

YOU ARE WHAT YOU READ: *DON QUIXOTE* PART II

Early in *Don Quixote*, Part II-the 1615 "sequel" to the 1605 Part I-Cervantes writes: "Second parts are never very good." But this particular second part is an exception to the rule as Cervantes moves from a focus on satire and explorations of narrative possibilities, to a true metafiction: a fiction that has itself as a subject. Don Quixote even recognizes himself as a literary character, at the same time that many others in Part II, as readers of Part I, tailor their responses to him according to what they have read. Reading Part I of *Don Quixote* is not a prerequisite for this class, but is helpful. The first day will be dedicated in part to a review of Part I.

The format of the class will be some lecture but primarily discussion. Especially on the first day I will provide some context regarding Cervantes and his time. There will also be the occasional short readings, but these will be kept to a minimum given the length of the novel.

It will make life infinitely easier if we are all using the same edition: Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quixote*, translated by Edith Grossman, Harper Collins, 2003. Paperback. Available from Amazon (https://www.amazon.com/Don-Quixote-Miguel-Cervantes-ebook/dp/B001R1LCKS/ref=sr_1_3?dchild=1&keywords=grossman+quixote&qid=1620671455&sr=8-3). Kindle version pagination is almost the same as the paperback.

I highly recommend reading the entire Part II (from page 451 to the end) prior to day 1 so in preparation for each session you will be re-reading the novel.

Tentative Reading Schedule (subject to change)

Week:

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| 1 | Intro to course; brief review of part I; Prologue-Chapter 7 |
| 2 | Chapters 8-16 |
| 3 | Chapters 17-26 |
| 4 | Chapters 27-36 |
| 5 | Chapters 37-46 |
| 6 | Chapters 47-56 |
| 7 | Chapters 57-66 |
| 8 | Chapters 67-72 |

If you have read Part I that experience will help you see what Cervantes continues and what is new (or novel) about the second part. Here are some questions to consider:

- What is the effect of having Don Quixote as a character from Part I within Part II?
- How do Don Quixote and Sancho Panza develop throughout Part II? What changes do we see in their relationship?
- What novels (or other literary works or films) that you know reflect Cervantes's art?
- Why do we still read books like *Don Quixote*?

LEADER: Charles Ganelin, professor emeritus of Spanish at Miami University (Oxford, OH), has written on Cervantes as well as on Early Modern Spanish theatre and poetry.

LOCATION: Zoom

FRIDAYS: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 8 weeks beginning March 4 through April 22

MAXIMUM: 15