

Kristian Cantens

Department of Philosophy
Texas A&M University

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Areas of Specialization: Animal Studies, Philosophy and Literature, Iris Murdoch, and Environmental Philosophy.

Areas of Competence: Latin American Philosophy, American Transcendentalism (especially Thoreau), Feminist Philosophy (especially Ecofeminism).

Education

PhD in Philosophy August 2017 – May 2024
Texas A&M University College Station, TX

MA in English August 2017 – December 2021
Texas A&M University College Station, TX

MA in Environmental Philosophy August 2015 – May 2017
University of Montana Missoula, MT

BA in Philosophy/ Minor in English August 2009 – May 2013
Moravian College Bethlehem, PA

Publications in Peer-reviewed Journals

“Overcoming the Fantasy of Human Supremacy: Towards a Murdochian Theory of Change in Non-Ideal Animal Ethics” *Forthcoming*
Journal of Animal Ethics

“Currents in Conservation: Navigating Tragic Conflict with Compassion and Justice” *Forthcoming*
Journal for Agricultural and Environmental Ethics

“Black Veganism and the Critique of ‘Speciesism’: Towards a New Vernacular for Animal Liberation” *Under review*
Society & Animals

“The Imaginative Depth of our Disagreements about Animals: A Closer Look at the Spanish Bullfight” *In preparation*
Target Journal: *Environmental Humanities*

“Thoreau in the Anthropocene: Neighboring Animals in a Post-Wild World” *In preparation*
Target Journal: *The Concord Saunterer*

Publications on Pedagogy

“Kaleidoscopic Thoreau: Lessons from the Classroom” Fall 2023
ISEE Newsletter

Translations

“The Blue Mosque: An Experience of Otherness” by Luis Villoro
Inter-American Journal of Philosophy Spring 2023
Translated from the Spanish

- (Published along with introduction and critical commentary)

Co-editor for a Collection

Jokesters With Feathers, Tails, Scales: Animals’ Senses of Humor, Humor and Moral Life In preparation
Target Publisher: Columbia University Press

Conference Participation

Iris Murdoch Conference June 2023
Presenter: “Iris Murdoch on Becoming Better” Remote

Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (SAAP) March 2023
Presenter: “A Case for Thoreau as Anthropocene Thinker” Denver, CO

Iris Murdoch Conference June 2022
Presenter: “Freud’s Influence on Murdoch’s Notion of Fantasy” Chichester, UK

The Thoreau Society Panel at the American Literature Association July 2021
Presenter: “Neighboring Animals in a Post-Wild World” Boston, MA

International Society for Environmental Ethics October 2020
Presenter: “Fostering Coexistence with Other Species” Remote

Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy March 2020
Presenter: “Mysticism in Luis Villoro’s ‘La Mezquita Azul’” San Miguel, Mexico

Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress August 2019
Commentator Boulder, CO

The Society for Philosophy and Technology May 2019
Presenter: “The Joys of Life and the Dangers of Technology” College Station, TX

American Philosophical Association February 2019
Commentator Denver, CO

Conference for Critical Animal Studies October 2018
Presenter: “Can Animals be Activists?” Boulder, CO

Courses Taught

Climate Change Ethics Summer 2023
Wild Rockies Field Institute Missoula, MT

Contemporary Moral Issues Summer 2020 and Spring 2023
Texas A&M College Station, TX

Environmental Ethics Texas A&M	Fall 2022 College Station, TX
Engineering Ethics Texas A&M	Spring 2020 – Spring 2021 College Station, TX
Intro to Ethics University of Montana	Spring 2021 Remote
Introduction to Philosophy Texas A&M	Summer 2021 College Station, TX

Research Positions (Paid)

USDA Policy Analysis on Animal Testing Advisor: Dr. Alka Chandra	August 2023 – Present <i>PETA</i>
Scholarship on Luis Villoro; Translation of “La Mezquita Azul” Advisor: Dr. Gregory Pappas	Summer 2021 Texas A&M
Compassionate Conservation and Wildlife Ethics Researcher Advisor: Dr. Clare Palmer	Fall 2020 – Summer 2021 Texas A&M

Institutional Service

Undergraduate Research Leader <i>Aggie Research Program</i>	Fall 2022 Texas A&M
Conference Organizer <i>Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (SAAP)</i>	March 2021 San Miguel de Allende, Mexico

Recent Community Involvement

Lead Organizer <i>Austin Animal Advocates</i>	January 2023 – Present Austin, TX
Active/Participating Member <i>The Coalition Against the Fur Trade (CAFT)</i>	March 2023 – Present Austin, TX
Active/Participating Member <i>Anonymous for the Voiceless</i>	July 2022 – Present Austin, TX
Campus Outreach Coordinator <i>Allied Scholars for Animal Protection (ASAP)</i>	December 2022 – August 2023 UT Austin & Texas A&M

Awards and Scholarships

L.T. Jordan Institute Research Fellow Project on Bullfighting	Spring 2022 <i>Andalucía, Spain</i>
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Media Appearances

Interviewed on my research on the Spanish bullfight
“A Dance with Death,” a podcast by journalist Wes Furguson

Forthcoming
Produced by *iHeart Radio*