



# SPAN 417 - MASTERPIECES OF THE SPANISH GOLDEN AGE

Department of Foreign Languages      Fall 2014

<i>Professor:</i> Dr. Germán DePatricio	<i>Meeting time:</i> MW 3:30-4:45 <i>Classroom:</i> LA 4114
<i>Office hours:</i> LA 4141, MWF 1-2 and by appointment	<i>E mail:</i> <a href="mailto:gdepatricio@towson.edu">gdepatricio@towson.edu</a>

**PREREQUISITES:** SPAN 301 and 302 or equivalent.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** SPAN 417, *Masterpieces of the Spanish Golden Age*, is dedicated to studying Spanish literature with collateral readings. It is conducted in Spanish. This course will introduce students to the most important texts and authors in the history of Spanish literature. We will cover the most important authors of the Classical Spanish Literature: Cervantes, Quevedo, Lope de Vega, and Calderón. The objective of this course is to emphasize the relationship between the historical, political, ideological, social, and aesthetic contexts and the creation of literary expressions. Students will analyze a variety of literary genres from poetry, prose, and theater. This course may be repeated only once without the prior permission of the Academic Standards Committee. GenEd II.C.3: Western Heritage: Cultural Plurality and Diversity and Core 5: Arts & Humanities.

### **REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:**

Cervantes, Miguel de. *Tres novelas ejemplares. A Dual-language book.*  
*Selected poetry of F. de Quevedo. A bilingual edition.*  
Vega, Lope de. *Fuenteovejuna. A Dual-language book.*  
Calderón de la Barca. Pedro. *La vida es sueño. A Dual-language book.*

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Students are expected to achieve a panoramic view of the history of Spanish literature with particular emphasis placed on approaching a literary work with an understanding of the context in which it was created. Students will have actively contributed to class discussions and participated in class activities, synthesized and expressed their understandings of course material in exams, and applied critical reading, analytical, research and writing skills in different assignments. All of these activities will have served to improve students' Spanish comprehension and expression, both orally and in writing. In this course you will expand your knowledge of Spanish culture and literature by reading Golden Age Spanish literature. Reading and analyzing these texts, you will achieve a deep understanding of Spanish cultural complexity and rich diversity. Upon successful completion of this course you will be able to:

- read Spanish literature from Golden Age period;
- identify contributions made by Spanish literature and culture to the world;
- analyze poetry, narrative and drama using specific terminology;
- explain and interpret Spanish literature in relation to its context;
- justify interpretations integrating information from various sources (the text, the context, the author, previous texts, scholarly articles, specialized books...)

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Attendance is obligatory for Spanish 201. In order for students to progress in their understanding and speaking of Spanish, they must be exposed to hearing and speaking it on a regular basis. The only excused absences are the following: participation in a scheduled event as a member of a university-sponsored athletic/scholastic team (official absence form required); religious holidays; accident or illness (accident report or doctor's note required); or a death in the immediate family. Excuses for absences must be submitted and appointments for make-up work made within 1 week of the time of return. Students may not make up graded work for unexcused absences. You are allowed two (2) free absences. Beyond that, for each additional absence, five percentage points will be deducted from your final grade.

**EXPECTATIONS:** Students should plan to spend at least half an hour a day reading and preparing for class. Due to the nature and the amount of readings students are advised to plan ahead and keep up with all readings and assignments following the course calendar. Students are expected to read carefully the texts before each class, to look up unknown vocabulary and to come prepared to discuss them. Participation in all in-class and Blackboard activities is essential. Students must be respectful and assist in the establishment and maintenance of a positive learning environment. Spanish is the language of instruction and students need to maintain its use. Students will make oral presentations and write essays in Spanish.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** If you need accommodation due to a disability, please make an appointment to see me during the first two weeks of classes, and bring a statement from Disability Support Services (410-704-2638) authorizing your accommodation.

**EVALUATION:** In order to get credit for your work you must turn it in by the due date. Students who will not be in class due to excused absences must complete their assignments. Feel free to contact your professor ahead of time if you need any clarifications. A passing grade is a C (73-76) or better. As of fall 2004, the plus/minus grading system is mandatory in all classes. The final grade in this course will be determined from the following components:

COURSE COMPONENTS & PERCENTAGES		GRADING SCALE			
Exams (5)	60% (12% each)				
Homework & Participation / Tests	30% (15% each)	94-100 A	87-89 B+	77-79 C+	60-69 D
Research paper	20 %	90-93 A-	84-86 B	70-76 C	00-60 F
Oral presentation	10%		80-83 B-		

Please be aware of the fact that these rules are flexible and it may be necessary to modify them during the course of the semester

**HOMEWORK:** Before you start reading the assigned texts, read the *Preguntas de comprensión, Articles and Other Readings* that your Professor will provide. They will help you focus on the important information while reading the text and will provide a good basis for discussion during class. Make sure that you have at least half an hour without distractions to read. Read every day, even if you get ahead in the syllabus because we will cover all the readings assigned. Complete all the questions that your Professor will provide - *Preguntas de comprensión, Articles & Other Readings*- because partial completion of the questions will result in no credit since it would imply you are not prepared for class discussions. Should any doubts arise while you are answering the questions, write them down together with what you think the answer can be and what makes you doubt in order to bring the question up in class for discussion. Always underline where you found your answer in the text to facilitate referring others during your explanations in class discussions. Not writing anything will be perceived as lack of preparation and no credit for that day's homework will be received. You will need to turn in your questions each day of class.

**Looking up vocabulary:** Read and understand the *Preguntas de comprensión, Articles & Other Readings* before you begin to read the actual text. They will serve as indicators of what you need to pay attention to in your reading. Then read the first whole page without stopping. If you do not understand what is happening and cannot answer the questions, underline unknown vocabulary and look it up. Then read the whole page again. Proceed this way with all the text. Looking up vocabulary as it comes up will slow you down, interrupt your reading process and difficult your understanding of the text.

**Participation criteria**

Your participation will be evaluated daily in class according to the following criteria:

**SUPERIOR (9-10)**

- Spoke exclusively in Spanish during whole class and group discussions
- Often initiated interactions by responding to classmates' comments and instructor's questions.
- Was listening attentively when others spoke
- Showed respect and a positive attitude toward professor, peers and subject
- Actively participated in all activities
- Completed all the homework and came to class well prepared

**GOOD (8-8.9)**

- Spoke Spanish during whole class and rarely used English during small group activities
- In whole class discussion, participation is sometimes limited to answering instructor's questions
- Was usually an active listener and never interrupted.
- Generally contributed actively to getting the task done in group work
- Completed all the homework and came to class prepared.

**AVERAGE (7-7.9)**

- Spoke mainly Spanish but used some English during small group activities.
- In whole class discussion, sometimes did not answer instructor's questions
- Was frequently an active listener, only rarely didn't listen while others talked. Never interrupted.
- Contributed some work to getting the task done in group work
- Completed all the homework and came to class rather prepared.

**UNSATISFACTORY (6-6.9)**

- Used as much English as Spanish
- Barely spoke during classroom discussions or group work
- Didn't contribute much to getting the task done in group work
- Passively participated in activities and discussions, responding very minimally
- Completed all the homework but was unprepared for class.

**FAILURE (0)**

- Used more English than Spanish
- Did not speak during classroom discussions or group work
- Engaged in conversations in English during small group work
- Did not complete the homework. Unprepared for class.
- Slept, read newspaper, talked about unrelated subjects
- Did not bring materials required for class
- Absent

**EXAMS:** For each author there will be a written exam (Cervantes, Quevedo, Lope, Calderón: 12% each) and a cumulative final exam (12%). Exams will contain activities to match the authors with their texts and their literary periods, identification of short passages, short answer questions and an essay question. We have multi-media exams on the Language Lab: some questions will require watching an online video with earphones, then answer questions about it on your exam.

**TESTS. Literary Terms -15%.** There will be 3 quizzes on the list of literary terms (5% each). One on Theater, one on Narrative and one on Poetry.

**PAPER:** Students will turn in a written essay of 3 pages (20%). This paper must approach a text that has not been analyzed in class, and your Professor must approve your choice before you start writing. It is required to follow this procedure. No papers will be accepted without the Professor's approval beforehand. Along the semester you will select any peninsular Spanish author; then find a text by this author that we have not studied this semester and write a three page essay with your analysis of that text. Also find at least two journal articles and two books about the text and the author. Then write you own original analysis: First briefly introduce the author, the literary period and the text. Then analyze the text explaining the main idea, include the literary devices used and how they support that idea. Finally, justify how well this text fits within the characteristics of its literary period and its socio-political and cultural context.

**Oral Presentation.** Each student will give a ten-minute presentation. A brief proposal of their presentation topic must be turned in by the second week. The project in Power Point must be sent or brought to the instructor before the pre-presentation meeting. The project must have an introduction, a display of research outcomes, and a final conclusion. The grade students receive for the oral presentation is made out of two parts: Pre-presentation Meeting (50% of the grade: it gives your Professor the chance to guide you, correct your grammar, review content, suggest sources, help you in your analysis, and give you plenty of feedback) and Oral Performance (50% of the grade). When presenting, reading is not acceptable. If you read, you will not earn points in this area, for this is not a reading exercise.

**Behavior.** No laptops, cell phones, or other electronic devices may be used during class. Any student using these devices will have their participation grade reduced. You can email me at whatever time you like, but if you contact me after 6pm or during weekends I cannot guarantee that I will be able to respond before next class.

**Your responsibility:** For each credit hour, it is expected that you spend an average of 2 hours at home on homework and class preparation. You must prepare for the class before you come to class. You are expected to come to class having prepared the material and homework on the syllabus for that day and ready to participate actively in class. Class will be conducted only in Spanish. It is your responsibility to let your instructor know if you do not understand and to consult him during office hours with any questions or concerns.

### VERY IMPORTANT DATES:

**September 5 (Friday):** Last day to **drop/add** a course with no grade posted to academic record.

**November 20 (Thursday):** Last day to **withdraw** from a semester course with a grade of W.

## CALENDARIO DE CLASES

<u>Fecha</u>	<u>Para estudiar</u>	<u>Tarea (DUE ON THIS DATE)</u>
27 de agosto	Introducción al curso	
1 de septiembre	<b>LABOR DAY (No hay clase)</b>	
3 de septiembre	El Renacimiento. Cervantes	<i>Contexto del Siglo de Oro (Bb), The Golden Age (Bb)</i>
	<i>Las novelas ejemplares 1: La gitanilla</i>	Cervantes (Bb), Preguntas, Términos literarios Narrativa
	<i>Last day to drop course with no grade posted to academic record / Last day to add a course</i>	
8 de septiembre	Test 1 (Narrativa)	Traer el tema de la presentación oral
10 de septiembre	<i>Las novelas ejemplares 2: Rinconete</i>	Preguntas de comprensión
15 de septiembre	<i>Las novelas ejemplares 3: Coloquio perros</i>	Artículo de Adolfo Bonilla, Artículo de Gonzalo Sobejano
17 de septiembre	Examen 1: Cervantes	
22 de septiembre	El Barroco. Conceptismo y culteranismo	Quevedo (Bb), Artículo de J. H. Elliot
24 de septiembre	Poesía de Quevedo	Artículo, Preguntas, Términos literarios Poesía
29 de septiembre	Test 2 (Poesía)	
1 de octubre	Poesía de Quevedo 2	Artículo, Preguntas
6 de octubre	Examen 2: Quevedo	
8 de octubre	El Teatro Nacional	Lope de Vega (Bb), Preguntas
13 de octubre	Test 3 (teatro)	
15 de octubre	<i>Fuenteovejuna 1</i>	Artículo de W. Blue, Intro de Wyszynski

20 de octubre	<i>Fuenteovejuna 2</i>	Preguntas, Términos literarios Teatro
		Traer el tema del ENSAYO
22 de octubre	<i>Fuenteovejuna 3</i>	Artículo, Preguntas
27 de octubre	Repaso	
29 de octubre	Examen 3: Lope de Vega	
3 de noviembre	Presentaciones orales 1	
5 de noviembre	Presentaciones orales 2	
10 de noviembre	La decadencia política	Decadencia política en el Siglo de Oro
12 de noviembre	<i>La vida es sueño 1</i>	Calderón (Bb), Intro de V. Martin, Preguntas
17 de noviembre	<i>La vida es sueño 2</i>	Artículo de E. R. Cuadros, Preguntas
19 de noviembre	<i>La vida es sueño 3</i>	
	<i>20 de noviembre: Last day to withdraw from a semester course with a grade of W.</i>	
24 de noviembre	Examen 4: Calderón	
26 de noviembre	<b>VACACIONES – NO HAY CLASE</b>	
1 de diciembre	Repaso general	
3 de diciembre	Repaso general	
8 de diciembre	Repaso general	

## **EXAMEN FINAL: Wednesday, December 12, 10.15-12.15**

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:**

The Academic Integrity Policy of Towson University is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility (1) to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student's own work, (2) to refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the University community (like plagiarism or cheating) which will result in *failure of the course*, and (3) to foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of the University community. Students are expected to uphold the Academic Integrity Policy published on the Towson University Catalog.

By staying in this class students agree to uphold The Academic Integrity Policy of Towson University, acknowledge to have read and thoroughly understand this syllabus and accept accountability for compliance with it.

### **EMERGENCY STATEMENT:**

In the event of a University-wide emergency, course requirements deadlines and grading schemes are subject to changes that may include alternative delivery methods, alternative methods of interaction with the instructor, class materials, and/or classmates, a revised attendance policy, and a revised semester calendar and/or grading scheme. In the case of a University-wide emergency, please refer to the course Blackboard page for changes in the course under the Announcements section.

For general information about any emergency situation, please refer to the following:

1. Web Site: [www.towson.edu](http://www.towson.edu)

2. TU Text Alert System: This is a service designed to alert the Towson University community via text messages to cell phones when situations arise on campus that affect the ability of the campus to function normally.

Sign up: <http://www.towson.edu/adminfinance/facilities/police/campusemergency/>