



CITY COLLEGE IS 

CITY COLLEGE of NEW YORK
Center for Worker Education, Bowling Green Campus
25 Broadway, 7th floor, New York City, NY 10004
PHONE: 212.925.6625 ext.229
EMAIL: quest@ccny.cuny.edu
WEB: www.questonline.org

Quest Curriculum

a Community for Lifelong Learning



Spring 2012

Spring Calendar

Week Starting	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Feb. 6	First Day of Class	A	A	A
Feb. 13	No Class	B	B	B
Feb. 20	No Class	A	A	A
Feb. 27	B	B	B	B
March 5	A	A	A	A
March 12	B	B	B	B
March 19	A	A	A	A
March 26	B	B	1 pm General Meeting	B
April 2	A	A	A	A
April 9	SPRING BREAK			
April 16	B	B	B	B
April 23	A	A	A	A
April 30	B	B	B	B
May 7	A	A	A	A
May 14	B	B	B	Last Day of Class

Spring Schedule

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
A WEEK				
Morning	Great Books	Supreme Court	History of Clothing	Contemporary Short Stories
10:30 am-12 pm	Aspects of Western Dance	Incredibly Strange Music	Contemporary Opera	World of Choices
			Exploring the Human/Animal Connection	
Lunch: 12-1 pm				
Afternoon	World War I	Jazz Legends	Shakespeare	Acting Workshop for Beginners
1 pm - 2:30pm	Life Drawing	Domestic Affairs	Science & Math for Everyone	Fiction into Film
				Proust
B WEEK				
Morning	Movers and Shakers	Artists and Their Work	History of Medicine	Great Plays
10:30 am-12 pm		Foreign Affairs	Grand Opera	Point of View
	The World of Mystery Fiction		New York City Its History, Heritage, Heart	
Lunch: 12-1 pm				
Afternoon	Acting Workshop Advanced	Writers' Workshop	Guest Speakers	Film Today
1pm - 2:30pm	A History of Architecture	Irish Literature in the 21st c.		Poets' Workshop (12:30pm)
	Contemporary Poetry	Short Films		The U.S. Constitution

Courses by Category

ART

Artists and Their Work
Life Drawing

DANCE

Aspects of Western Dance

DRAMA

Acting Workshop
for Beginners
Acting Workshop Advanced
Great Plays
Shakespeare

FILM

Fiction into Film
Film Today
Short Films

GOVERNMENT & WORLD AFFAIRS

Domestic Affairs
Foreign Affairs
Point of View
The Supreme Court
The US Constitution
A World of Choices

HISTORY

The History of Clothing
Through the Ages
Movers and Shakers
New York City: Its History,
Its Heritage, Its Heart
World War I

LITERATURE

Contemporary Poetry
Contemporary Short Stories
The Great Books:
An Introduction
The Human-Animal
Connection in
Literary Texts
Irish Literature
in the 21st Century
Poets' Workshop
Proust
World of Mystery Fiction
Writers' Workshop

MUSIC

Contemporary Opera
Grand Opera
Incredibly Strange Music
Jazz Legends

SCIENCE, MATH & TECHNOLOGY

History of Architecture
History of Medicine
Science and Math
for Everyone

Spring Courses

ACTING WORKSHOP FOR BEGINNERS

Coordinators: Panny King, Marilyn Rosen

We will explore basic acting techniques and character development using exercises, monologues and improvisations.

■ **A WEEK / Thursday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

ACTING WORKSHOP—ADVANCED

Coordinators: Roy Clary, Panny King, Marilyn Rosen

We will continue with the advanced actors, working to polish their acting skills and develop material for our annual presentation at the end of the semester.

■ **B WEEK / Monday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

ARTISTS AND THEIR WORK

Coordinators: Sandy Gordon, Helen Goodman, Bob Reiss

Art is the visual language of culture and society, and artists are the scribes. Using lecture with visual presentation, we examine the work of selected artists in the context of their life and time. This semester, our focus will be on *The History of the Art of Spain*.

■ **B WEEK / Tuesday / 10:30am to 12pm**

ASPECTS OF WESTERN DANCE

Coordinators: Harriet Greenberg, Ruth Kovner, Sandra Southwell

We will study contemporary choreographers and dancers from the mid-20th century to the present. We will celebrate the lives and works of Bob Fosse, Agnes DeMille, Mark Morris, Mikhail Baryshnikov and others. The course will be non-technical and presenters will make ample use of mixed media. Come and be inspired and entertained by these giants of the dance world.

■ **A WEEK / Monday / 10:30am to 12pm**

Spring Courses

CONTEMPORARY OPERA

Coordinators: Joan Briller, Steven Koenig

At each session, we will view a different opera and engage in a discussion of the text, staging and medium. We will compare productions and correlate with historical and cultural events. This semester may include Britten's *Owen Wingrave*, Hartmann's *Simplicius Simplicimus*, John Adams' *The Death of Klinghoffer*, Krása's Terezin camp children's opera *Brundibar*, Dusapin's *Faust's Last Night*, Aperghis' *Little Red Riding Hood*, Strauss' *Intermezzo*, Vivier's *Rêves d'un Marco Polo*, Phillip Glass' *Kepler* as well as jazz, computer and rock opera.

■ A WEEK / Wednesday / 10:30am to 12pm

CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES

Coordinators: Mary Buchwald, Frieda Lipp, Nancy Richardson

At each session, two class members present selections from *The Pen/O. Henry Prize Stories 2010*, or stories by foreign authors in translation. The presenters give background on the authors and other relevant information and draw on the class for discussion.

■ A WEEK / Thursday / 10:30am to 12pm

CONTEMPORARY POETRY

Coordinators: Stan Raffes, Eva Shatkin

From close reading and discussion of the work of contemporary poets, we uncover a new world of enjoyment. Class members choose poems to present and lead the discussion.

■ B WEEK / Monday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

Coordinators: Steve Allen, John Hood

The title of this course emphasizes the parallel to our current Foreign Affairs course, but the issues will have a domestic theme — issues of economics, law, ethics, public policy, etc. Like Foreign Affairs, each week will consist of a focused discussion of an issue with long-term consequences, combining a presentation of arguments supporting different viewpoints and relevant data, followed by a class discussion. A short list of readings will be made available each week for those who want to do some preparation.

■ A WEEK / Tuesday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

New course EXPLORING THE HUMAN-ANIMAL CONNECTION IN LITERARY TEXTS

Coordinators: June Dwyer, Frieda Lipp

In this course we will address the impact of biblical narratives, revolutionary theory and the environmental movement on our perception of animals. In our readings we will be analyzing the ideas of a number of writers with respect to our shifting relationship with other members of the animal kingdom. Among the issues we will consider are tameness and wildness, hunting, zoos, petkeeping, and the parameters and dangers of animal research.

■ A WEEK / Wednesday / 10:30am to 12pm

FICTION INTO FILM: RUMPOLE OF THE BAILEY

Coordinators: Betty Farber, Harriet Greenberg, Ruth Kovner

What happens to a work of fiction when it is adapted for film? At home, class members will read an assigned short story chosen from the book, "The First Rumpole Omnibus" by John Mortimer. These stories combine humor and legal drama, often with a message about justice. Then in class we will discuss the story, followed by a screening of the episode that appeared on PBS. Finally, we will compare the written work with the film version.

■ A WEEK / Thursday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

FILM TODAY (formerly Today's Films)

Coordinators: Herb Rude, Howard Salik, Beverly Wasserman

This is a discussion class. At their leisure, class members will see two or three traditional studio or independent films selected by class vote for review at our next session. The discussion will include a critique of the cinematic elements of the film, comparisons to other films by the same director, the actors' performances, or if the film is adapted from a book, how do they compare. For the last 30 minutes of each session we have added *Behind the Scenes*, which will cover a person or aspect of film which has left a permanent impact on the industry. Class members are encouraged to volunteer to lead all discussions.

