



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 46777

Name: Popular Literature and Courtesan Literature in the Middle Ages and the Spanish Golden Age

Cycle: Master's Degree

ECTS Credits: 6

Academic year: 2026-27

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
2267 - Master's Degree in Advanced Hispanic Studies: Application and Research	Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació	1	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
2267 - Master's Degree in Advanced Hispanic Studies: Application and Research	Literatura popular y literatura cortesana en la Edad Media y en los Siglos de Oro	ELECTIVES

COORDINATION

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SUMMARY

In the syllabus of the Master's Degree, this subject is part of the itinerary II (Spanish Literature and Hispanic Theatre) and III (Hispanic Studies).

The subject is aimed at the study of texts of Spanish literature and theatre from the Middle Ages and the Golden Age, based on the interdisciplinary approach to which the binomials popular culture and court culture, on the one hand, and orality and writing, on the other, give rise. The basis of the ethical, political and religious education that defined the Middle Ages continued through institutionalised instruction and noble and court patronage during the 16th and 17th centuries. At the same time, before the widespread dissemination and mainstream consumption of certain printed texts, there is a popular culture that is already appreciated or hidden in medieval texts and transmitted - or repressed, or censored - in the following centuries. This duality materialises in the text - oral or literary, collective or individual - through the ages, and affects all layers of artistic production.

Starting from this approach, the teaching activity and the students' work will be based on the dialectic

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between popular literature and courtly literature, between collective social history and individual history, in order to facilitate analysis, reflection and debate on the articulation or confrontation between the two, and the role played in all this by the means of production, as well as the understanding of the methods used to produce them. From the premise of a past that oscillates between these two poles of attraction, the analysis of literary texts in their socio-historical contexts will be approached, and a documented, updated and personal understanding of the value and function of the literary work within its genre and its time will be promoted. Thus, we will think about the educational systems of the Middle Ages - with emphasis on the situation of women -, in the passage from the oral to the materiality of the book and its dissemination, until we reach the analysis of the literary text, already converted into a poetic artefact whose intricacies the students will have to unravel. In this way, particular attention will be paid to the conventions of the literature of the period, both in terms of cultural issues (clichés, images) and formal aspects (metrics, versification, etc.), which will be approached both from the point of view of the writer and his audience (courtly and popular) and from the challenges involved in the textual transmission and publication of a classic.

As detailed in the workload, theory classes are complemented by practical classes. In addition to these classroom-based training activities, students also take part in conferences and seminars organised by the Department of Spanish Philology.

This subject takes particular account of SDG 4, and specifically contributes to "ensuring that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to promote sustainable development", which includes, among other aspects, "human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity".

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE**RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE**

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES**2267 - Master's Degree in Advanced Hispanic Studies: Application and Research**

Be able to acquire and apply knowledge of the techniques and procedures of academic writing.

Be able to acquire and transmit knowledge of the periods, movements, currents of thought, topics and issues that are specific to the field of Hispanic philology.

Be able to conduct teaching and research activities in Hispanic philology subject areas

Be able to critically analyse and explain texts, choosing the specific philological methodology according to the potential audience to which they are addressed

Be able to discuss the ideas of different theories in the field of Hispanic philology and to analyse their



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contributions critically in order to contextualise their achievements and contrast these with the knowledge acquired

Be able to read all types of Hispanic philological texts in a critical, analytical and competent manner, based on a pertinent method of analysis through which it is possible to draw all their implications, both in form and content

Be able to read texts critically by analysing and explaining them in relation to the keys of the cultural debate of the historical period to which they belong.

Ser capaces de aplicar en entornos profesionales los conocimientos y destrezas adquiridos, y de analizar el conjunto de variables que intervienen en el cruce entre teoría y práctica, captando conflictos y negociando soluciones, en el marco del diálogo y de la defensa de derechos y obligaciones, con criterios deontológicos y laborales.

Ser capaces de desempeñar un trabajo en equipo, fomentando las relaciones interpersonales, el diálogo, el respeto al otro y la no discriminación, ni lingüística ni social.

