

Lucy Cantu

Tenure Track Faculty, Art History and Art Appreciation

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📍 Grand Rapids, MI 49503

STRENGTHS

- 👁 **Object based teaching**
Uses close looking and museum resources to make historical evidence tangible, helping varied learners enter discussion with confidence.
- 🗣 **Inclusive critique**
Structures critique with clear criteria and open questions, giving students room to test ideas and refine visual analysis.
- 📖 **Scholarly translation**
Turns conference research and archival findings into accessible lectures, assignments, and exhibition interpretation for undergraduate audiences.
- 👥 **Student advising**
Guides students across studio, design, photography, and education pathways, helping academic plans connect with meaningful goals.
- 🏛 **Program service**
Contributes curriculum, gallery, assessment, and visiting artist work, with colleagues often seeking practical input on shared projects.

SKILLS

Art History Art Appreciation

Teaching Critique Visual Analysis

Scholarly Research

Academic Writing

Student Advising

Curriculum Development

Exhibition Programming

Curatorial Research

Faculty Service Honors Education

Core Instruction

Conference Presentations

SUMMARY

Art historian and university educator with eight years of higher education teaching, scholarship, advising, exhibition programming, and faculty service across undergraduate visual arts programs. PhD trained specialist teaches **Art History** surveys, upper level seminars, and **Art Appreciation** courses for art majors, honors students, and **foundational core** cohorts. Scholarly work connects visual culture, material analysis, exhibition history, and interpretation through conference presentations, **peer reviewed research**, and curatorial projects. Classroom practice combines structured lectures, object based discussion, critique, writing development, and inclusive dialogue. Advises students across studio art, design, photography, art education, and liberal arts pathways. Contributes curriculum planning, exhibitions, public programs, faculty meetings, and mission centered undergraduate education, with a record of translating disciplinary inquiry into accessible learning.

EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor, Art History

Lakeview College 📅 August 2023 to Present 📍 Grand Rapids, MI

Lead undergraduate Art History and Art Appreciation instruction, advising, scholarship, exhibition programming, curriculum work, and student research across visual arts pathways.

- Teach **Art History** surveys and Art Appreciation courses for majors, **honors students**, and core cohorts.
- Redesigned introductory **Art Appreciation** around object inquiry, museum resources, comparative looking, and structured **critique**.
- Advise studio art, design, photography, and art education students on planning, research, internships, and capstones.
- Present conference research and develop articles on modern **visual culture**, exhibition histories, and interpretation.
- Serve curriculum and exhibition committees supporting assessment, scheduling, visiting artists, and gallery programming.
- Mentor **student research** and exhibition writing through source evaluation, visual analysis, revision, and campus presentations.

Assistant Professor, Art History

Great Lakes Liberal Arts University 📅 August 2020 to July 2023 📍 Kalamazoo, MI

Delivered **undergraduate** Art History and **Art Appreciation** teaching while advancing scholarship, advising students, supporting assessment, and coordinating gallery based programming.

- Delivered survey and focused **Art History** courses using lecture, discussion, image analysis, **critique**, and writing assignments.
- Developed exhibition history seminar linking archival research, object interpretation, label writing, and a campus gallery presentation.
- Presented conference papers and invited lectures while integrating current research questions into advanced undergraduate instruction.
- Advised art and humanities students on academic planning, independent research, and connections with studio and museum interests.
- Contributed **faculty meetings**, program assessment, and interdisciplinary core curriculum planning for general education.
- Coordinated gallery **exhibitions**, artist talks, and student events that extended classroom learning into public programming.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Art History

Riverside Arts College 📅 August 2018 to July 2020 📍 Milwaukee, WI

Taught introductory and intermediate Art History, guided critique and advising, organized gallery learning, and connected doctoral research with undergraduate instruction.

- Taught **Art History** courses for studio majors and non majors using visual analysis and historical interpretation.

