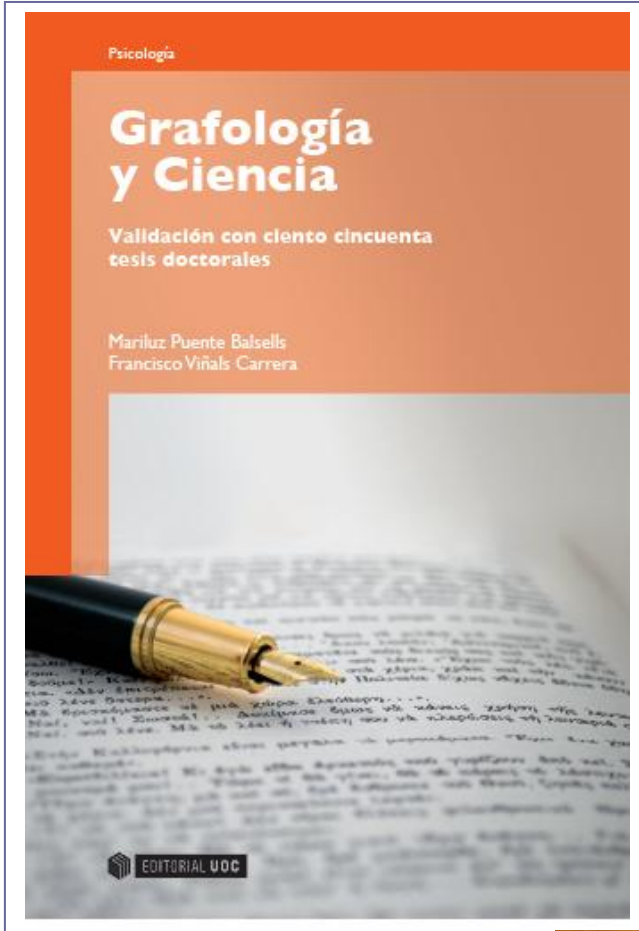


2011 - FIRST REPRINT:

“GRAPHOLOGY AND SCIENCE, VALIDATION WITH 150 STATE DOCTORAL THESIS” BY PROFESSORS MARILUZ PUENTE AND FRANCISCO VIÑALS



WE CELEBRATE THE ACADEMIC SUCCESS OF THE PUBLICATION *GRAFOLOGÍA Y CIENCIA, VALIDACIÓN CON CIENTO CINCUENTA TESIS DOCTORALES* (PhD – State doctoral thesis)

This publication has marked a watershed in the academic consideration of Graphology, from the time it appeared, department head Manuel Ballbé, as a representative of

the Vice-Chancellor's office at the UAB School of Prevention and Integral Safety and Security, wanted Professor Mariluz Puente to make the presentation at the end of course ceremonies for the Masters in Criminology at the UAB Seminar Room on the Barcelona campus. Since then, the authors have received congratulations from the most prominent academics and university professors.



The preface contents are outlined herebelow.

THE PREFACE “GRAFOLOGÍA Y CIENCIA” (GRAPHOLOGY AND SCIENCE), VALIDATION WITH 150 STATE DOCTORAL THESIS” BY PROFESSORS MARILUZ PUENTE AND FRANCISCO VIÑALS



Josep Llobet i Aguado*

(*) Professor for Doctorate Programmes and member of the Governing Council of the Judiciary Director representing the Vice-Chancellor’s office for the Masters in European Graphoanalysis

I can confirm that Graphology is today a science that is enjoying a boom, as is shown by the success of the various courses organized, at a higher or lower level, by different educational institutions, and by the interest evoked by the recent international conferences on the subject, one of which was held in Barcelona in 2008, and which I had the honour of attending with Professors Viñals and Puente.

The growing importance of this discipline has without doubt been contributed to by the media attention provoked by certain cases, in which the intervention of graphology experts has been decisive in establishing a criminal conviction. In this respect, we must mention the judgement of the Provincial Court of Barcelona, a Court with Jury (case No. 15/07; legal jury proceedings No. 1/06), delivered in the famous proceedings for the murder of psychologist Anna Permanyer, in which the Court, after determining as one of the central points of the accusatory debate that the victim had been forced with violence and intimidation to append her signature to the document, emphasized, as the fundamental element for arriving at the conclusion of the existence of extortion, the graphological expert evidence given by Dr Francisco Viñals.

The above would already be sufficient to give maximum credibility to the multiple contributions made by Graphology, given that it is a mother science that has divided into various branches and can be applied to multiple fields. Therefore, in addition to the aforementioned example of Criminal Graphology in relation to Graphopsychology and Graphopathology, we cannot forget

others that may be less striking, but which are in the back of everybody's mind, such as selecting staff based on the personality of the author of a written text, or the detection and treatment of learning difficulties.

That said, it would appear, at an initial superfluous glance, to be a focused effort at demonstrating even further, if possible, the scientific nature of the subject that occupies us. Nevertheless, the wide interest, as has been said, generated by Graphology, as well as the current configuration of studies, characterized by greater specialization made after university training, where the study programmes are subject to too frequent experimentation in which the treatment of the topic is condemned to superficiality (at least, to the knowledge of the person writing this prologue, limited to Law studies), could bring about a bigger demand for studies of this type so that this could possibly also involve offering courses that do not have sufficient technical or scientific rigor, or that would not be supported by the proven experience of its directors so that, in the end, this could hypothetically cause doubts over the scientific nature of the discipline.

It is at this point where the publication presented finds one of its reasons for being. The authors, Professors Puente and Viñals, whose ability and competence are internationally acknowledged and who have worked with multiple institutions (from which, amid other acknowledgements, Professor Viñals was conferred as far back as 1993, with the Cruz de Primera Clase de la Orden del Mérito Militar military medal), have expressed in this publication that which accurately defines its title, this being the scientific nature of graphology as the conclusion drawn from the study of some one hundred or so doctoral theses covering diverse time periods, places and schools within Graphology, in addition to the various implications thereof. The authors succeed, not only in condensing into a few pages a great amount of data and details, statistical results and, finally, knowledge, but also in finding the underlying thread of these, their convergence points and complementarity. From another point of view, with this publication they manage to evoke, not just a theoretical interest, but also a practical one, in the extent to which the necessary keys are provided for the discovery, without distortion, of the essence of the various studies that are cited at great length. It is undoubtedly a complex subject matter, but one that is studied with the clarity and systematic approach required.

In short, this careful study carried out by Professors Viñals and Puente will without doubt contribute to maintaining and strengthening confidence in Graphology as a science and means to follow in the extensive rigorous and serious path maintained by its authors, highlighting, once more, their training as specialists in the subject.



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* * *

2008-2009, studies in graphology at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona will conform to the Bologna agreement and will now offer ECTS credits (*European Credit Transfer System*), thus complying with the new European university-studies framework.

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* * *

2008-2009, les études de graphologie de l'université publique qu'est l'Université autonome de Barcelone respectent les accords de Bologne et sont devenues un Master avec des crédits ECTS (*European Credit Transfer System*), s'intégrant ainsi au nouveau cadre d'études universitaires européennes.

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