SPAN 4/521: La picaresca: Introducción al género clásico y sus orígenes

Dr. Robert Sanders
Course description:
We’ll explore the archetypal pícaro or rogue as manifested in the classic and uniquely Spanish genre of the picaresque and in the European and Indo-Arab origins of the genre. Students are invited to study the pícaro in later literary and film manifestations as well, such as Mark Twain’s Huckleberry Finn or the 5-times married, long time felon, thief, scamp and example of conduct to all women Moll Flanders. The course will introduce you to the canonical genre and allow you to research non-canonical works.

Texts listed as “en reserva” are not on reserve yet, but will be soon.

Textos principales:
Anónimo. La vida de Esopo, selección. En reserva.
Cervantes Saavedra, Miguel de. El coloquio de los perros Cipión y Berganza. En reserva.
Cervantes Saavedra, Miguel de. Rinconete y Cortadillo. En reserva.
Quevedo, Francisco de. La vida del buscón. En librerías universitarias y cibernéticas.

Student Learning Outcomes:
By the end of the course, the student should be able to:
- name at least three texts from the Spanish literary genre of the picaresque.
- describe the characteristics of a typical picaresque novel from Golden Age Spain.
- describe the picaresque character and distinguish it from other protagonists of the period.
- name and describe at least two texts that are precursors to the genre.
- name and describe at least three novel, theater, television or film characters from another period or country that display traits of the picaresque archetype.
- determine, through the selection and application of criteria and methods of literary or film analysis, whether or not a narrative that may contain elements of the picaresque or a character that displays characteristics of the pícaro should be considered a palimpsest of the picaresque. This selection, application and determination are to be presented in a research paper and an oral presentation.

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Textos principales:
Cervantes Saavedra, Miguel de. *El coloquio de los perros Cipión y Berganza*. En reserva y en cervantesvirtual.com
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