

LALS-75 Diego Rivera: Art and Social Change in Latin America

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Mexican muralist Diego Rivera's work exemplifies the use of art to create and awareness of history and to promote social change in Latin America. This interdisciplinary class will explore the work of Diego Rivera and the Latin American cultural movements that developed to address relevant social and political issue.

Content

Week 1: Revolution and the Mexican Muralists

Week 2: The Changing Role of the Artist: Public Art

Week 3: Challenges to Political Art -The Modernists and Critics from the Left

Week 4: Culture and Revolution: Cuban Revolutionary Art - The Challenge of the Generation of the 1980's

Week 5: 8/25- 8/29- Art and Cultural Identity - Nicaraguan Revolutionary Art and the Zapatistas

Required Books

1. Mexican Muralists: Orozco, Rivera, Siqueiros by Desmond Rochfort _

2. Mexican Muralism: A Critical History by Alejandro Anreus and Robin Adèle Greeley
3. Diego Rivera: My Art, My Life By Diego Rivera
4. Articles from Art and Revolution in Latin America by Davis Craven (will be available online)
5. Readings about Frida Kahlo

Films (will be available online)

1. The Sixth Sun: Mayan Uprising in Chiapas
2. Orozco: Man of Fire
3. Rivera in America

Assignments

1. Two-page essay on the influence of the communist Manifesto on Mexican art of the 1920's.
2. Two Page essay on the Pan American Unity Mural
3. Midterm- 6 short essay questions based on the readings
4. Mini-mural- a student created graphic using the concepts of one of the artists we studied (can be a collage) -not graded
5. A five page research paper based on the topics covered in the course.
6. Final exam- five short essay questions
7. Participation in online forums and discussions

Optional field trip to visit Diego Rivera's Pan American Unity Mural in San Francisco