiss, Ellen Shapiro  
**Tech Support:** **Ellen Shapiro**, Susan Diehl, Tamara Weinberg

This week’s presentation will continue to explore painting during the Dutch Golden Age, with a focus on scenes from everyday life created by artists including Frans Hals, Jan Steen, Judith Leyster, and Peter Wtewael. In contrast to last week’s dignified portraits, these lively genre paintings depict rosy-cheeked Dutch and Flemish folks engaging in their daily activities and enjoying themselves. The paintings are rife with visual humor - is the symbolism poking fun at lust and gluttony, or are the paintings meant as moralistic warnings against the sins of overindulgence?

**Course:** **SCIENCE CLUBHOUSE**  
**Subject:** The Future of Mathematics  
**Presenter:** Steve Allen  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Steve Allen**, Jim Brook, Marian Schultheis  
**Tech Support:** **Steve Chicoine**, Pete Weis

We'll report on a recent talk by mathematician Alex Kontorovich at New York's Museum of Mathematics. The topic of Kontorovich's talk was "The Future of Mathematics." He laid out a vision in which a collaboration between mathematicians and computers will have a profound impact on progress in developing new mathematics and on mathematical education at all levels, including graduate school. He presented evidence that this approach is already producing meaningful results.

As always, we look forward to lively and wide-ranging discussions of this and whatever topics pop up!

**Course:** **WORLD OF THEATER**  
**Subject:** The Life of Arthur Miller as Reflected In His Plays  
**Presenter:** Bob Reiss  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Yona Rogosin**, Mary Ann Donnelly, Karen Cullen, Lauren Gee  
**Tech Support:** **Ruth Ward**

Arthur Miller was arguably the most influential American playwright of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. We will present a brief biography of Miller and examine how he wove life experience into his plays, in particular, *The American Clock*, *After the Fall* and *The Crucible*. An excerpt from *After the Fall* will be performed in class by Questers Roy Clary and Dorothy Kiara Lahm and John Davis will read from *The American Clock*. Do join us for this special program.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 @ NOON – 12:45 PM**

**Course:** **SE HABLA ESPAÑOL (Spanish conversation)**  
**Presenter:** Richard Elrauch  
**Room:** 19  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Richard Elrauch**, Ellen Rittberg  
**Tech Support:** **Ruth Ward**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

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

We continue with the best of contemporary short documentaries, dramas, and comedies selected for their artistic merit and the probability of producing a lively discussion

**Course:** **IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE, CAN IT?**  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Lynnel Garabedian**, Sandy Kessler  
**Tech Support:** **Ellen Shapiro**

As we come to the final chapters of the book, the focus is mostly on the efforts of the New Underground to undermine the fascist policies of the Windrip regime and the consequences to those who are discovered to be its activist members. What are the different ways that Doremus, his daughters, friends and others contribute to the secret undertaking? What character traits motivate some people to risk their lives for a cause? How do some people, such as Doremus, manage to survive brutal psychological and physical torture? What do you think the very last sentence of the book means. Is it an optimistic ending?

**Course :** **JAZZ: YESTERDAY AND TODAY**  
**Subject:** Sun Ra: From Big Band to Outer Space  
**Presenter:** Steve Koenig  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** Hybrid  
**Coordinators:** **Sol Makon**, Debbi Honorof  
**Tech Support:** **Wayne Cotter**

Le Sony'r Ra (born Herman Poole Blount, May 22, 1914 – May 30, 1993), better known as Sun Ra, was an American jazz composer, bandleader, piano and synthesizer player, and poet, known for his experimental music, "cosmic" philosophy, prolific output, and theatrical performances. For much of his career, Sun Ra led The Arkestra, an ensemble with an ever-changing name and flexible line-up.

Claiming to be an alien from Saturn, on a mission to preach peace, he developed a mythical persona and an idiosyncratic credo that made him a pioneer of Afrofuturism. Its

performances often included dancers and musicians dressed in elaborate, futuristic costumes inspired by ancient Egyptian attire and the Space Age.

We'll see video performances, as well as audio-only performances. Hits include "Space Is the Place," "Enlightment [sic]" and a wild version of "Take the A Train."

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **FASCINATING NONFICTION**  
**Subject:** *You Are What You Watch:  
How Movies and TV Affect Everything*  
by Walter Hickey  
**Presenter:** Ruth Ward  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** Harriet Finkelstein, Bob Reiss, Ruth Ward  
**Tech Support:** Bob Reiss, Wayne Cotter

#### **NO ADVANCE READING REQUIRED**

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Walter Hickey is a data journalist who covers pop culture. He claims that the average American spends more than a fifth of their life consuming media: watching movies and TV, reading books, and listening to music. We tend to dismiss this as mere diversion, as if when we walk out of a theater, we go back to being exactly who we were. But in reality, the media we consume --- and the act of consuming --- it affects people, culture, and the world in ways that are complex, profound, and unexpected. In this book, Hickey explores exactly how this thing we call "entertainment" has such a tremendous effect on us.

