

Fashioning Artistic Subjects: Pastoral Ataraxia in Cervantes



Dr. John Parrack
Thursday, October 29, 1:40-2:30pm,
Burdick 305
Part of UCA LLC Faculty
Symposium
Open to all students and faculty

“Life imitates Art far more than Art imitates Life”
- Oscar Wilde, “The Decay of Lying” (1889)

Are you seeking inner peace and tranquility?

Join us on Thursday, October 29 during X-period, when Dr. John Parrack will take us on a journey into the fiction of 16th- and 17th-century Spanish author, Miguel de Cervantes, whose characters seek this same state, called *ataraxia* in philosophical terms. According to Dr. Parrack, Cervantes was nothing short of revolutionary: He turned literary conventions on their head and purposely manipulates his readers. During his talk, Dr. Parrack will take up one of the most central age-old debates through the lens of Cervantes’s fiction: Does art imitate life or does life imitate art? Looking at a variety of characters who leave their comfortable lives to become shepherds, Dr. Parrack will show that answering this question is more complex than it outwardly seems. Dr. Parrack’s talk promises to challenge you to identify—and reevaluate—those fictional models you have fashioned your own life after—perhaps without even knowing it. Ultimately, his analysis will not only give you a new lens into Cervantes’s fiction, but it will also forever alter the role you see art and literature playing in your own quest for inner peace and tranquility.

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