■ B WEEK / Thursday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm

Spring Courses

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Coordinators: *Howard Salik, Sandra Southwell*

In this course we will examine and discuss world affairs, problems and challenges, based on articles published in *Foreign Affairs Journal*. Presenters will review articles, along with relevant data from other sources (no homework necessary!), and then lead the class in a discussion.

■ **B WEEK / Tuesday / 10:30am to 12pm**

GRAND OPERA

Coordinators: *Frieda Lipp, Jerry Wiesenber*

This class is for the person who wants to appreciate and understand opera. At each session we show a video of an opera, and give a brief history of the work and its composer or we may select a common theme and show excerpts from various works. Discussion follows.

■ **B WEEK / Wednesday / 10:30am to 12pm**

THE GREAT BOOKS: AN INTRODUCTION

Coordinators: *Franz Friedrich, June Dwyer, Eva Shatkin*

We continue with the Second Series of The Great Books Reading and Discussion Series. Readings will pick up at Kierkegaard *The Knight of Faith*. In our “shared inquiry” format, class members read the assigned selection and discuss aspects of fact, interpretation and evaluation of the text in response to questions from the coordinators.

■ **A WEEK / Monday / 10:30am to 12pm**

GREAT PLAYS

Coordinators: *Roy Clary, Beverly Francus, Helen Neilson*

We present leading European and American works. Each session begins with a brief biography of the playwright, followed by a read performance of the play in edited form. A class discussion of the theme of the play and its relevance to our lives follows.

■ **B WEEK / Thursday / 10:30am to 12pm**

A HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE

Coordinators: *Bob Reiss, Michael Wellner*

Most buildings and structures that we see were designed by someone — and usually that someone was an architect. From the earliest civilizations to contemporary times, this course will examine the history of architecture, its basic concepts and theories and how buildings and structures have changed over the centuries. We will consider Asian, Islamic, Medieval, Renaissance, Modern and Post-Modern buildings.

■ **B WEEK / Monday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

THE HISTORY OF CLOTHING THROUGH THE AGES

Coordinators: *Marian Friedmann, Pam Mahl*

We continue to explore the who, what, where, when and why of clothing from Africa, the Americas, Asia, and the Middle East, as well as special clothing, wedding attire, uniforms for pilots, stewardesses, soldiers and Playboy bunnies to name a few. Other topics will include the inventions that changed the way fabric and clothing are produced. We will visit the history of religious attire, ceremonial and ritual clothing, jewelry, “casual Friday” and more.

■ **A WEEK / Wednesday / 10:30am to 12pm**

THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

Coordinators: *Bob Reiss, Sandra Southwell*

This course will focus on medical advances in history, and medical challenges in the world today. Topics will include discoveries such as DNA, circulation, vaccines, insulin, HIV/AIDS, in addition to questions about such subjects as tropical diseases, medical ethics, approaches to cancer, medical treatment in emerging countries, and medicine in the workplace.

■ **B WEEK / Wednesday / 10:30am to 12pm**

Spring Courses

New course INCREDIBLY STRANGE MUSIC

Coordinators: *Steven Koenig, Joan Briller*

Listen to and discuss some lesser-known paths and byways of the ever-evolving world of sound and music. Themes may include Musique Concrète, Computer and Electronic Music; Castrati, Falsetti and Male Sopranos; Percussions; Process Music, Drones and Minimalism; Sounds from Outer Space; Sound Text and Jazz Poetry; Humor in Music; Collage, Mash-ups and Plunderphonics; Weird Folk and Rock; and Strange Instruments such as the musical saw, ondes martenot, balloons, the glass harmonica, aerophones, hydrophones, and the theremin.

■ **A WEEK / Tuesday / 10:30am to 12pm**

IRISH LITERATURE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Coordinators: *June Dwyer, Carolyn McGuire*

Literature of 21st century Ireland will be read and discussed in light of the rise and fall of the Celtic Tiger. Issues of modern society such as violence, youth alienation and political corruption will be addressed while still being reflective of characteristics of the Irish culture. We will read the works of emerging Irish writers, playwrights and poets Enda Walsh, Michael West and John McManus as well as new works by Sebastian Barry, Marina Carr, Conor McPherson and Frank McGuinness.

■ **B WEEK / Tuesday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

New course JAZZ LEGENDS

Coordinators: *Vivian Oliver, Doreen De Martini*

Each class session will feature an in-depth exploration of one jazz artist. The focus will be on their lives, influences, evolution of style, and their legacy to the world of jazz. With extensive use of video and audio material, the course will examine artists from different periods and with a variety of styles.

■ **A WEEK / Tuesday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

LIFE DRAWING

Coordinators: *Carole Abrahams, Barbara Spector Karr, Donna Rubens*

This is a hands-on class in which we draw the human form in a variety of poses from a live model. We bring our own drawing materials: pads and pens, pencils, Conte crayon or charcoal, and a portfolio or sturdy bag. (No liquid media, please.) Materials may be stored at Quest.

■ **A WEEK / Monday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Coordinators: *David Robinson, Isidore Schwartzman*

Who were the strong characters, men and women, who shaped their world and ours? We will examine the lives and accomplishments of the outstanding, and sometimes unexpected, personalities who made a difference to society and whose ideas and actions have had lasting influence, whether for good or ill. Our subjects range from Caligula to the Beatles.

■ **B WEEK / Monday / 10:30am to 12pm**

NEW YORK CITY: ITS HISTORY, ITS HERITAGE, ITS HEART

Coordinators: *Roy Clary, Doreen DeMartini, Michael Wellner*

Feel the essence of the city, its challenges and the promise it holds. Join us as we explore the city's origins, the boroughs and their consolidation as well as the current mix of vibrant neighborhoods. We will study the city's architecture, government, politics, economy, education system and transportation infrastructure and more. Learn why New York is considered the financial and entertainment capital of the world and is a Mecca for sports, art, music and cultural institutions.

■ **B WEEK / Wednesday / 10:30am to 12pm**

POETS' WORKSHOP

Coordinators: *Joan Bonagura, Barbara Spector Karr, Helen Neilson*

The focus is on reading aloud and sharing your own poems in a supportive environment where you'll get detailed feedback. You are encouraged to experiment, to explore language, and to address all aspects of the craft in order to develop your own distinctive style and voice. This class begins a half-hour early, at 12:30 P.M.

■ **B WEEK / Thursday / 12:30pm to 2:30pm**

Spring Courses

POINT OF VIEW

Coordinators: *Russell Good, Barbara Gordon*

This is an interactive discussion class, in which the coordinators (as well as the class members) bring in short opinion pieces—editorials, op-ed articles, reviews, etc.—that express a particular point of view. The class votes as to which of the pieces they wish to discuss that day and then we present arguments for or against the expressed views.

■ **B WEEK / Thursday / 10:30am to 12pm**

PROUST

Coordinators: *Florence Granowitter and Class*

This will be a Seminar course and participants will rotate, taking turns conducting the sessions. We will continue our reading of *In Search of Lost Time*, using the Modern Library edition of Marcel Proust's masterpiece. This semester we will continue volume IV, *Sodom and Gomorrah*. Questers who are new to this class can obtain summaries of the first three volumes at online bookstores.

■ **A WEEK / Thursday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS FOR EVERYONE

Coordinators: *Steve Allen, David Robinson, Burt Saltzberg*

If you're convinced that science and math are boring and too hard to understand, this course may change your mind. Our view is that science and math are liberal arts that can enrich everyone's life and that can be discussed in a way that is accessible to all. In each session we will examine an issue that is in the news or has public-policy implications, or wider cultural implications. No topic will require prior readings, though an article (at about the level of the *Science Times* or *Scientific American*) may sometimes be suggested.

■ **A WEEK / Wednesday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

SHAKESPEARE

Coordinators: *Roy Clary, Betty Farber, Stan Raffles*

In class, we will read aloud and discuss *Cymbeline*. One of Shakespeare's later plays, it defies classification for it is a marvelous mixture of history, legend, romance, comedy, tragedy and half-a-dozen other things.

