For Spaniards of the seventeenth century, one of the most salient features of the age in which they lived was the progressive development of a barrier between the individual’s exterior and his or her interiority. Political handbooks influenced by Machiavelli and Tacitus, as well as treatises on self-fashioning intended as how-to manuals for those living at the court popularized the idea that modern men and women differed from those of past times in that they excelled at creating appearances, using sophisticated techniques of simulation and dissimulation with the aim of preventing others from seeing “inside” them while, in turn, they tried to peep into everyone else’s heart. Students will read sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Spanish theatrical plays, novels, political handbooks and manuals of behavior. They will learn how notions of privacy and intimacy (always marked in terms of gender and class) acquired increasingly defined contours within the context of interpersonal communication at the court, political relations, and diplomatic conflicts.

Class: Wednesday, 3-5:50pm
at Boelter Hall 4413.

Office hours: Wednesday 2-3pm and by appointment at Rolfe Hall 5337.
Learning outcomes

By the end of the quarter you will be familiar with:

- the way in which early modern political theory and practice transformed the understanding of human psychology, placing the differentiation between the individual’s interiority and his or her outwards appearance at the center.
- the development of a conception of human beings as machines instructed in the arts of simulating and dissimulating the motives that lead them to action.
- the way in which politics and the mechanics of interpersonal communication reciprocally informed one another in the development of tools and methods to fashion one’s image for the others.
- how gender was a crucial differentiating factor that conditioned the possibilities available for the individuals to fashion themselves before others.
- the connection that early modern authors increasingly established between the lack of transparency in the relations among individuals and the impossibility to know anything in general, with the result that social mistrust became the symptom a broader issue of skepticism and disillusionment, and, at the same time, the knowledge of the psyche became a measure for epistemology.

Course requirements and final grade breakdown

In addition to class attendance, the following are required in SPAN 226:

A. Reading Responses and class participation:

For each class meeting you will find on CCLE one or more questions that address different issues of the readings. Before you start reading, please read the questions carefully. After reading, you must answer the questions and submit your work though CCLE at least three hours before the class meets (before noon).

B. Final Paper

You will write a final research paper of 6-7,000 words about a topic covered in the course, to be submitted via CCLE on December 17.

You need to hand in a brief abstract and a tentative bibliography for your paper by Week 6.

Attendance

You are expected to attend every class and also to have read all the materials assigned for each day and be prepared to engage in the discussion.

More than two absences will result in a failing grade in the course. Justified absences do not count as absences. Therefore, if you are absent from class due to a family or work emergency, please notify the professor and provide the necessary documentation.

Generally speaking, should you have any problem or difficulty, do not hesitate to contact the professor.
Plagiarism

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. The Office of the Dean of Students defines it as follows:

“Plagiarism is a serious offense. It is the presentation of another author's words or ideas as if they were your own. University regulations require that any case of plagiarism be sent to the Dean of Students for review.”

Any use of printed or online sources should be acknowledged through citation.

For further guidance on what constitutes plagiarism, please refer to: http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Video

If you have any doubt about whether particular actions might be considered plagiarism, please seek advice with your professor.

Weekly Outline of Readings

All the reading materials for the course will be available on CCLE in PDF format.

WEEK 1 · 10.03. Introduction

Introduction to the course. No readings required.

WEEK 2 · 10.10. To look good or to look true? Simulation and dissimulation.

Baldassare Castiglione, El cortesano, translated by Juan Boscán, Book I, Chapter 6.
Lucas Gracián Dantisco, El Galateo español, Excerpts.
Jon R. Snyder, “Not Empty Silence. The Age of Dissimulation”.
Stefania Tutino, “Telling the Truth: Equivocation and Mental Reservation Between Morality and Hermeneutics”.

WEEK 3 · 10.17. Subjectivity and politics. Reason of state.

Baltasar Álamos de Barrientos, “[Dedicatoria] A Don Francisco Gómez de Sandoval y Rojas”; “Discurso para inteligencia de los aforismos, uso y provecho dellos”; Excerpt from Álamos’s translation and commentary of Tacitus’ Annals, Book I.
You have the option of getting a grasp of what Tacitism means by watching the first of the six episodes of the 1968 series The Caesars.
Diego de Saavedra Fajardo, Empresas políticas, “Empresa 62”.
Jon R. Snyder, “The government of designs. Dissimulation and reason of state”.

WEEK 4 · 10.24. Female anonymity and urban life.

Tirso de Molina, La celosa de sí misma.
Carmen Peraita, “‘Like a portable house.’ The Culture of Tapado and the Politics of Anonymity in Urban Spaces of the Seventeenth Century”.
WEEK 5 · 10.30 (10h-11h30 AM). You are your illness. Interiority as physiology.

Juan Huarte de San Juan, *Examen de ingenios para las ciencias*, Excerpts.
Francisco de Quevedo y Villegas, *Visita y anatomía de la cabeza del eminentísimo cardenal Armando Richeleu*.

Henry Clark, “Privatizing Courtly Unmasking”.

WEEK 6 · 11.07. Watching inside men and women.

Fernández de Ribera, *Los antojos de mejor vista*.
Francisco de Quevedo y Villegas, *El mundo por de dentro*.


*Students hand in abstract of final research paper.*

WEEK 7 · 11.14. Privanza & Gender I.

Antonio Mira de Amescua, *El ejemplo mayor de la desdicha*.
María de Zayas, *El juez de su causa*.

WEEK 8 · 11.21. Privanza & Interiority.

*Workshop: Treatises on privanza.*


WEEK 9 · 11.28. Privanza & Gender II.

Pedro Calderón de La Barca, *La cisma de Inglaterra*.

Magdalena Sánchez, *The Empress, the Queen, and the Nun*, Excerpts.

WEEK 10 · 12.05. Suspicion and difference.

Miguel de Cervantes, *El retablo de las maravillas*.

Patrick O'Banion, “‘They will know our hearts’: Practicing the Art of Dissimulation on the Islamic Periphery”.