

Special Topics: Spanish Literature and Culture (A004223)

Course size	<i>(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)</i>		
Credits 5.0	Study time 150 h	Contact hrs	45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024

A (semester 2)	Spanish	Gent	seminar independent work peer teaching
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Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Rigaux, Maxim	LW07	lecturer-in-charge
Amann, Elizabeth	LW07	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages (main subject Linguistics and Literature)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Dutch - Spanish)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject English - Spanish)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - Spanish)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Spanish)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Iberian-Romance Languages)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Latin - Spanish)	5	A
Master of Arts in Historical Linguistics and Literature	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A

Teaching languages

Spanish

Keywords

Spanish, Golden-Age literature, text analysis

Position of the course

This advanced course deals with the main developments in the theater of the Spanish Golden Age. Through a selection of both canonical and non-canonical texts the course highlights the versatility of the genre. Special attention will be paid to the representation of gender and race. The course will also develop skills in close reading and text analysis.

Contents

The course examines the main trends in the development of Spanish theater in the Golden Age. The following topics may be discussed:

- Theories of drama during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance
- The impact of Lope de Vega and his 'Arte nuevo de hacer comedias'
- The wide variety of subgenres within the dramatic genre
- The political and social aspects of theater
- The original performance context of the plays
- The role of women as actresses and authors
- Lope de Vega, Tirso de Molina, Calderón de la Barca, Andrés de Claramonte, Ana Caro, María de Zayas, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz

- Rhyme and meter in the Spanish drama
 - Modern reception and performances of plays from the Golden Age
- Through interactive exercises, oral presentations and written assignments, students will improve their listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in Spanish.

Initial competences

- Fluent speaking and writing proficiency in the Spanish language
- Ability to follow and take notes on a lecture delivered at normal native speed in Spanish
- Familiarity with important authors of the Spanish Golden Age and with the most important movements in Spanish literature

Final competences

- 1 A deep, scholarly understanding of the specific characteristics of literary texts and the historical functions of literature.
- 2 Ability to evaluate actively and critically literary theories and methods and to begin to use them in addressing new problems.
- 3 Ability to formulate and to answer independently an original research question relating to the subject matter.
- 4 A critical understanding of the scholarship and the newest developments in the field and different research methodologies.
- 5 Ability to apply critically theoretical modes and analytical methods to complex problems.
- 6 Ability to reflect critically on one's own and others' research.
- 7 Intellectual curiosity and a lifelong commitment to learning.
- 8 Ability to report orally and in writing on the field and one's own research to specialists and non-specialists in Spanish.
- 9 Ability to present research orally and in writing in an academically responsible form.
- 10 Ability to recognize literary borrowings and intertextualities in the studied texts.
- 11 Familiarity with the historical and intellectual context of Golden-Age Spain and with the most important literary movements.
- 12 Ability to decipher Spanish Golden-Age texts, to recognize poetic forms (meter, rhyme, etc.) and to interpret poems in an original and sophisticated way.
- 13 Strong mastery of academic Spanish.
- 14 An outstanding knowledge of Spanish and an ability to adapt the language readily to diverse contexts of use

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, microteaching, seminar, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods

Seminars (on campus or online, if necessary), independent work, oral presentations.

Learning materials and price

Texts and articles (available via Minerva)

Fuenteovejuna, La vida es sueño, El burlador de Sevilla, Los empeños de la casa (Standaard Boekhandel)

Cost: around 45 EUR

References

Depends on the chosen themes.

Course content-related study coaching

Timely and clear communication of the aims and expectations, collective and individual discussion with lecturer.

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

1. Participation: Attendance during classes is mandatory.
 2. Text analysis: Preparation of a number of questions about the assigned text
 3. Performance: performance of a scene from one of the works read (in groups of two to three, depending on the scene)
 4. Assignment: essay in which two scenes are compared and contrasted (students are free to choose their analytical approach)
- Language use will be an important evaluation criterion for both oral and written assignments.

A second examination period is possible only for students who have complied with the attendance requirement.

Calculation of the examination mark

Attendance and participation 10%

Assignments 35%

Performance 25%

Essay 30%

Attendance in the classes is mandatory. If a student does not participate in at least 75% of the lessons, he/she will not pass this course.

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

- 1 Student attendance during educational activities is required
- 2 Feedback can be given by email or telephone

Extra information:

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy