



**The Exeter College Summer Programme  
at Exeter College in the University of Oxford**

**Individual Research Tutorial Proposal Form**

**Name:** Julia Lorch

**Home University:** New York University

**Home Degree Major:** Social and Cultural Analysis

**Expected Graduation Date:** May 2021

**ECSP course you would like to substitute for the IRT:** Development Economics

**Title of your Proposal:** The Importance of Fashion in the Latina Identity

**Subject Area of this Proposal:** Humanities

**Briefly describe your proposal in no more than 250 words.**

I am interested in researching the relationship between Latinas and clothing. I hope to research how Latinas dress to illustrate their alliances, independence, uniqueness, and desire for social, political, cultural, and economic agency. What does this style and choice of fashion represent within the industry of fashion? How does fashion serve as a form of resistance and as a vehicle for personal liberation against normative ideologies about their place in the Latino community? I hope to engage in research that intersects fashion, culture, and Latina identity politics to determine how they work to prevent the fetishization and objectification of their culture.

**Briefly describe any relevant study you have already completed in the area.**

I started researching Latina designers within the fashion industry and charted the success of their products and whether these designers are forging a space for themselves and other Latinas. For a past class, named Pop in Latino American Music, I noticed the importance of one's style in an artist's persona and sought to research and understand the role of fashion and style more broadly in the development of the Latina identity in North America.

**List any books or other resources which may be relevant and/or necessary to your proposed research. Please limit your answer to no more than 10 entries.**

1. *MeXicana Encounters* - Rosa Linda Fregoso

2. *Disposable Women* - Melissa Wright
3. *Dissonant Divas in Chicana Music: The Limits of La Onda* - Deborah R. Vargas
4. *Infinite Divisions: An Anthology of Chicana Literature* - Tey Diana Rebolledo
5. *The Great Woman Singer* - Licia Fiol-Matta
6. *Transnational Encounters* - Alejandro L. Madrid
7. *This Bridge Called My Back: Writing by Radical Women of Color* - Gloria Anzaldúa and Cherrie Moraga

**Important:** *The IRT is subject absolutely to the Academic Director's approval and the availability of an expert in Oxford to guide your research. Submission of an IRT proposal and payment of the supplementary fee does not guarantee acceptance.*