

ENGL-685-M01 Studies in Comparative Literature: Cervantes and Dickens
Saint Louis University Madrid Campus
Fall 2011

Instructor: Paul Vita

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Office: Padre Arrupe Hall, First Floor (Valle, 34)

Office Hours: 12:30 - 2:00 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays (please make an appointment)

Meeting Time: Mondays, 17:30-20:15

Room: Padre Rubio Hall – Room 1

Catalog Description: “Don Pickwick and Sancho Weller”: A reading of *Don Quixote*, *Pickwick Papers*, *David Copperfield*, and *Our Mutual Friend* to shed light on Dickens’s indebtedness to and innovations of Cervantes’s narrative art, with special attention to how the heterogeneous comic novel investigates social issues.

Curricular Information: ENGL-685 is a graduate seminar that fulfills requirements for the Masters of English program.

Course Goals: Students will:

- Read, analyze and discuss four masterpieces of narrative, as well as critical works that support interpretations of the texts, with attention to historical and cultural contexts and to theories and methods of literary analysis.
- Present their responses to, evaluation of, and engagement with the primary and second texts weekly, both through formal presentations and during class discussions.
- Write a minimum of 25 pages of prose analysis and scholarship, including the equivalent of a paper to be presented at a professional conference.

Learning Outcomes in Relation to the Five Dimensions of the SLU Experience: Reflective of its mission, Saint Louis University strives to engage its students, including those pursuing advanced degrees, in five interrelated dimensions contributing to the development of the whole person: 1) scholarship and knowledge, 2) intellectual inquiry and communication, 3) community building, 4) leadership and service, and 5) spirituality and values. Reading, analyzing, discussing, and writing about literature are activities in and of themselves that participate in the first two of these five dimensions. Through this seminar, students enter the community of literary scholars and researchers, at the Madrid Campus and beyond, a community that is comprised of generations of writers and readers who are in a timeless (and borderless) conversation about and with literary texts and their impact on society. The novels under discussion explore and raise questions of relevance to the last two dimensions, articulating and requiring readers to consider how they respond to the world in which they live as well as the worlds constructed by the Cervantes and Dickens.

Primary Texts:

Don Quixote, (Part 1, 1604; Part II, 1615)

The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club (1836-37)

David Copperfield (1850-51)

Our Mutual Friend (1863-64)

All texts are readily available on-line or in bookstores in Spain; thus, I have selected not to order them through the Madrid Campus book service. Any translation of *Don Quixote* will do, though we will discuss the various early translations of Cervantes’s novel along with its reception in England in class.

Theoretical and Critical Resources

- Auerbach, Erich. *Mimesis*. Trans. Willard R. Trask. Princeton, NJ: Princeton UP, 1953.
- Bakhtin, M. M. *The Dialogic Imagination*. Ed. Michael Holquist. Trans. Caryl Emerson and Michael Holquist, 1981. Austin, TX: U of Texas P, 1989.
- Calvo, Luis. "Dickens." *ABC* [Madrid] 29 December 1938: 3-5.
- . "Don Pickwick y Sancho Weller." *El Sol* [Madrid], 4 April 1936: 2.
- de Prada Merino, M^a Teresa Vázquez. "Martin Chuzzlewit: La herencia del Quijote." *Revista de Filología Inglesa* 30 (2009): 143-161.
- Dowling, Constance. "Cervantes, Dickens, and the World of the Juvenile Criminal." *The Dickensian* 82:4 [410] (Autumn 1986): 151-167.
- Easson, Angus. "Don Pickwick: Dickens and the Transformation of Cervantes." *Rereading Victorian Fiction*. Ed. Alice Jenkins, Juliet John. Basingstoke, England: Palgrave, 2002. 173-88.
- Elliott, J. H. *Imperial Spain: 1469-1716*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1963.
- Gale, Steven H. "Cervantes' Influence on Dickens, with Comparative Emphasis on *Don Quijote* and *Pickwick Papers*" *Anales Cervantinos*. 12 (1973): 135-56.
- Goetsche, Paul. "Charles Dickens's *The Pickwick Papers* and *Don Quixote*." *Cervantes in the English-Speaking World: New Essays*. Ed. Darío Fernández-Morera and Michael Hanker. Kassel, Germany: Reichenberger, 2005. 143-57.
- Jones, Joseph R. and Kenneth Douglas. *Don Quixote – Miguel Cervantes* (Norton Critical Edition). New York: Norton, 1981.
- Long, Pamela. "Fagin and Monopodio: The Source of *Oliver Twist* in Cervantes's *Rinconete y Cortadillo*." *The Dickensian* 90:2 (Summer 1994):117-24.
- . "Dickens, Cervantes and the Pick-Pocketing of an Image." *The Cervantean Heritage: Reception and Influence of Cervantes in Britain*. Ed. J.A.G. Ardila. London, England: Modern Humanities Research Association, 2009. 190-195.
- Lukács, George. *The Theory of the Novel*. Trans. Anna Bostock. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1971.
- Pollard, Arthur. Ed. *The Victorians*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1987.
- Potau, Mercedes. "Notes on Parallels between *The Pickwick Papers* and *Don Quixote*." *Dickens Quarterly* 10:2 (June 1993): 105-10.
- Smith, Alan E. "La española inglesa de Cervantes y *Bleak House* de Charles Dickens." *Volver a Cervantes, II*. Ed. Antonio Bernat Vistarini. Palma, Spain: Universitat de les Illes Balears, 2001. 1287-96.
- Vázquez de Prada Merion, M^a Teresa. "Ecos del *Quijote* en Charles Dickens. *La huella de Cervantes y del Quijote en la cultura anglosajona*. Ed. José Manuel Barrio Marco and María José Barrio Crespo. Valladolid: U of Valladolid, 2007.
- Welsh, Alexander. "Waverley, Pickwick, and Don Quixote" *Nineteenth-Century Fiction* 22:1 (1967 June): 19-30.
- Wilson, Edmund. "Dickens: The Two Scrooges." *The Wound and the Bow*. Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 1997 [1941]. 1-41.

