Lecture blurb (MT 17)

Dr Laura Lonsdale, First-Person Narratives from Galdós to Marsé (VIII, XI)

In these lectures we will look at eight first-person narratives written by major Spanish authors, all of which you can study for Paper VIII and some of which are prescribed for Paper XI (Galdós, Valle-Inclán). The aim of the lecture course is to introduce you to a wide range of authors and texts, while developing your knowledge and understanding both of developments in the modern Spanish novel and of the first-person narrative mode, which brings to the fore questions of narrative authority, reliability and truth. The course will cover works by Galdós, Valle-Inclán, Unamuno, Cela, Delibes, Martín Gaite, Tusquets and Marsé, exploring the ways in which they innovate with the novel form, while exploiting the uncertainties implicit in first-person narrative to throw into doubt deep-rooted assumptions or beliefs, be they personal, cultural, philosophical or religious.