■ **A WEEK / Wednesday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

SHORT FILMS: LESS IS SOMETIMES REALLY BETTER THAN MORE

Coordinators: *Marian Friedmann, Caroline Thompson*

Short films—by definition, films less than an hour long, and often less than half that—are often a fascinating means of probing important political, social and philosophical issues. Join us as we watch some of the most important short films of recent years. They may make you laugh or cry, amuse or anger you. But all are guaranteed to spark a stimulating discussion.

■ **B WEEK / Tuesday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

THE SUPREME COURT

Coordinators: *Martin Helpern, Alvin Kabot*

We will examine and discuss recent landmark decisions of the Court, as well as important issues raised by cases coming before the Court in 2011. We will gain further insight into the Court and its Justices through topical papers presented in class, and through critiques of current books and articles on the subject.

■ **A WEEK / Tuesday / 10:30am to 12pm**

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

Coordinators: *Martin Helpern, David Judlowitz, Ralph Shapiro, Michael Wellner*

Few subjects are more in the news today than our Constitution. From the Tea Party to the Supreme Court, it seems as if everyone is talking about the document that is the basis for our government. But how did it come to be? Who wrote it, and why? This course will examine the origins of the Constitution; those who wrote it; the difficulties that they encountered; the compromises made, and so much more.

■ **B WEEK / Thursday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

Spring Courses

New course A WORLD OF CHOICES

Coordinators: *Stuart Dunn, Franz Friedrich, Bert Saltzburg*

Since life on earth began, evolution has equipped Homo sapiens with huge brains, stunning adaptability and brilliantly successful technical prowess. Humans have learned to exploit the energy of fossil fuels and the atom. We have developed language and complex societies. But our successes have brought us to the brink of catastrophe. This course will consider the state of the world and the alternative choices facing humankind for saving our civilization in light of our human characteristics which make it difficult to deal with our challenges.

■ **A WEEK / Thursday / 10:30am to 12pm**

WORLD OF MYSTERY FICTION

Coordinators: *Sandra Southwell, Jerry Wiesenberg*

This course is designed to explore and enjoy various types of mystery fiction and mystery writers. After a review of the various genres, each subsequent session will examine a particular mystery writer (with all genres covered throughout the year). Examples of authors to be discussed are Poe, Christie, Marsh, Hammett, Spillane, Tremayne, Simenon and Gardiner. The class will read a short piece by a selected author at home, noting the writer's style and approach to mystery.

■ **B WEEK / Monday / 10:30am to 12pm**

WORLD WAR I: THE "GREAT WAR"

Coordinators: *Helen McMahon, Caroline Thompson*

World War I resulted from a history of complex political relationships dating back to the 19th Century. It was to become the first "total war" involving entire societies mobilized to wage unrestrained war. This course will examine causes as well as topics like trench warfare, the Eastern, Western and Southern Fronts, new military technology, the war at sea and blockades, life under occupation and ultimately the Paris Peace Talks and their long term implications.

■ **A WEEK / Monday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

WRITERS' WORKSHOP

Coordinators: *Joan Bonagura, Barbara Spector Karr, Donna Rubens*

Members read aloud their short stories, memoirs, essays and poems, to which the class reacts and offers suggestions. The critiques are supportive to both seasoned writers and beginners, and are intended to develop and encourage writing skills.

■ **B WEEK / Tuesday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

Something Extra

GUEST LECTURE SERIES

Coordinator: *Sandy Gordon*

The bi-monthly QUEST Distinguished Guest Lecture Series, Wednesdays at 1:00 pm, enhances the QUEST program by inviting recognized experts in their fields to present varied subjects. Past presentations have included Global Policy and Political Science, Science, Anthropology, Literature, Theater Arts, Social Science, and Music. All lectures are followed by a vigorous Q & A.

■ **B WEEK / Wednesday / 1:00pm to 2:30pm**

FRIDAY MUSEUM TOURS

Coordinators: *Joan Briller, Yvonne Kress*

Inspired by the success of last year's visits to "under the radar" museums, we plan to offer two more docent-led visits this semester. We will vary the experience each time focusing on different disciplines. Watch for a sign-up sheet on the Quest bulletin board. Lunch together after the tour is optional, and it's always at a restaurant an easy walk from the museum.