Course Requirements:

1. Attendance, preparation, and participation in all class meetings.
2. 3 In-class presentations on topics of the student's choice.
3. Research paper on Cervantes and Dickens, including:
 - a. Proposal
 - b. Annotated bibliography
 - c. Paper presentation script (8 pages)
 - d. An abstract and final draft, incorporating instructor's and class feedback

SLU Global: I will do my best to post all course handouts on SLU Global, available through MySLU. In addition, students will be able to access assignments, a course calendar, their grades, and additional resources on-line via this learning technology.

Libraries and Research: While the SLU Madrid Library's collection is a modest one, there are several critical and theoretical works of especial interest to students in the class. In addition to the *PMLA*, students have access to the Proxy Server—perhaps Madrid's finest collection of electronic journals and databases—which hosts the MLA International Bibliography, the Oxford English Dictionary On-line, the Wellesley Index to Victorian Periodicals 1824-1900, Academic Search Premier, JSTOR, Project Muse, and 19th Century Masterfile. Students have reading privileges at other libraries in Madrid, including the National Library, UAM and UCM. Materials may be borrowed from me directly as well. Finally, I direct students to Alan Liu's *Voice of the Shuttle* (<http://vos.ucsb.edu/>) as an entry point for relevant links to information available on the web and the *Victorian Web*.

E-mail: Announcements and additional information will often be handled by e-mail. Please check your @slu.edu e-mail regularly.

Special Accommodations: Students with Disabilities: Any student who qualifies for special accommodations, due to presence of a disability, and feels it necessary to utilize them in order to meet the requirements of this course—as outlined in the syllabus, should contact Counseling/Disability Services. Please phone the office at 91 554-5858 (Ext. 230), or send an e-mail to disabilityservices-madrid@slu.edu. Students may also stop by the Counseling-Disabilities Services office in Padre Rubio Hall. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries.

Statement on Academic Integrity: Saint Louis University is a community of learning in which integrity and mutual trust are vital. Since the mission of the University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity," acts of falsehood violate its very reason for existence. We will discuss this matter during the first weeks of class, but students are asked to review the University's complete statement on academic honesty posted at: http://spain.slu.edu/academics/academic_advising/docs/Academic_integrity.pdf.

Grading Rubrics:	Participation and Presentations	50%
	Written Work	50%

Reading Schedule and Course Outline:

September 5: Course Introduction

September 12: Backgrounds and Beginnings

DQI: Part I

PP: I (Chapters 1-3)

Wilson, "Dickens: The Two Scrooges"

Durán, "Cervantes' Harassed and Vagabond Life"

September 19: Telling Stories / Interpolated Tales

DQI: Part II

PP: II-IV (Chapters 3-11)

Benjamin, "The Story Teller"

September 26: Dialogue and Dialogism

DQI: Part III

PP: V-VIII (Chapters 12-23)

Bakhtin, "Epic and Novel"

October 3: Satire, Parody and Irony

DQI: Part IV

PP: IX-XII (Chapters 24-33)

Lukács, *The Theory of the Novel*

October 10: Realisms I

DQII: Chapters 1-25

PP: XIII-XVI (Chapters 34-45)

Auerbach, "The Enchanted Dulcinea"

October 17: Realisms II: Chinese Mysticism

DQII: Chapters 26-50

PP: XVII-XX (Chapters 46-56)

Percas de Ponseti, "The Cave of Montesinos: Cervantes' Art of Fiction"

October 24: Autobiography and the Novel

DQII: Chapters 51-74

DC: I (Chapters 1-3)

Unamuno, "On the Reading and Interpretation of *Don Quixote*"

October 31: Dickens's Library at Gads Hill; David's Books

DC: II-VI (Chapters 4-18)

"Wit and Wisdom of Don Quixote"

November 7: Images of Madness

DC: VII-XIV (Chapters 19-43)

Cockshut, "Faith and Doubt in the Victorian Age"

November 14: Desire and the Novel

DC: XVI-XX (Chapters 44-64)

Girard, "'Triangular Desire' in *Don Quixote*"

November 21: The Human Body and the Novel

OMF: I-V (Book 1)

November 21: Narrative Structures

OMF: VI-X (Book 2)

November 28: Reading in the Novel

OMF: XI-XV (Book 3)

December 5: Social Justice and the Novel

OMF: XVI-XX (Book 4)

December 12: Research Presentations, Course Evaluation and Celebration