

DEVON SMITHER
CURRICULUM VITAE

Associate Professor, Art History and Museum Studies
Department of Art, University of Lethbridge
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EDUCATION

PhD, Art History, University of Toronto, 2016

Dissertation: "Bodies of Anxiety: The Female Nude in Modern Canadian Painting and Photography, 1913-1945." Supervisor: Dr. Mark Cheetham; Committee: Dr. Jordan Bear and Dennis Reid

MA, Art History, Visual Art and Theory, University of British Columbia, 2010

BA with Distinction, major: Sociology, minor: Women's and Gender Studies, University of Alberta, 2003

Certificates:

SSHRC Unconscious Bias Training Module 2022

"Indigenous Canada," Faculty of Native Studies, University of Alberta, Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), Edmonton, AB 2021

LANGUAGES

English: native. French: fluent. Spanish: reading knowledge.

APPOINTMENTS

Associate Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts	2023-Present
English Reviews Editor, <i>RACAR: Canadian Art Review</i>	2022-Present
Associate Professor, Art Department, University of Lethbridge	2021-Present
Assistant Professor, Art Department, University of Lethbridge	2016-2021
Sessional Instructor, Department of History of Art, University of Toronto	Summer 2014
Sessional Instructor, Department of Art History, University of Guelph	Fall 2013

OTHER RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Canadian Heritage/Patrimoine canadien, Government of Canada, Toronto 2015-2016
Bilingual Program Assistant, Canada Presentation Fund

- Managing the intake of over 60 grant applications to the CAPF fund in both English and French and preparing grant files for Program Officers
- Compiling relevant data to input applications into databases
- Preparing communications between Canadian Heritage Canada and applicants
- Keeping detailed records at all stages of the grant process to ensure accountability

- Project management, maintaining program files and materials
- Analysis of data related to program metrics for reporting
- Research related to program development

Test and Exam Services, University of Toronto 2011-2015

Special Invigilator to Students with Disabilities

- Supervising students with documented disabilities who are registered with Accessibility Services during tests and exams
- Ensuring accommodations set out for students are provided
- Maintaining the confidentiality of the students and their exams
- Maintaining the integrity of tests and exams by adhering to university policies
- Handling student concerns and problems and documenting anomalies

Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, Toronto 2011-2012

Gallery Assistant

- Disseminating information on exhibitions, programming, membership, and key messages to visitors
- Delivering tours and interpretive discussions of the current exhibitions
- Monitoring daily gallery functioning by overseeing the safety and security of the gallery, artwork and patrons

University of British Columbia, Vancouver

Anthropology and Sociology Undergraduate Advisor 2007-2008

- Advising students on department and honours requirements
- Attending to student concerns, conflict resolution and transfer credit assessments
- Evaluating department requirements and tools to recruit students

Arts Umbrella, Vancouver 2007-2008

Program Assistant and Fine Arts Teaching Assistant

- Providing administrative support to the Director and four Program Coordinators
- Created an in-house library of materials and resources using the Library of Congress system
- Organized Arts Umbrella's Second Annual Professional Development Day in September 2007
- Evaluated the Professional Development Day and reported back to the Director
- Classroom assistant for Arts Umbrella's Architecture, Painting, and Mixed Media & Sculpture classes for students ranging in age from 4 to 12

Government of Canada, The Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Edmonton 2006-2007

Bilingual Program Assistant, Meat Hygiene

- Providing administrative support, office and client services to the Program Manager and Program staff
- Researching agency policies and procedures, delivering reports to Fleet and Caribou Harvest committees
- Organization of the CFIA's Northern Caribou Harvest and program evaluation upon completion
- Budget tracking; maintaining and processing CFIA's cost recovery records; processing travel claims, overtime and supply ordering using PeopleSoft and SAP programs
- Writing and editing a variety of texts for Senior Managers
- Coordinating meetings and presentations; taking meeting minutes and following-up on action requests

City of Edmonton

2005-2006

Researcher and Archival Coordinator, Percent for Public Art Program

- Working with civic departments and archives to research and record the history of the art in the city's inventory to create a database of the city's public artworks
- Researching and writing a selection of policy recommendations for the City's public art program, creating document and file summaries to support the policy recommendations for the future sustainability of the City of Edmonton's Public Art Program

CURATORIAL WORK

Curator, "No'tsiitsi – My Hands," Chataya Holy Singer, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, February 25, 2023 to April 23, 2023

Curator, "Fifty: Work by Art Department Faculty, Staff, and Emeriti," James Foster Penny Building, Fall 2017

Curator, "Aperture: Roloff Beny Retrospective Exhibition," James Foster Penny Building, Fall 2017

Curatorial Assistant, "A Story of Canadian Art: As told by the Hart House Art Collection," Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Jan.-Mar. 2015 (travelled across Canada 2015-2017)

Curatorial Research Assistant, "The French Connection: Canadian Painters at the Paris Salons 1880-1900," Art Gallery of Hamilton, May-Sept., 2011

Co-curator, "Sights/Sites of Spectacle," Koerner Gallery, University of British Columbia, Jan.-Feb., 2010

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Among the most significant service of the partial list below is my tenure on the GFC Academic Appeals committee through COVID, which adjudicated a higher-than-normal number of cases (each case file being over 70 pages); Chair of the ULFA Study Leave Relocation Committee (where I took the lead in rewriting the policy itself to make it more equitable for members); Committee member of the Department of Art's AQA Review Committee; leading the creation of one new award (the Galt Museum BIPOC Award) and a new paid work-integrated-learning opportunity for our AHMS students (the Donald Buchanan Art Internship); spearheading the Art History/Museum Studies Dhillon School Arts Administration Degree Committee to establish a new 4-year undergraduate degree in Arts Administration between AHMS and the Dhillon School. While outside of the scope of university administration, I would also like to note my work as Chair of the Board of Directors (BOD) at the Galt Museum & Archives where I have been working to make the board more active and engaged.

University Level:

University of Lethbridge Faculty Association (ULFA) Study Leave Committee 2022-2024

ULFA Nominations Committee 2022-2024

Graduate Faculty Council (GFC) Academic Appeals Committee 2020-2022

School of Liberal Education Advisory Committee 2019-2021

Department and Faculty Level:

Faculty of Fine Arts Dean Search Committee 2023

Art History/Museum Studies Awards Committee	2016-Present
Art History/Museum Studies Arts Administration Degree Program Ad Hoc Committee	2022-Present
AQA Art Program Review Committee	2022-2023
Galt Museum & Archives BIPOC Award Committee	2022-2023
MA Advisory Committee	2021-2022
Salary, Tenure, and Promotion Committee	2021-2023
Department of Art Search Committee	2019-2022
Art History/Museum Studies Coordinator	2019-2023
Art Society Mentor	2020-2023
Department Chair Search Committee	2021-2022
Department of Art Student Endowment Committee	2020-2021
Department of Art Curriculum Review Committee	2020-2021
Faculty and Staff Exhibitions Committee	2017-2019
Faculty of Fine Arts Curriculum Review Committee	2017-2019
COMMUNITY SERVICE	
Galt Museum and Archives Board of Directors (Chair, Lethbridge)	2021-Present
Médiathèque Lethbridge, Member, Board of Directors (Lethbridge)	2020
Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Member, Board of Directors (Lethbridge)	2017
Lethbridge Girls Rock Camp, Volunteer (Lethbridge)	2017
Girls' Art League, Board of Directors (Toronto)	2014-2016
Tutor, Pathways to Education at Regent Park (Toronto)	2014-2015
Regent Park Film Festival Selection Committee Member (Toronto)	2014
The Stop Community Food Centre, After School Volunteer (Toronto)	2013-2015
Graduate Student's Union Representative History of Art Graduate Department of Art, University of Toronto	2010-2012
MA Graduate Student Faculty Representative	2009-2010
Department of Art History, Visual Art & Theory, University of British Columbia grunt gallery Board of Directors, (Member, Vancouver)	2008-2010

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Book Manuscripts

Smither, Devon (co-author). *CanadARThistories: Reimagining the Canadian Art Survey*. Ontario: Toronto, eCampus Ontario, 2022. <https://ecampusontario.pressbooks.pub/canadarthistories>.

Bodies of Anxiety: The Female Nude in Modern Canadian Painting and Photography, 1913-1945. McGill-Queen's University Press, Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation Studies in Art History. (Accepted, forthcoming).

Pegi Nicol MacLeod: Life and Work. Art Canada Institute. (Accepted, forthcoming).

Journal Articles

"Duration and Unfinish in Pegi Nicol MacLeod's Self-Portraits" *RACAR: Canadian Art Review* 46.1 (Spring 2021): 59-74.

"Defying Convention: The Female Nude in Canadian Painting and Photography During the Interwar Period," *The Journal of Historical Sociology* 32 Iss. 1 (March 2019): 77-93.

