Mexican Art of the 20th Century

This course takes full advantage of vibrant Mexico City as a resource of world-class art to explore Mexican art, identity, and cultural production. Students will live in proximity to Frida Kahlo’s house in the Coyoacan district while learning about transnational Mexican artists, the rise of “indigenismo” in the nation-building project of post-Revolution, and post-sixties feminist and queer artists.

Throughout this four-week program, students will have access to numerous world-class art and popular culture institutions where they will study the works of key figures in Mexican art. Participants will visit the works of Diego Rivera, Orozco, and David Siquieros, examine the work of Frida Kahlo, and learn about the rise of indigenism in the nation-building project of post-Revolution Mexico—a period when craftwork is discovered and elevated as the legacy of Indigenous Mexico. Students will read top scholarship from current authors and visit the Museo de Artes Populares and the Museo Soumaya to compare European-centered collections and the collection of national crafts which become a crucial part of Mexico’s artistic identity.

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