Foiled, Watson: How Sherlock's Hardest Case Sheds Light on Post-Franco Fiction in Pérez-Reverte's *The Fencing Master*

Dr. Jennifer Patterson Parrack
Tuesday, November 10, 1:40-2:30pm, Burdick 305
Part of UCA LLLC Faculty Symposium
Open to all

Watching the television show *Sherlock*, Dr. Jennifer Parrack experienced a profound sense of *déjà vu*—or, more precisely, a sense of *déjà lu*: the sense of already having read something. The plot of a novel she regularly teaches, *El Maestro de Esgrima* [*The Fencing Master*] followed that of *Sherlock Holmes* almost exactly. The similarities piqued her interest: Why would Arturo Pérez-Reverte's historical crime novel, set in mid-19th-century Spain, draw from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's famous detective series? What does reworking this story and setting it in the political turmoil of Spain's Glorious Revolution do? Join us on Tuesday, November 10, when Dr. Parrack will consider how a seemingly "popular" genre, detective fiction, can be used to recast and work through moments of political upheaval. Her talk will not only illuminate the connections between the canonical (literature) and popular culture (television), but will also give insight into the political climate of 19th-century Spain, promises to be of interest to detective fiction and history lovers alike. It is sure to forever alter how you see detective fiction.

Questions? Contact Dr. Katelyn Knox at kknox@uca.edu or scan: