German Writing about Latin America and the Caribbean across Two Centuries: Race Relations and Multiculturalism, Exoticism and Experience

This course is primarily focused on improving your German reading, speaking, and writing skills.

In terms of a topical focus, our readings and discussions will examine representations of race and multicultural experience from Alexander von Humboldt’s first voyages to Latin America in the time of Napoleon and Goethe to modern representations of Latin American and Caribbean life during and after World War II.

We will also look at some Mexican surrealist paintings and installations as by Diego Rivera, David Alfaro Siqueiros, and Frida Kahlo.

Alexander von Humboldt: Short selection
Heinrich von Kleist: Die Verlobung in Santo Domingo
Egon Erwin Kisch: Entdeckungen in Mexiko, Short selection
B. Traven: Die Brücke im Dschungel, Short selection
Anna Seghers: Das wirkliche Blau
Hans Christoph Buch: Die Scheidung von Santo Domingo

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