Book Chapters

"Gender, Nationalism, and Canadian Art Historiography," in *The Routledge Companion to Art History and Feminisms* (accepted, forthcoming 2024).

"Canadian Art Matters: Revising the Survey," UAAC Pedagogy Caucus Proceedings, Victoria, BC: BCcampus, 2021. <https://pressbooks.bccampus.ca/uacpedagogycaucus/chapter/canadian-art-matter-revising-the-survey/>

"The Nude in Modern Canadian Art," in *Censoring Art: Silencing the Artwork*, edited by Roisin Kennedy and Riann Coulter. London: I.B. Tauris, December 2018.

Book Reviews

Review of *Voluntary Detours: Small-Town and Rural Museums in Alberta* by Lianne McTavish. *RACAR: Canadian Art Review* 47, no. 1 (Spring 2022): 119-121.

Review of *Canadian Painters in a Modern World, 1925-1955* by Lora Senechal Carney. *RACAR: Canadian Art Review* 43.1 (Spring 2018): 120-122.

"Climbing the Mount." Review of *Alpine Anatomy: The Mountain Art of Arnold Shives* with texts by John Grande et. al. *Journal of BC Studies* 181 (Spring 2014): 158.

Features

"No Nudes, Please—We're Canadian," *Literary Review of Canada* (May 2017): 13-14.

Exhibition Catalogue Essays & Writing

"Work in Progress: Responding to Canada at 150," in *Alter/Nation*, Kamloops Art Gallery, June 2017.

Catalogue entries for: Boyanoski, Christine. *A Story of Canadian Art: As told by the Hart House Art Collection*. Toronto: Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Hart House 2014.

Artist biographical entries:

"Genevieve Cadieux," "Lynne Cohen," "Alex Janvier," "Liz Magor," "Ian Wallace," "Paul Wong." *Benezit Dictionary of Artists in Oxford Art Online*. www.oxfordartonline.com (Fall 2014).

MEDIA COVERAGE

[Galleries West, "New Initiative Aims to Bolster Art Education on the Prairies," February 1, 2023.](#)

[Ry Clarke, "Hot off the press: Galt Museum explores evolution of local media," *Lethbridge Herald*, August 12, 2022.](#)

CJSW Radio Interview with Kate van Fraasen, "The Art Episode," *The Almanacs*, University of Calgary, May 24, 2018.

[Jake Edmiston, "Canada's weird, uncomfortable relationship with nakedness: Why our nude art genre never took off," *National Post* May 30, 2017.](#)

SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

"Art Under the Big Sky: Prairie Art Institute," June 15-17, Regina, SK

"Against the Nation: Rethinking Canadian Art History in the World," *Association for Art History Annual Conference*, April 12-14, 2023, UCL, London, UK (Co-convenor with Dr. Jennnifer Kenndy, Queen's University)

"Open Art Histories presents: *CanadARThistories*, a new Canadian and Indigenous Art OER text and course," *University Art Association of Canada*, University of Toronto, Oct. 27-29, 2022

Co-Organizer of "Open Art Histories' Pedagogy Institute," Queen's University, June 16-18, 2022.

"The National Gallery of Canada- Settler-Colonial Myth-making and Decolonization," *National Museums - Narrating the Nation*, National Museum of Ireland, virtual conference, Nov. 5, 2021 (co-presenter with Dr. Anne Dymond)

"Open Art Histories: 'Land is Our First Teacher': Teaching Indigenous Art/Art History Online," *Open Art Histories* online pedagogy workshop, organizer, Nov. 27, 2020

"Open Art Histories: Reimagining How We Teach Visual and Material Cultures," *Open Education Conference: Exploring Intersections and Collaborations Across Borders and Context*, virtual conference, Nov. 11, 2020

"Canadian Art Matters: Revising the Survey," *University Art Association of Canada*, Online Conference hosted by The University of British Columbia, Oct. 15-17, 2020

“Open Art Histories: Ready for Remote?” *Open Art Histories* online pedagogy workshop, co-organizer, August 28, 2020

“Open Art Histories: Accessible Teaching in Remote Environments,” *Open Art Histories* online pedagogy workshop, co-organizer, August 7 and 10, 2020

Co-organizer, “Open Art Histories: A Full-Day Art History and Pedagogy Workshop,” Langara College, Vancouver, January 31, 2020

“Art and Failure,” Session Chair, *College Art Association*, New York City, February 13-16, 2019
“Failure, Faciality, and Unfinish in Pegi Nicol MacLeod’s Self-Portraits,” *College Art Association*, New York City, February 13-16, 2019

“Faciality and Unfinish in Pegi Nicol MacLeod’s Self-Portraits,” *University Art Association of Canada*, University of Waterloo, October 25-28, 2018

“Open Session: Canadian Art, Design and Visual Culture Prior to 1980,” Session Chair, *University Art Association of Canada*, Banff Centre for the Arts, October 12-15, 2017

“The Nation Stripped Bare: The Nude in Modern Canadian Art,” *Canadian Historical Association* at Congress, Ryerson University, Toronto 2017

“Portraiture and Self-Portraiture in Canadian Art,” Session Chair, *University Art Association of Canada*, UQAM, Montreal, October 2016

“Faciality, Duration, and Unfinish in Pegi Nicol MacLeod’s Self-Portraits,” *Canadian Women Artists History Initiative Conference*, Agnes Etherington Art Gallery, Kingston, ON, May 2015

“The Art of Nature: Framing Representation in Maria Sibylla Merian’s *Metamorphosis Insectorum Surinamensium*,” *Renaissance Society of America*, Berlin, Germany, March 2015

“Ambiguity and Identification in Prudence Heward’s Black Nudes,” *5th Annual Feminist Art History Conference*, American University, Washington, D.C., November 2014

“Ambiguity and Identification in Prudence Heward’s Black Nudes,” *University Art Association of Canada*, OCADU, Toronto, October 2014

“Bodies of Anxiety: The Nude in 1930’s Modern Canadian Art,” *University Art Association of Canada*, National Gallery of Canada and Carleton University, Ottawa, October 2011

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

“Naked Ladies: The Nude in Modern Canadian Art,” ARTNOW Talk, The University of Lethbridge, Nov. 18, 2020

“Open Educational Resources in Art History,” (co-presented with Alena Buis, Langara College), Art History Teaching Discussion Group at The University of Toronto, Online workshop, November 6, 2020

“Canadian Contemporary Art Challenging the Nation,” Crash Course in Contemporary Art, Esker Foundation, Calgary, December 14, 2017

“The Nation Stripped Bare: The Nude in Modern Canadian Art—an Epic Fail!” Alberta College of Art and Design, Calgary, November 29, 2017

Art HERstory: “The Nude and the Work of The Beaver Hall Group: Coming Out From Behind the Pre-Cambrian Shield,” Glenbow Museum, invited guest lecture in conjunction with *1920s Modernism in Montreal: The Beaver Hall Group* exhibition, Calgary, November 2016

“Naked Ladies: The Nude in Modern Canadian Painting and Photography, 1913-1945,” Articulations Lecture Series, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, October 2016

“Naked Ladies: The Nude in Modern Canadian Painting and Photography, 1920-1950,” University of Toronto Canadian Studies Program Lecture Series, Toronto, November 2014

“Bodies of Anxiety: The Nude in Modern Canadian Art and Culture,” History Department Lecture Series, Lancaster University, Lancaster UK, March 2014

“Too Close for Comfort: Realism, Photography and the Nude in Modern Canadian Art,” Lecture delivered at the Grimsby Public Art Gallery, Grimsby, Ontario, January 2013

FUNDING, AWARDS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2024 Research Study Leave

2023 Winner – University of Lethbridge Excellence in Teaching Award

2023-2024 Co-Applicant, “Art Under the Big Sky: Prairie Art Network & Institute,” SSHRC Connection Grant (SSHRC \$23,094, Matching \$22,178)
Principal Investigator, “Art Under the Big Sky: Prairie Art Network & Institute”, SSHRC Exchange Grant (\$7,000)

ORIS Graduate Student Research Assistant Funding (\$3,600)

2022-2023 Co-Applicant, “Art Under the Big Sky: Prairie Art Network & Institute,” Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art, Member’s Project Funding (\$7,000)

2021-2022 Co-Applicant, *CanadARThistories: Reimagining the Canadian Art Survey*, eCampus Ontario Ontario Virtual Learning Strategy (\$90,000)

2022-23 Principal Investigator, *CanadARThistories: Reimagining the Canadian Art Survey*, SSHRC Exchange Grant (\$7,000)

- 2021-2022 Principal Investigator, “Open Art Histories Pedagogy Institute,” University of Lethbridge Research Fund (\$6,000)
- Co-Applicant, “Open Art Histories Pedagogy Institute,” SSHRC Connection Grant (SSHRC \$19,838, Matching \$23,000)
- 2019-2020 Principal Investigator, “Open Art Histories: A One-Day Pedagogy Workshop,” SSHRC Exchange Grant (\$6,764)
- 2019 Research Study Leave
- 2018 Nominated – University of Lethbridge Excellence in Teaching Award
- 2018-2022 Principal Investigator, “The Whitney Women and American Modern Art, 1905-1930,” SSHRC Insight Development Grant (\$37,892)
- 2018 Principal Applicant, “The Whitney Women and American Modern Art, 1905-1930,” Terra Foundation Research Travel Grant to the United States (\$6,500USD)
- 2017 Principal Investigator, “Duration and Unfinish in the Self-Portraits of Pegi Nicol MacLeod,” University of Lethbridge Research Fund (\$6,000)
- 2013-2014 Canadian Studies Graduate Student Award, University of Toronto (\$1,000)
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship, University of Toronto (\$15,000)
- 2012-2013 Leontine Amant Ebers Ontario Graduate Scholarship Award, University of Toronto, (\$15,000)
- 2013 Nominated – University of Toronto TATP Teaching Excellence Award
- University of Toronto School of Graduate Studies Travel Grant (\$1,000)
- 2012 University of Toronto School of Graduate Studies Travel Grant (\$1,500)
- 2010-2015 Department of Art Graduate Fellowship, University of Toronto (\$15,000)
- 2008-2010 Faculty of Arts Graduate Award, University of British Columbia (\$6,000)
- 2009 Travel Research Scholarship, University of British Columbia (\$900)
- 2005 Alberta Advanced Education Achievement Award, University of Alberta (\$2,000)
- 2001-2003 Dean’s List, University of Alberta

PEER REVIEW

2023 SSHRC Insight Grant

2020	SSHRC Insight Development Grant <i>Journal of Canadian Art History</i> review of special issue on Joyce Wieland
2020	MITACS Accelerate review, "From Diaspora to Democracy: Canadian-Iranian Collective Contribution to Art and Politics"
2018	MITACS review, "Decolonization and the Art Gallery"
2017	<i>Jeunesse</i> (article review)
2016	<i>Museologies</i> (article review)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2022-Present	Association for Art History
2017-Present	College Art Association
2014-Present	Canadian Historical Association, Member
2010-Present	University Art Association of Canada, Member
2018-2022	The Art Association of Australia and New Zealand

TEACHING

Courses Developed and Taught:

- ARHI4150: Gender, Sexuality, and Visual Culture (University of Lethbridge)
- ARHI3001: Theory and Methods in Art and Art History (University of Lethbridge)
- ARHI3215: 20th Century Art to 1945 (University of Lethbridge)
- ARHI3151: Indigenous Contemporary Art (University of Lethbridge)
- ARHI3240: Canadian Art up to 1960 (University of Lethbridge)
- ARHI3245: Canadian Art from 1960 (University of Lethbridge)
- ARHI3270: Global Contemporary Art since 1980 (University of Lethbridge)
- MSTU3900: Critical Issues in Museum Studies (University of Lethbridge)
- MSTU2900: Introduction to Museum Studies (University of Lethbridge)
- MSTU2850: Introduction to Curating (University of Lethbridge)
- FAH497: Representing the Body in Canadian Art (University of Toronto)
- ARTH2490: Canadian Art History in the Twentieth Century (University of Guelph)

Student Curatorial Project Supervision

2019	<i>After Hours: An Exhibition by Studio Art Faculty</i> , James Foster Penny Building <i>Student Curated Student Art Show</i> , James Foster Penny Building
2018	<i>Flip Fest Art Exhibition</i> , James Foster Penny Building, August
2017	<i>Everything is Temporary</i> , James Foster Penny Building

Student Supervision MA and MFA

2021-Present	David Knight, "Window Pane, River Reign," (in progress, committee member)
2019-2021	Clayton Smith, "Foucault, Pedagogy and Gallery Engagement," (supervisor)

Student Supervision Undergraduate Independent Studies, Honours Thesis

- 2022 Kelsey Black, "From Somewhere Just Beyond the Edge: The Anatomical Venus as Scientific and Aesthetic Object," Art History/Museum Studies Honours Thesis (co-supervisor)
- 2018 Sebastien Lapres, "ARHI4990: Theory and Methods in Art and Art History" (Independent Study, supervisor)
- Vania Ryan, "ARHI4990: Theory and Methods in Art and Art History" (Independent Study, supervisor)
- 2017 Emily Demyen, "HIST 3980A: Oral History of Southern Alberta Art" (Co-supervisor)