

# USING THIS GUIDE IN THE CLASSROOM

This guide provides K-12 educators with the means of thoroughly exploring the Mexican Revolution and offers suggestions for how to incorporate the topic into their classrooms. Let us know if you use these materials! Share your thoughts and feedback by writing to [laii@unm.edu](mailto:laii@unm.edu).

There are a number of ways to introduce this unit. Given that visually engaging activities are often one of the most successful means of introducing new material to students, we have created introductory activities related two different films and an online photo repository containing hundreds of photos of the Revolution, along with a brief activity on the concept of the Revolution. Any of these materials would be a great way to introduce students to this unit of study.

The remainder of the activities included in this guide can be used in their entirety or mixed and matched to best meet the needs of your particular classroom and students. The content covers a variety of materials, covering topics in what we hope are creative and engaging lessons: students are introduced to the major figures of the Revolution through a scavenger hunt in which they take on the roles of important historical figures; through examining literature of the Mexican Revolution, students learn more about important historical events and people, and how writers attempted to make sense of all that happened during the Revolution; in another role-playing activity students re-enact the Convention of Aguascalientes to learn about the various platforms and motivations of key Revolutionary leaders; and, last but not least, additional units incorporate lesson plans created by other institutions in order to analyze primary source documents of the Revolution, look at the role of women in the Revolution, and study the ways in which the Revolution is represented in corridos.

In addition to the lesson plans, we have also provided here multiple forms of background information concerning the Revolution, both to expand and enhance your knowledge of the events involved and to contribute to your students' understanding.

We also concede that given limited time and resources, we were not able to cover the Revolution in as much depth as we would have liked. Many fascinating aspects of the Revolution remain unaddressed here. Instead, we direct your attention to several online resources:

1. PBS' "The Storm that Swept Mexico: The Revolution"
2. Mexico 2010: Bicentenario Independencia / Centenario Revolución
3. University of Texas at El Paso: Center for History Teaching & Learning: "Teaching the Mexican Revolution: A Virtual Teacher's Institute"