MCLG 315.01: Major Hispanic Authors - Cervantes

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Course Description:

This approved upper-division writing class offers intensive study of a major Hispanic author. This semester we are reading Cervantes’s *Exemplary Stories* and *Don Quixote*. This class will provide students with an understanding of Cervantes’s artistic achievement within the socio-historical and literary context of Spain’s Golden Age and will help them become more confident and effective writers in the field of Hispanic/Literary Studies. Since Cervantes’s books are fundamentally about readers reading or misreading, and about writers writing, or failing to write, this class will also concentrate on Cervantes’s own theory of literary production and its influence in contemporary literature and literary criticism.

Learning outcomes:

Upon completing the upper-division writing requirement, the student should be able to:

- Identify and pursue more sophisticated questions for academic inquiry
- Find, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize information effectively from diverse sources
- Manage multiple perspectives as appropriate
- Recognize the purposes and needs of discipline-specific audiences and adopt the academic voice necessary for the chosen discipline
- Use multiple drafts, revision, and editing in conducting inquiry and preparing written work
- Follow the conventions of citation, documentation, and formal presentation appropriate to that discipline
- Develop competence in information technology and digital literacy

Required Texts:


*Material in traditional & electronic reserve (password Dulcinea )
*MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (Library)

Requirements/Student Assessment:

Jr-Sr standing and completion of Writing Proficiency Assessment
Attendance/Active Participation*  20%
4 Take-home assignments **  50%
2 Exams  30%

*Class Participation: Attendance is required: there is a maximum of four unexplained absences (use them wisely). Any additional absence will lower your grade by 2%. A satisfactory participation grade assumes that you come to class each day prepared and ready to engage in the discussions. This also includes individual performance on short quizzes intended to assess and encourage close daily readings of the assignments.

** 4 Short papers of 4-5 pages. They require either a close reading (Explication de texte) of specific passages or a short essay about a topic provided by the instructor (in the latter case, I will assign the topic a week in advance). You must follow the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers guidelines on the physical format of the paper and on the way of documenting print and electronic sources. For each paper you should use at least five secondary sources. Failure to follow the appropriate format and/or use an adequate number of secondary sources will lower your grade by 5 points. Papers are due at the beginning of the class period, they must be submitted in print and they must be delivered in person (AND, of course, you must also be prepared to discuss the reading assignment for the day!!!!)

Web Resources

Web Cervantes by the University of Alcalá (http://cervantes.uah.es)
The Cervantes Project (http://www.cSDL.tamu.edu/cervantes/english/) 
Cervantes Virtual Library (http://cervantesvirtual.com)

Important Notices:

No grade of “I” (incomplete) will be given
No late work of any kind will be accepted, please do not ask
If you are a student with a disability who will require reasonable program modifications in this course, please meet with Disability Services for Students in Lommasson 154 for assistance in developing a plan to address program modifications. If you are already working with Disability Services arrange to meet with me during my office hours to discuss reasonable modifications that may be necessary. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at http://www.umt.edu/disability.

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321

Grading Scale:

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<thead>
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<td>60-62</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>59 &amp; below</td>
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Calendar:

1st week: August 26, 28 & 30
- Introduction
- Video: The Buried Mirror, The Age of Gold VT 07542
- Don Quixote: Chapts 1-6
  GE: A Note on the Title p. xiii-xiv

2nd week: September 2, 4 & 6
- Labor Day
- Don Quixote: Chapts 7-12
- Don Quixote: Chapts 13-18

3rd week: September 9, 11 & 13
- Don Quixote: Chapts 19-22
- Don Quixote: Chapts 23-26
- Don Quixote: Chapts 27-29
  First assignment
4th week: September 16, 18 & 20
— Don Quixote: Chaps 30-33
— Don Quixote: Chaps 34-37
— Don Quixote: Chaps 38-41

5th week: September 23, 25 & 27
— Don Quixote: Chaps 42-46
— Don Quixote: Chaps 47-49
— Don Quixote: Chaps 50-52
* rewrite due

6th week: September 30, October 2 & 4
— First exam (Don Quixote First Part)
— Prologue to the Exemplary Stories
— The Little Gipsy Girl

7th week: October 7, 9 & 11
— The Little Gipsy Girl
— The Spanish-English Lady
— The Spanish-English Lady

8th week: October 14, 16 & 18
— The Illustrious Kitchen Maid
— The Illustrious Kitchen Maid
— The Power of Blood
Second assignment

9th week: October 21, 23 & 25
— Rinconete and Cortadillo
— Rinconete and Cortadillo
— The Deceitful Marriage

10th week: October 28, 30 & November 1
— Deceitful Marriage/Dialogue
Grinberg & Rodríguez, “Cervantes as cultural ancestor of Freud”
— The Dialogue of the Dogs
— The Dialogue of the Dogs

11th week: November 4, 6 & 8
— Don Quixote Part Two: Prologue
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chaps 1-8
Foucault, “What is an Author?”
Third assignment
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chapts 9-16

12th week: November 11, 13 & 15
— Veterans Day
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chapts 17-23
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chapts 24-30

13th week: November 18, 20, 22
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chapts 31-36
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chapts 37-42
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chapts 43-48

Fourth assignment

14th week: November 25
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chapts 49-54
— Nabokov. Cruelty and Mystification’. p. 51-74

Thanksgiving Vacation

15th week: December 2, 4 & 6
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chapts 55-60
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chapts 61-66
— Don Quixote Part Two: Chapts 67-74

Final Exam: Monday, Dec 9, 8:00 a.m. -10:00