

Spring 2022 ♦ Graduate Courses in Spanish

SPN 511 / El mundo de Cervantes, autor del Quijote / asynchronous/ Dr. Gordon

Although he is best known today as a writer for his *Quijote*, the most translated non-religious book in the world, Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra (1547-1616) always considered himself a soldier first. Cervantes participated in, and was an eyewitness to, countless consequential historical events that helped shape the Spanish Empire. Exiled from Spain for 10 years in his early 20s, Cervantes's experiences outside the Iberian Peninsula included serving a well-connected Church figure in Italy, fighting the Ottoman Empire in the famous Battle of Lepanto, being captured by North African corsairs, surviving five and a half years of captivity in Muslim Algiers, and collecting funds to support the Spanish Armada's attempted invasion of England. Students will examine the causes and consequences of these political, military, religious, economic and social events that Cervantes experienced first-hand, and that defined the 16th- and 17th-century Mediterranean, by reading modern scholarship in Spanish and English and by engaging with primary Spanish texts from that era, specifically Cervantes's literary works. Finally, this asynchronous online course will require students to regularly contribute video discussion posts (and respond to classmates'), demonstrating insightful syntheses of readings and documentaries, to write and peer edit analytical essays, and to complete a final project on a topic of their choosing that will consist of an abstract, a proposal, and a research paper.

SPN 512 / Identidades mexicanas / Mondays 5 - 7:30pm / In-person & Zoom / Dr. Chandler

Mexico can be identified by in many ways, often by its territory, borders, constitution, or institutions. However, the definition of both personal and shared identity and what constitutes *lo mexicano* is a much more polemical and contested matter that moves beyond traditional geographic or national parameters. In this course we will explore the idea of Mexican identity through the analysis of works where Mexicans from today and the past engage in these very questions. Students will study a variety of texts including historical and philosophical writings, literature, film, popular music, graphic novels, religious texts, fine arts, street art, theater, and television. Through these varying perspectives we will delve into how economics, politics, religion, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, language, historical and cultural memory, borders, migration, and ecology filter and inform the always provisional and disputed idea of *lo mexicano*.

SPN 522 / Studies in Spanish American Literature: Critical Approaches to 20th and 21st Century Latin American Narrative / Thursdays 5 – 7:30pm / In-person & Zoom / Dr. Brignole

This seminar will cover canonical authors as well as younger contemporary writers still publishing in Latin America today. It will explore the literary contributions of pre-Boom, Boom and post-Boom writers, as they portray some of the major historical events of the 20th century and beyond. Through the literature of Latin American and Caribbean authors, you will gain an appreciation for how revolution, violence, repression, exile, and migration have shaped the lives of millions across the continent. A parallel goal of this course is to introduce you to a diverse array of critical perspectives, on genre and gender studies; cultural identity and nationalism, border, exile and migration studies; memory and postcolonial studies; interdisciplinary approaches; and queer and masculinity studies.

**Advising and registration questions?
Contact Dr. Boomershine at boomershinea@uncw.edu**