This lecture will focus on the intersections between masculinity and aging studies. After an overview of the (parallel) histories of the two fields, as well as their theoretical and disciplinary interconnections, the presentation will provide US cultural and literary examples to illustrate how aging studies can shed a new light on cultural representations of American masculinity, and how the study of (literary) masculinities can help expand and innovate the field of aging studies in new and profound ways.

José M. Armengol is an Associate Professor of American literature and Gender studies at the University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain. He obtained his Ph.D. in English (with Honors) from the University of Barcelona,. His thesis was titled “Gendering Men: Theorizing Masculinities in American Culture and Literature (2006). He has published on literary representations of masculinity in prestigious academic journals such as Signs, Men and Masculinities, the Hemingway Review, and Journal of Gender Studies, among others. His latest books include Debating Masculinity (Men’s Studies Press, 2009), Richard Ford and the Fiction of Masculinities (winner of the 2010 literary scholarship prize from AEDEAN-Spanish Association for Anglo-American Studies), Men in Color (2011), Queering Iberia (2012), Embodying Masculinities (2013), Alternative Masculinities for a Changing World (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014), and Masculinities in Black and White (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014; winner of the 2015 research award for best monograph from SAAS-Spanish Association for American Studies). He is an editor of the academic journal Men and Masculinities (Sage Publications) and the “Masculinity Studies” series at Peter Lang. His latest research focuses on the intersections between masculinities and ageing, particularly cultural (i.e., literary and film) representations of ageing men in U.S. literature and cinema.

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