

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.

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*
Ethics & the Environment

“The Depth and Difficulty of our Disagreements about Animals: A Closer Look at the Spanish Bullfight” *In preparation*
Target Journal: *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics*

“Thoreau as Anthropocene Thinker: 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 Spring 2023
Inter-American Journal of Philosophy Translated from the Spanish

- (Published along with introduction and critical commentary)

Conference Participation

<i>Iris Murdoch Conference</i> Presenter: "Iris Murdoch on Becoming Better"	June 2023 Remote
<i>Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (SAAP)</i> Presenter: "A Case for Thoreau as Anthropocene Thinker"	March 2023 Denver, CO
<i>Iris Murdoch Conference</i> Presenter: "Freud's Influence on Murdoch's Notion of Fantasy"	June 2022 Chichester, UK
<i>The Thoreau Society Panel at the American Literature Association</i> Presenter: "Neighboring Animals in a Post-Wild World"	July 2021 Boston, MA
<i>International Society for Environmental Ethics</i> Presenter: "Fostering Coexistence with Other Species"	October 2020 Remote
<i>Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy</i> Presenter: "Mysticism in Luis Villoro's 'La Mezquita Azul'"	March 2020 San Miguel, Mexico
<i>Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress</i> Commentator	August 2019 Boulder, CO
<i>The Society for Philosophy and Technology</i> Presenter: "The Joys of Life and the Dangers of Technology"	May 2019 College Station, TX
<i>American Philosophical Association</i> Commentator	February 2019 Denver, CO
<i>Conference for Critical Animal Studies</i> Presenter: "Can Animals be Activists?"	October 2018 Boulder, CO

Courses Taught

Climate Change Ethics Wild Rockies Field Institute	Summer 2023 Missoula, MT
Contemporary Moral Issues Texas A&M	Summer 2020 and Spring 2023 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 August 2023 – Present
Advisor: Dr. Alka Chandra

Scholarship on Luis Villoro; Translation of “La Mezquita Azul” Summer 2021
Advisor: Dr. Gregory Pappas Texas A&M

Compassionate Conservation and Wildlife Ethics Researcher Fall 2020 – Summer 2021
Advisor: Dr. Clare Palmer Texas A&M

Institutional Service

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

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

Recent Community Involvement

Lead Organizer January 2023 – Present
Austin Animal Advocates Austin, TX

Active/Participating Member March 2023 – Present
The Coalition Against the Fur Trade (CAFT) Austin, TX

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

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

Awards and Scholarships

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

Media Appearances

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