Diego & Frida: Life and Art
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Abstract
This micro-seminar will discuss the intertwined artistic and personal lives of Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in the context of Mexico’s national politics and the international change following World War II. Murals and paintings will be analyzed to illustrate how Rivera and Kahlo’s tumultuous yet powerful relationship influenced their work. The seminar will also provide a glimpse into these artists’ life through the photographs taken by prominent friends and photographers such as Edward Weston, Manuel Alvarez Bravo, Lola Alvarez Bravo and Tina Modotti.

Faculty Biography
Liana Stepanyan, PhD, Associate Professor (Teaching) of Spanish, USC Liana Stepanyan holds a PhD in Mexican literature and Spanish language, and a Master's degree in translation (Spanish, English, Russian, Armenian). She is also ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview Tester and Writing Proficiency Tester. Her teaching and scholarly interests include foreign language acquisition and pedagogy, Spanish language, and Mexican visual and literary arts. Liana Stepanyan joined USC in 2007, and has been teaching Spanish language, Hispanic literature and culture, and General Education courses. In 2011 Professor Stepanyan established USC’s Spanish and Portuguese Achievement Award that acknowledges students’ unique academic achievements: https://dornsife.usc.edu/latin-american-and-iberian-cultures/spanish-and-portuguese-achievement-award/. In 2013 she created Lingua Franca- an experimental community outreach program: https://dornsife.usc.edu/latin-american-and-iberian-cultures/our-service-learning-programs/. Most recently, in 2018 Professor Stepanyan launched the digital OER (Open Educational Resources) journal in Spanish named Revista CeDE: https://oerspanish.org