



**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: STAR WARS AND IDEOLOGY  
17 TO 20 APRIL 2018**

Paraninfo de la Facultad de Filología. Edificio A.  
Universidad Complutense de Madrid

These are bad times for *Star Wars*...

Despite being one of the most influential texts in contemporary culture, *Star Wars* has not yet received the academic attention it deserves. This is surprising since the saga reached a first moment of plenitude in an ideal context: the film revolution of the 1980s; later, videogames, comic books and the growth of the internet contributed enormously to prolonging the life of the *Star Wars* universe to our days. The still ongoing saga is, again, fuelling interest in the phenomenon.

*Star Wars* has contributed not just a story but also many key visual icons: Darth Vader, the robots, the laser sabre, the Millennium Falcon... These are symbols easy to recognize even by those who have never seen the films. The impact of *Star Wars* on society and culture depends also on many other elements: its genre hybridisation, its renewal of the hero, its adapting to different historical moments, its association with certain pop aesthetic traditions... None of these elements is free from an ideological background, which should inspire a deep socio-cultural reflection.

*Star Wars* must find a place for debate in the Spanish university. This is why we propose to use this conference to analyse the relationship between the saga and its underlying ideology (or ideologies).

**Proposed themes**

1. Amidala, Leia, Rey and the voiceless women: *Star Wars* and feminism.
2. *Star Wars* and power
  - a. Politics in *Star Wars*: «So This Is How Liberty Dies, With Thunderous Applause».
  - b. War and terrorism in *Star Wars*.
3. *Star Wars* and otherness: identity, imperialism, de-colonialism...
4. Political-historical context and social change around *Star Wars*.
5. *Star Wars* and the cultural policy of affect: «Fear is the path to the Dark Side.»
6. Author cinema vs. cultural industry: fetishism and *merchandising* – the laser sabre, the spaceships, the blasters, land transports, holograms...
7. Language, myth, religion and ideology in *Star Wars*.
8. *Star Wars*, ethics and technology
9. Borders, legacies and horizons.

The languages of the conference are Spanish and English.

Abstracts, between 500 and 1000 words may be submitted until May 4th 2017, for a first selection.

For the second selection contributors must hand in a 2500 paper before December 15 2017, including a brief bibliography and a brief CV. The committee will select 21 of these papers for the conference and subsequent publication.

Please, send your proposals to: [congresostarwarscfp@gmail.com](mailto:congresostarwarscfp@gmail.com)

For questions connected with the organization, please use: [congresostarwars@gmail.com](mailto:congresostarwars@gmail.com)

Registration is open to the public. The conference website will shortly announce details.

Scientific Committee: Fernando Broncano (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid), Isabel Clúa (Universidad de Sevilla), Antonio Domínguez Leiva (Universidad de Québec), Carmen Galán (Universidad de Extremadura), Ángel García Galiano (Universidad Complutense de Madrid), Germán Garrido (Universidad Complutense de Madrid), Sara Martín (Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona) y Cristina Oñoro (Universidad Complutense de Madrid).

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