

Early Modern Spanish and Spanish American Texts The Newberry Library Rare Book Collection

On November 16, 2016, graduate students of the Literature of the Spanish Golden Age visited the Newberry Library to explore its collection of sixteenth and seventeenth century Spanish texts. They viewed books of various genres, including poetry, prose, autobiography, a dialogued novel, an encyclopedic collection of natural philosophy, a book of maxims, a book of emblems, a spiritual manual and a treatise.



The class was able to view the following treasures:

Exercitia spiritualia, Ignatius of Loyola (Roma, 1596)

La Celestina, Fernando de Rojas (Antwerp, 1599)

El ingenioso hidalgo don Quijote de la Mancha, Miguel de Cervantes (Madrid, 1605)

The Lyf of Mother Teresa of Jesus, Teresa de Ávila (Antwerp, 1611)

El ingenioso hidalgo don Quijote de la Mancha, Miguel de Cervantes (Madrid, 1615)

Política de Dios, Francisco de Quevedo (Navarra, 1631)

Historia naturae, maxime peregrinae, Juan Eusebio Nieremberg (Antwerp, 1635)

Todas las obras, Luis de Góngora (Madrid, 1654)

Idea de un príncipe político cristiano, Diego de Saavedra Fajardo (Antwerp, 1655)

In Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, José López de Avilés (México, 1669)

Art of Prudence, Baltasar Gracián (London, 1702)

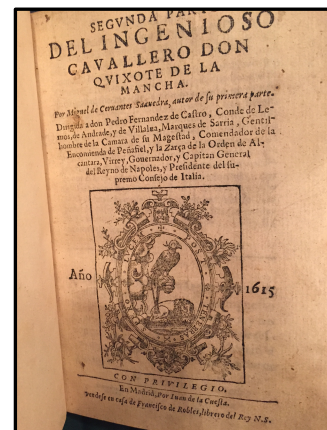




On March 12, 2015, the department's Spanish MA students, led by Dr. Ana Rodríguez Navas and Dr. D. Scott Hendrickson SJ, visited the Newberry Library to explore its extraordinary collection of Spanish and Latin American materials.

Our group was able to view the following treasures:

- “Third Letter of Relation” (1522), Hernán Cortés
- Map of Tenochtitlán (1524), Hernán Cortés
- *El ingenioso hidalgo don Quijote de la Mancha* (1605, 1615), Miguel de Cervantes
- *Historia natural y moral de las Indias* (1590), José de Acosta, SJ
- *Historia naturae, maxime peregrinae* (1635), Juan Eusebio Nieremberg, SJ
- Facsimile of the *Popol Vuh* (1700-1715), possibly the earliest surviving copy



“Not many people can say that they got the opportunity to touch the original copy of *Don Quijote*, or the letters of Hernán Cortés. That was an awesome experience that I will never forget.”

- Nate King.

“It was one of the most unique experiences I’ve ever had in my life, and it was fantastic.”

- Alex Korte

“I thought it was interesting not only seeing *Don Quijote* and the letters of Hernán Cortés, but also learning about how the Library acquires all of their books, the collections. And it was really interesting to see the original pigskin covers...”

- Allyson Doorn

“For me it was amazing to see these documents up close, not only because the literature has been so influential, but it was also cool to think about just physically, where these books and documents have been and whose hands they’ve passed through, ...about the books having a life of their own.”

- Amanda Swanson

“The best part for me would be just learning about the history of the Newberry library, and knowing that it is free to the public, and also getting to see the stacks, and seeing basically where the magic happens... It was a beautiful experience.”

- Sharon Almonte