Ser capaces de emplear los recursos institucionales, los grandes instrumentos científicos, las técnicas, las bases de datos y bibliotecas, la bibliografía, las revistas especializadas y los nuevos recursos proporcionados por las TIC en el ámbito de estudio.

Students should communicate conclusions and underlying knowledge clearly and unambiguously to both specialized and non-specialized audiences.

Students should demonstrate self-directed learning skills for continued academic growth.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Orality and writing, between the Middle Ages and the Golden Age

Illiteracy and literate culture. Popular literature: popular culture and oral culture. Written culture: the book in its materiality. Secular and Christian spheres in Western literature.

2. Written culture, court society and literary patronage

Text, etiquette, and spectacle. Literature and the projection of courtly values: the pastoral genre.



3. Persistence and transformation of learned models in popular history, epic, and novel

Validity and metamorphosis of myths. Adventure and didacticism. Between corsairs and captives: from the Byzantine novel to the Valencian coast.

4. The literary expression of love versus the reality of carnal love

Courtly love, female subordination, and male sexual education. The literary representation of femininity and the desacralization of the body vs. the reality of women. Love in lyric poetry of the Golden Age: Neoplatonic and philographic concepts

5. The writer and their texts, the philologist and the classics

The uneven transmission of literature. The tools of the poet and the philologist: metrics and orthology. Restoring the word of the classics.

6. Doctrinal religion and popular religiosity

Spirituality and sin. Ideology and religious education through the senses: sight (religious painting) and hearing (sermon).

These contents will be reflected in the following learning outcomes:

To identify different interpretative models in relation to literary and theatrical texts from the Middle Ages and the 16th and 17th centuries.

To appreciate the relevance of classical literary and theatrical heritage and its revaluation based on current interpretative trends.

To identify the context of production and cultural reception of literary and theatrical texts from the Middle Ages and the 16th and 17th centuries, in relation to the dialectic between popular literature and courtly literature.



To know how to handle institutional resources, techniques, and scientific instruments both traditional and in new formats (bibliography, archives, libraries or documentation centers, databases, image banks) in the field of Hispanic literature and theater.

To know how to debate and communicate conclusions based on acquired and reasoned knowledge in a clear and precise manner.

To know how to produce a specialized work following academic guidelines.

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	40,00
Total hours	40,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	6,00
Individual or group project	0,00
Independent study and work	104,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	110,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Lectures (presentation of content based on theoretical developments) using various resources (texts, audiovisual materials, etc.).

Participatory practical classes (exercises, presentations, debates, tests, etc.), conducted individually or in groups.

Use of deductive procedures and strategies in applying acquired knowledge: problem detection and resolution, activities conducted individually or in groups (exercises, reading and critical commentary on various texts, writing assignments and/or oral presentation of results, etc.) based on prior content exposure.

Use of inductive procedures and strategies in applying acquired knowledge: problem detection and resolution, activities conducted individually or in groups (exercises, reading and critical commentary on various texts, writing assignments and/or oral presentation of results, etc.) based on basic guidelines to formulate subsequent theoretical development.

EVALUATION

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Assessment of active participation in the classroom and in tutorials (exercises, readings, activities, debates, etc.): 30% (Up to 3 points). The student's grade will be maintained throughout the course. Non recoverable in second call.

Assessment of written works that demonstrate the acquired competence and practical exercises and / or readings and / or exhibitions (individual and group): 70% (Up to 7 points). Recoverable in second call.

The Virtual Classroom platform will be used as a means of evaluation and communication of the results.

Intellectual honesty is vital in academic communities, and for the fair evaluation of student work. All work submitted in this course must be original authorship. Papers that make use of fraudulent collaboration or composition with the help of artificial intelligence (ChatGPT or others) will not be accepted, except if their use is part of the course content and is authorized by the faculty teaching the course.

Both in examinations and coursework, orthographic, grammatical, and lexical accuracy will be required. Each spelling or language error will result in a reduction of the final mark, which may lead to a failing grade.

The general system of qualifications will follow the regulations of the Universitat de València approved by the Consell de Govern on May 30, 2017. ACGUV 108/2017.

REFERENCES

BASIC

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ADDITIONAL

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