

Course Title: CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT THROUGH MATERIAL

Length: 4 weeks

Dates: 6/18/27 - 7/19/27

Credit Hours: 3, Studio Elective

### **Course Description**

This course considers the use of material processes found in the San Miguel de Allende region and teaches students to employ these methods. Students will have options of studio classes they can enroll in at the Instituto Allende, specifically a ceramics workshop using local clay or a fiber workshop focusing on naturally dyed wool and weaving. Students will produce self-directed studio works while inevitably drawing from their immersion in the local environment and culture.

### **EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Reflect an ability to engage with another culture and incorporate local experiences into their artistic practice
- Demonstrate the ability to work independently and collaboratively (with classmates and the community) in an ethical and respectful manner using the skills required for studio art and social practice—including communication, reflection, collaboration, facilitation
- Express an understanding of select material practices and artistic traditions from the San Miguel de Allende region appropriate to a 4 week immersion program
- Articulate the role of social practice in relationship to a larger artistic practice, through an exhibition, or other artifact involving a public/community audience

Course Title: ARTIST AS TRAVELER

Length: 4 weeks

Dates: 6/17/27 - 7/19/27

Credit Hours: 3, Studio Elective

### **Course Description**

This course addresses immersion into a new cultural context as a springboard for creative practice. The multifaceted curriculum engages the world as a classroom while students learn about regional culture and work with local community partners. This coursework includes excursions to important local galleries and museums as well as regional sites such as the Cañada de la Virgen archeological ruins and the state capital Guanajuato.

We will discuss a spectrum of regional ethnic dynamics from the Pre-Columbian era to the colonialist past and touristic present. Students will be enrolled in Spanish language classes at the Instituto Allende. From this foundation, the students will produce diaristic work, choosing media that they feel is most appropriate, such as text, photo, video, sculpture and/or drawing, to personally investigate their experience of cultural immersion. Students may also choose to incorporate materials or methodologies they are learning in their Cultural Engagement Through Materials coursework.

### **EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Reflect an ability to engage with another culture and incorporate local experiences into their artistic practice

- Demonstrate the ability to work independently and collaboratively (with classmates and the community) in an ethical and respectful manner using the skills required for studio art and social practice—including communication, reflection, collaboration, facilitation
- Express an understanding of select material practices and artistic traditions from the San Miguel de Allende region appropriate to a 4 week immersion program
- Articulate the role of social practice in relationship to a larger artistic practice, through an exhibition, social engagement or other artifact involving a public/community audience