FEB 1 OLIVIA HUFFSTETTER
INTERNAL CONFLICTS: REPRESENTATION IN THE MAINSTREAM MUSEUM

This talk, which constitutes a chapter of my larger thesis project, analyzes traditional museum practices and how they may subconsciously be perpetuating acts of cultural appropriation. Specifically, I seek to understand the effects of cultural appropriation experienced by Latin American cultures through an examination of a recent exhibition dedicated to the art of the Aztec Empire.

APRIL 5 KATLYN SMITH
CONSTRUCTING DEATH: LA PORTENTOSA VIDA DE LA MUERTE

Written in 1792 by Fr. Joaquín Bolaños, La Portentosa Vida de la Muerte chronicles the life of Death as a female figure. This discussion explores the many layers of construction that appear throughout the text and 18 accompanying illustrations. The materiality and social context surrounding the book’s publication will be emphasized, along with investigation of Death’s unique gender construction that draws on contemporaneous portrayals of Death from the viceroyalty of New Spain.

APRIL 19 DR. SHAOQIAN ZHANG
VISUAL REEDUCATION FOR JAPANESE PRISONERS: PROPAGANDA COMBAT BETWEEN THE JAPANESE EMPIRE AND THE YAN'AN WORKER-PEASANT SCHOOL DURING THE SECOND SINO-JAPANESE WAR

This talk examines the essential role that visual propaganda played in the re-education programs founded by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) during the second Sino-Japanese War. Comparing propaganda materials from the Yan'an Worker and Peasant School (founded in 1941 by the CCP to retain and reform Japanese prisoners) with examples from the Imperial Japanese Army, the visualizations provide insight into the CCP’s key strategies used in psychological warfare against the Japanese.