This course will approach early modern Spanish theater in light of current scholarship and the critical tradition that informs it. We will examine comedias as both early modern and contemporary theatrical spectacles, as playscripts with post-performance publication histories, and as “screenplays” adapted for contemporary televisual, cinematic and digital consumption. This process will involve a critical examination of the very notion of a “Spanish Golden Age” and its persistence in the diverse cultures of the Hispanic world. In addition to studying canonical texts included in the M.A. Reading List, we will expand our perspective by including peripheral and non-canonical voices (especially women playwrights) in our analysis. Evaluation of student learning will include 2-3 short analytical essays (5-7 pages each), as well as oral presentations of secondary readings.