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The Queen's College  
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Dear Fresher

We are delighted that we were able to offer you a place at Queen's. We hope your stay here will be a profitable and happy one.

To ensure that it is, you will need to read a number of texts before you come up in October. You will spend your first year here studying them in preparation for the Preliminary Examination in June 2015. Enclosed is a list of all the prescribed texts for your first year in Spanish; you should read the four listed for study in Michaelmas Term. You must complete this preparatory reading before this October, because otherwise you will find it impossible to keep up with your work when you come to Oxford. In your first term you will be having tutorials on the Cervantes novella, the play by Calderón, the poetry by Machado (except 'La Tierra de Alvar González'), and the novel by Vargas Llosa.

One of the difficulties students often find when they come here is the great concentration in language work on the need for grammatical precision and correctness. Your A-level (or equivalent) studies will not necessarily have prepared you for this. The best Spanish grammar is the one by John Butt and Carmen Benjamin, and we strongly recommend you to study it. There is a complementary workbook, *Practising Spanish Grammar*, by Christopher Pountain and Teresa de Carlos, which you may find helpful for working on particular areas of difficulty.

We are looking forward to seeing you in October, as are the students of Spanish already here. Don't hesitate to get in touch if there is anything else you need to know.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Laura Lonsdale  
Tutor in Spanish

PRELIMINARY READING FOR SPANISH

Michaelmas Term (Oct-Dec 2014)

- M. de Cervantes "Rinconete y Cortadillo"  
(from volume 1 of *Novelas ejemplares*, ed. H. Seiber,  
2 volumes, Cátedra)
- P. Calderón de la Barca *El médico de su honra*  
(ed. D.W. Cruickshank, Clásicos Castalia)
- Antonio Machado *Campos de Castilla*  
(in *Poesías completas*, ed. Selecciones Austral)
- M. Vargas Llosa *La fiesta del Chivo*

Hilary Term (Jan-Mar 2015)

- M. Díaz Roig (ed.) *El romancero viejo*  
(ed. Cátedra)  
poems: 1-3, 5-6, 8-9, 11, 13-14, 23-24, 29-32, 38-59, 63-66, 68,  
71-73, 76, 78, 83, 85-86, 88, 91, 94, 96-99, 101, 104, 111, 115-119, 121,  
125-128.
- Lope de Vega *Lírica*  
(ed. J.M. Blecua, Clásicos Castalia)  
poems 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 125, 126.  
NB This is out of print, but copies of the poems will be made available to  
you when you come up to Oxford.
- Góngora *Romances*  
(ed. Antonio Carreño, Cátedra)  
poems 3, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 23, 27, 48, 52, 58, 79.
- Quevedo *Poemas escogidos*  
(ed. J.M. Blecua, Clásicos Castalia)  
poems: 155, 160, 165, 167, 172.

Trinity Term (April – June 2015)

- Duque de Rivas "El conde de Villamediana"; "El Alcázar de Sevilla";  
"El fratricidio"; "Bailén"  
(from *Romances históricos*, ed. S. García, Cátedra)  
NB This is also out of print, but copies of the poems will be made  
available when you arrive.
- Antonio Machado 'La tierra de Alvar González', in *Campos de Castilla* as above.
- F. García Lorca *Romancero gitano*  
(ed. M. Hernández, Alianza)

The editions listed are the preferred ones, however if you cannot get these, other editions may be available. It is important that you look at these works regardless of which edition you use.