**Course:** **UPHEAVALS IN AMERICAN VALUES**  
**Subject:** Upheavals in the Workplace  
**Presenter:** Debbi Honorof  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** Michael Wellner, Maureen Berman, Terri Hicks  
**Tech Support:** Michael Wellner, Felix Pina

Because we live in a rapidly changing, hyper-connected, global economy, today's workplace is very different than in previous decades. New technologies are being introduced in record time, the pandemic has forced employers to offer remote and hybrid work, artificial intelligence is moving into the workplace at a record pace. And new generations of workers are challenging employers to improve their work/life balance, increase corporate social responsibility, and provide more opportunities to learn new skills. Today's presentation will focus on the current workplace, how we got here, and

what the future holds. And we look for your input, too: please ask your family members and friends who are still working what changes and challenges they have seen in their own workplaces.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9 @ 12:10 - 12:55 PM**

**Course:** **BOOK CLUB**  
**Book:** *Eastbound*  
**Author:** Maylis de Kerangal  
**Presenter:** Lois Klein  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Jan Goldstein**, Susannah Falk Lewis, Joan Vreeland

One of the New York Times 10 Best Books of the Year, the novel is the gripping story of an unlikely pair - a Russian soldier and a French woman who cross paths on the Trans-Siberian railroad, each heading East for their own reasons.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9 @ 1:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURE SERIES**  
**Subject:** *THE TIMES*: How the Newspaper of Record Survived Scandal Scorn, and the Transformation of Journalism  
**Speaker:** Adam Nagourney  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** Hybrid **(To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Arlynn Greenbaum**, Bob Reiss, Karen Levin, Estelle Selzer  
**Tech Support:** **Bob Reiss**, Wayne Cotter

Adam Nagourney has been a journalist for over 45 years. Before joining *The New York Times*, he worked at *USA Today*, *The New York Daily News*, and the *Gannett Westchester Newspapers*. After being hired by *The Times* in 1996, he served as the paper's metropolitan political correspondent, chief national political correspondent, Los Angeles bureau chief, and West Coast culture reporter. He is now covering the 2024 presidential race.

Mr. Nagourney will have a conversation with Estelle Selzer and then we will open the floor to Q&A.

Please join us as we learn about four most pivotal decades of *The New York Times*.

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**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10 @ 10:30 AM – NOON**

**Course:** **BEETHOVEN: THE MIDDLE YEARS**  
**Subject:** Op 59, 1, 2, 3, the Rasumovsky String Quartets  
**Presenters:** Arlene Hajinlian, QuartetXX, Steve Chicoine  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Arlene Hajinlian**, Larry Shapiro  
**Tech Support:** **Steve Chicoine**

The three Opus 59 Rasumovsky string quartets composed in 1805-06 are considered by many to be among the greatest of all time, true gems. Our guest musicians, Natalie Wolford and Frank Yoon, violins, Martha Kessler, cello, Arlene, viola, QuartetXX, presented the Op 18 quartets last semester, and are returning to sample some of this most demanding music in Op 59, no 1 and 2. Steve Chicoine will talk about what makes Op 59, no 3 so outstanding. These are all real chamber music jewels! Join us!

**Course:** **NYC & ITS ENVIRONS: PEOPLE, PLACES, THINGS**  
**Subject:** Bay Ridge and Fort Hamilton  
**Presenter:** Susan Altman  
**Room:** 15-17  
**Format:** **Hybrid (To be Recorded)**  
**Coordinators:** **Paul Golomb**, Bob Reiss, Sandra Abramson  
**Tech Support:** **Paul Golomb**, Bob Reiss

From Native American fishing grounds to military outpost, to one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the city, Bay Ridge and Fort Hamilton has a rich a varied history. To this day, it is worth a trip down the R line to sample hummus and baba ganouj.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10 @ 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Course:** **EXPLORATIONS IN PHILOSOPHY & LITERATURE**  
**Subject:** The Ethics of Civil Disobedience  
**Room:** 27  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Larry Shapiro**, Steve Allen  
**Tech Support:** **Steve Chicoine**, Larry Shapiro

We'll cover and discuss a wide range of contemporary philosophical views on the ethics of civil disobedience, considering both what constraints people committed to civil disobedience should place on their actions and what constraints governments should place on their responses to civil disobedience. We'll explain why there is a wide-spread consensus among philosophers to distinguish civil disobedience, as an organized, largely non-violent protest designed to change existing laws, from individual acts of conscientious objection, and also from violent revolutions designed to force change. All the philosophers we consider regard the non-violent protests against racial discrimination led by Martin Luther King to constitute a worthy paradigm for civil disobedience. But we'll discuss disagreements about the degree to which some use of violence or some use of non-violent coercion, such as a sustained disruption of traffic, should still be considered ethical.

Readings will be distributed through QuestBusiness in advance of the class.

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

Write a poem using the cue word "overwhelmed" 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.

**Course:** **THE TWILIGHT ZONE**  
**Subject:** Aliens Among Us  
**Presenters:** Andrea Irvine, Tamara Weinberg  
**Room:** Auditorium  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Coordinators:** **Tamara Weinberg**, Marian Friedmann  
**Tech Support:** **Tamara Weinberg**

In this week's episodes, late 1950's Cold War paranoia is expressed as a fear of aliens. In one episode, a neighborhood is torn apart as its residents become suspicious of each other and are convinced that someone might be an extraterrestrial. In our other episode, a UFO crash landing puts cops on the lookout for the missing aliens among strangers snowbound in a diner. A similar theme plays out quite differently in these two early episodes of *The Twilight Zone*

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10 @ 2:45 PM**

**Course:** **SOLE MATES**  
**Format:** In-Person Only  
**Room:** Gather by elevator 7th Floor at 2:45 PM  
**Coordinators:** **Andrea Irvine, Marian Friedmann**

Marian and Andrea will lead us on a walk along the Hudson River ending at a rest spot for refreshments, food, socialization. Up to you how far you walk - lots of transportation options at Oculus. No signups, not commitments - a fun and healthy way to end a week of Questing.

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