

Kristian Cantens, PhD

Department of Philosophy
Texas State University

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Employment

Lecturer in Philosophy
Texas State

August 2024 – Present
San Marcos, TX

Education

PhD in Philosophy
Texas A&M University

August 2017 – May 2024
College Station, TX

MA in English
Texas A&M University

August 2017 – December 2021
College Station, TX

MA in Environmental Philosophy
University of Montana

August 2015 – May 2017
Missoula, MT

BA in Philosophy/ Minor in English
Moravian College

August 2009 – May 2013
Bethlehem, PA

Publications in Peer-reviewed Journals

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

Spring 2024

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

Fall 2024

“Racism, Speciesism, and the Argument from Analogy: A Critique of the Vernacular of
Animal Liberation”
Journal of Applied Philosophy

Forthcoming

“The Sharing of a Vision of Animal Life: Exploring an Alternative to Argument”
The Journal of Ethics

Under review

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

In preparation

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

In preparation

Publications on Pedagogy

“Kaleidoscopic Thoreau: Lessons from the Classroom”
ISEE Newsletter

Fall 2023

Translations

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

Edited Collections

Animals’ Senses of Humor, Humor and the Moral Life In preparation (expected 2026)
Editors: Deborah Slicer and **Kristian Cantens** Bloomsbury 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 as Lead Instructor

Environmental Ethics Spring 2025
Texas State

Philosophy and Critical Thinking Fall 2024 and Spring 2025
Texas State

Ethics and Society Fall 2024 and Spring 2025
Texas State

Climate Change Ethics Summer 2023 and 2024
Wild Rockies Field Institute

Contemporary Moral Issues
Texas A&M Summer 2020 and Spring 2023

Environmental Ethics
Texas A&M Fall 2022

Engineering Ethics
Texas A&M Spring and Fall 2020, and Spring 2021

Introduction to Ethics
University of Montana Spring 2021

Introduction to Philosophy
Texas A&M Summer 2021

Research Positions (Paid)

Research on Laboratory Compliance with the Animal Welfare Act
Advisor: Dr. Alka Chandra August 2023 – June 2024

Research on Luis Villoro, Mysticism, and Mexican Philosophy
Advisor: Dr. Gregory Pappas Summer 2021

Research on Compassionate Conservation and Wildlife Ethics
Advisor: Dr. Clare Palmer Fall 2020 – Summer 2021

Institutional Service

Reviewer
Sloth: A Journal for Emerging Voices in Human-Animal Studies August 2024 – Present

Undergraduate Research Leader
Aggie Research Program Fall 2022
Texas A&M

Lead Conference Organizer
Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (SAAP) March 2021
San Miguel de Allende, Mexico

Recent Community Involvement

Food Distribution Coordinator
ATX Free Fridge August 2023 – Present
Austin, TX

Organizer
Austin Animal Advocates January 2023 – Present
Austin, TX

Active/Participating Member
Anonymous for the Voiceless July 2022 – Present
Austin, TX

Campus Outreach Coordinator
Allied Scholars for Animal Protection (ASAP) December 2022 – August 2023
UT Austin & Texas A&M

Awards and Scholarships

L.T. Jordan Institute Research Fellow
Project on Bullfighting Spring 2022
Andalucía, Spain

Media Appearances

Interviewed on my research on the Spanish bullfight
“A Dance with Death,” a podcast by award-winning journalist Wes Ferguson

Forthcoming
Produced by *iHeart Radio*