



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

In the footsteps of Don Quijote: A journey to the Spanish Golden Age Fiction - 29315

Last update 21-08-2025

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Spanish & Lat. Amer. Studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Spanish

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Or Hasson

Coordinator Email: or.hasson@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: by appointment

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Or Hasson

Course/Module description:

Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes impassioned readers from the moment of publication of its first part on 1605. We will discuss the main characteristics of Spanish Golden Age Literature (16th-17th Centuries), and the historical, social and cultural context that provided the basis for the creation of this famous literary masterpiece. We will refer to the way it both undermined the social norms of the Spanish society, and popular literary genres like the Chivalry books.

Course/Module aims:

The course aims to provide the students with a comprehensive knowledge of the work of Cervantes in its political, social and cultural context.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Recognize and discuss the major features of the Spanish Golden Age literature, society and history.
- Discuss the themes and forms characterizing the oeuvre of Cervantes.
- Identify the broad outlines of the narrative work by Cervantes and discuss its innovative contribution.
- Discuss the shifting social and cultural conditions which this oeuvre both reflect and help to model.
- Apply a range of key critical literary concepts to the texts studied
- Write critical essay/s at an advanced undergraduate level on the material studied.

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Seminar course: intensive reading and participation of the students in the class discussion.
The students can write a final seminar paper.

Course/Module Content:

- Introduction to the Spanish Golden Age period

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- *The Books of Chivalry.*
 - Amadís de Gaula*
 - *Don Quixote de la Mancha*

Required Reading:

1. Cervantes Saavedra, Miguel de. *El ingenioso hidalgo Don Quijote de la Mancha*.
2. [Garcirrodíguez de Montalvo] *Amadís de Gaula*, libro I: introducción y caps. 1-10 (hay traducción al hebreo).

Additional Reading Material:

The detailed readings appear in the complete syllabus.

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 70 %
Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports
/ Forum / Simulation / others 20 %
Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 10 %

Additional information:

About a month into the semester, a reading quiz of "Don Quixote" will be held. It is highly recommended to start reading the novel before the beginning of the course.