

## STUDENT'S GUIDE

### CERVANTES. THE ADVENTURES OF DON QUIXOTE.



#### Course Description

The course is aimed at students who wish to have a comprehensive knowledge of the figure, and work of Miguel de Cervantes, as well as of the time in which the author lived. The structure of the course integrates different artistic manifestations present in the historical evolution of the 16th and 17th centuries, and makes these artistic manifestations tangible for the student in Cervantes' literary texts.

The idea is to bring the student closer to the life and work of our most international author. Each literary work will be studied in its essential characteristics and will be placed within a specific period.

Within this framework, the world views of the social groups involved in Spanish literature will be highlighted.

The class will be completed with the reading of texts of Cervantes' works, with a special dedication to Don Quixote de la Mancha, which will be read in an abbreviated version.

## Introduction of the Professor

### Carlos Herrero



He holds a Degree in History from the University of Alcalá and a Diploma of Advanced Studies in Medieval History. He has participated in the European project CLIOHRES in the group: "Frontiers and Identities" between 2005 and 2009. His research interest focuses on Cultural Studies, the formation of national identities and discourses of otherness throughout History. He teaches in the Study Abroad in Spain Program and he is a researcher at the Instituto Franklin-UAH. He is a regular contributor to the blog "Diálogo Atlántico" and is currently working on his doctoral thesis in North American Studies on the concept and image of Spain among North American travelers during the Spanish Civil War.

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## Learning Results

### Course Objectives

The objective of the course is to increase the knowledge that students can get from Spanish culture and literature within the framework of its most universal literary representative.

- To know and use the narrative techniques and influences of the classical culture, both Greek and Roman, as well as those of the culture of Spain in order to interpret the current world. Going back to the sources of the Spanish and European myths and stereotypes, and the construction of an identity reality that unifies the peoples of the Iberian Peninsula with Latin America.

- To understand the literature of the Golden Century, the formal and cultural aspects of its origins and the subsequent influence on universal literature and culture.
- To know the influence that Cervantes' literature and its maximum exponent Don Quixote has had on North American culture, from the 19th century to the current series and films.

### Requirements or level of Spanish needed

In the class we will only speak in Spanish. The use of English in the class would prevent the student from being totally immersed in the process of learning Spanish. In addition, it is important to emphasize that in order to understand and take advantage of the class we ask you to make an extra effort to learn and use specific vocabulary with the sole purpose of familiarizing yourself with the language of the subject. For a better understanding of the class we recommend a high level of Spanish.

### Competences

<b>Competence 1.</b>	Reading and understanding Cervantes' literature
<b>Competence 2.</b>	Comment and argue with complex ideas the texts, reading, speaking or writing.
<b>Competence 3.</b>	To analyze the most relevant stylistic characteristics of Cervantes' works so that the student knows how to locate them within the movement, the style and the period in which they were written.
<b>Competence 4.</b>	Develop critical capacity to express opinions
<b>Competence 5.</b>	Get to know the Spanish literary trends of the 16th and 17th centuries, as well as the characteristics and the most influential authors.
<b>Competence 6.</b>	Expose and defend both in writing and orally the knowledge acquired.
<b>Competence 7.</b>	To achieve a global and linear knowledge of the life and work of Cervantes.

### Practical application of the course

The main objective of the course is to learn about the relationship between Cervantes and Don Quixote, with later universal literature. The practical application of the course consists in understanding the mechanisms of the Spanish language, how these reached their maximum expression in the literature of the Spanish Golden Century (which was the most complex and refined Spanish), and how even today, continues to be the fundamental basis of the Spanish language in the world.

1. To know and understand the Spanish culture through the literature of the Golden Age and, especially, Cervantes.
2. To improve reading and writing skills through an understanding of Cervantine literature.
3. Learn about Spain as a country different from the United States that has its stereotypes. In this way, you will learn to value what is foreign to you and learn about the elements that build the identity of a people or country.
4. Learn about the relationship between Don Quixote and the cinema and contemporary literature of the 21st century, both in Europe and in the United States.

### **Basic Bibliography**

Miguel de Cervantes, *El Quijote*, Anaya (2015).

### **Extra Bibliography**

- Burke, Peter, *El Renacimiento*, Crítica, Barcelona, 1999.
- Maravall, José Antonio, *La cultura del Barroco*, Ariel, Barcelona, 1983.
- Riley [1980]: Riley, Edward C., «DQ and the Origins of the Novel», *C. and the Renaissance*, ed. M.D. McGaha, Juan de la Cuesta, Newark, 1980, pp. 125-140.
- Riquer, Martín de, *Para leer a Cervantes*, Acontilado, Barcelona, 2010.

The specific bibliography will be delivered by the teacher in the forum of each module and will depend on the student's response and the cultural and linguistic level he or she possesses so that it can be adapted in a coherent and formative way