LANGUAGES

English	Native
Spanish	Intermediate

MY CAREER

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MONTHS

- Built **Art Appreciation** assignments around museum collections, direct observation, comparative analysis, and evidence based responses.
- Guided critiques with analytical criteria connecting formal observations to historical and cultural evidence.
- Organized gallery visits with interpretive materials and discussion prompts focused on curatorial choices.
- Supported advising and independent study planning for museum studies, art education, and humanities students.
- Presented doctoral research at regional meetings and translated findings into lectures and upper level materials.

Graduate Teaching Fellow, Art History

Midwest University 📅 August 2016 to May 2018 📍 Madison, WI

Led supervised undergraduate teaching, assessment, discussion, critique, research support, and scholarly presentations while completing doctoral study in Art History.

- Led discussion sections and introductory **Art History** instruction during supervised teaching development and doctoral research.
- Designed image analysis activities and writing exercises strengthening visual evidence, disciplinary vocabulary, and historical source use.
- Evaluated essays, exams, and presentations with feedback tied to learning objectives and grading standards.
- Facilitated critique sessions for students with varied preparation through structured questions and close looking.
- Supported faculty exhibition research by reviewing archives, developing object notes, and checking interpretive references.
- Presented dissertation research in graduate colloquia and conferences, building preparation for faculty appointments.

PROJECTS

Exhibition History Seminar 📅 2023

Students traced exhibition histories through archival research, object interpretation, label writing, and a public campus gallery presentation. Work connected scholarship with accessible interpretation for varied audiences.

Object Based Art Appreciation Sequence 📅 2025

A renewed introductory sequence invited students to slow down, compare works, and build evidence based responses. Museum resources and structured critique made visual inquiry approachable across majors.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Faculty Scholarship Development Award, Lakeview College, 2025, recognizing sustained research activity and publication development.
- Teaching Innovation Grant, Great Lakes Liberal Arts University, 2022, supporting refreshed Art Appreciation instruction.
- Department Curriculum Committee, Lakeview College, 2023 to Present, contributing assessment, scheduling, and program planning.
- Campus Gallery Advisory Committee, Lakeview College, 2024 to Present, supporting exhibitions and public programming.

EDUCATION

PhD in Art History

University of Wisconsin Madison 🎓 GPA: 4.0 📅 2018 📍 Madison, WI

Coursework: Visual Culture, Material Analysis, Exhibition History, Research Methods

Master of Arts in Art History

University of Iowa 🎓 GPA: 4.0 📅 2013 📍 Iowa City, IA

Coursework: Art Historiography, Museum Studies, Visual Analysis, Curatorial Practice

Bachelor of Arts in Art History

DePaul University 🎓 GPA: 4.0 📅 2011 📍 Chicago, IL

Coursework: *Art History Surveys, Art Criticism, Modern Art, Academic Writing*

CERTIFICATIONS

- Graduate Teaching Certification 📅 2018
- College Art Association Professional Development Certificate 📅 2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Art History Methods:** Visual analysis, Material analysis, Historical interpretation
- **Undergraduate Teaching:** Art History surveys, Art Appreciation, Honors education
- **Classroom Practice:** Lectures, Discussion, Critique
- **Academic Writing:** Research papers, Source evaluation, Revision
- **Student Advising:** Course planning, Capstone preparation, Independent study
- **Exhibition Practice:** Exhibition history, Object interpretation, Label writing
- **Curatorial Research:** Archival research, Object notes, Interpretive references
- **Scholarship:** Conference presentations, Peer reviewed research, Manuscript development
- **Gallery Programming:** Artist talks, Campus exhibitions, Public programs
- **Faculty Service:** Curriculum committees, Program assessment, Faculty meetings
- **Visual Arts Education:** Studio art, Design, Photography
- **Research Communication:** Invited lectures, Academic presentations, Writing instruction

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- College Art Association, professional community for art historians, educators, curators, and visual arts scholars.
- Association of Art Museum Curators, professional affiliation connecting exhibition interpretation with teaching and public engagement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST