

Tenure-Track Position in Art Education and Art History – Black Studies in Art Education, Art History, and Social Justice

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Job title: Black Studies in Art Education, Art History, and Social Justice

Position code: 20_T_ARTE/ARTH_M

Date posted: October 6, 2020

Application deadline: November 30, 2020

Advertised until: Position is filled

Position description

This position is a cross-appointment between the Departments of Art History and Art Education, and builds on a rich history and current track record of discussions, collaborations, and research. The cross-appointed faculty member will introduce methodologies of research and teaching that accentuate the many contributions of Black artists, scholars and educators — historically and/or at the present time while also critiquing Eurocentric canons and racist conceptions of knowledge.

We are seeking candidates with a research and teaching profile in Black Studies. Research directions could include, but are not limited to: intersections of art and social justice; community art and vernacular practices as social critique; the role of museum education and curatorship in leading anti-racist social change; digital media as counter-narrative; decolonizing public pedagogies of art; Black Feminist/Queer/Trans approaches to art education and art histories; Black archival practices; Black spatial imaginaries; African art; Afrofuturism; and/or Montreal as a historical and contemporary hub of Black, Afro-Caribbean, and African diasporic art. The incumbent's scholarship will find research synergies among colleagues within their two designated departments and across the university, and will thus participate in a collective effort to decolonize the university and dismantle systemic racism.

The successful candidate will be expected to fully participate in academic life through contributions to research, teaching, and service. The cross-appointed faculty member will also be expected to activate productive intersections between the fields of Art Education and Art History. Following current university standards of annual research-related course remissions, the incumbent will be asked to teach a 2/2 load of undergraduate and graduate courses on Black Studies topics, and from the outset to assist in the supervision and mentoring of both MA and PhD students. The candidate should be prepared to embrace program and department stewardship, perform administrative duties and engage in committee work at the department and Faculty levels.

Concordia University is strongly committed to building a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community, and recognizes the importance of inclusion in achieving excellence in teaching and research. Commensurate with their rank, candidates will be assessed on their demonstrated potential to attract diverse students and collaborators to Concordia University, conduct internationally recognized research, secure research funds, as well as teach and drive curricular development within their respective area.

Qualifications and assets

Applicants should hold a PhD (or be ABD) in Art History, Art Education or related disciplines, demonstrating expertise in the domain of Black Studies.

How to apply

Applications should be sent to Dr. Vivek Venkatesh, Professor, Inclusive Practices in Visual Arts, and Chair, Departments of Art Education and Art History Hiring Committee, via email: blackstudiesposition@concordia.ca and must include a cover letter clearly identifying the title and position code (**20_T_ARTE/ARTH_M**), a detailed curriculum vitae, teaching and research statements, evidence of teaching effectiveness (including course syllabi and evaluations), one example of scholarly work (a peer-reviewed article or chapter, for instance), and the names and contact information of three referees. Applications should be submitted by **November 30, 2020** but will continue to be reviewed until the position is filled. Only short-listed candidates will be notified. The appointment is expected to commence on **August 1, 2021**.

Concordia strives to be an inclusive institution that is welcoming of diverse backgrounds and experiences in order to improve learning, advance research, inspire creativity, and drive productivity. We define diversity broadly to include both ethnic and socio-cultural background and diversity of perspectives, ideologies and traditions.

As part of this commitment to providing our students with the dynamic, innovative, and inclusive educational environment of a Next-Generation University, we require all applicants to articulate in their cover letter how their background, as well as lived and professional experiences and expertise have prepared them to conduct innovative research and to teach in ways that are relevant for a diverse, multicultural contemporary Canadian society.

These ongoing or anticipated examples can include but are not limited to:

- teaching about underrepresented populations
- mentoring students from underrepresented backgrounds
- conducting research with underrepresented and/or underserved communities
- committee work
- offering or organizing educational programming
- participation in training and workshops

Concordia University recognizes the potential impact that career interruptions can have on a candidate's record of research and will take them into careful consideration in assessing applications and throughout the selection process.

All applicants will receive an email invitation to complete a short equity survey. Participation in the survey is voluntary and no identifying information about candidates will be shared with hiring committees. Candidates who wish to self-identify as a member of an underrepresented group to the hiring committee may do so in their cover letter or by writing directly to the contact person indicated in this posting.

Adaptive measures

Applicants who anticipate requiring adaptive measures throughout any stage of the recruitment process may contact, in confidence, Nadia Hardy, Interim Deputy Provost and Vice-Provost, Faculty Development and Inclusion at vpfdi@concordia.ca or by phone at 514-848-2424, extension 4323.

Information about the Department

The Department of Art History at Concordia University is one of the leading departments in the country — known for its theoretical and methodological strengths, its focus on visual and material culture, and its commitment to historic and contemporary forms of Canadian and Indigenous Art. The Department currently has three Research Chairs — in Circumpolar Indigenous Arts; Ethno-cultural Art Histories; and Studies in Canadian Art. Two scholarly journals (*Journal of Canadian Art History* and *Journal of Asian Diasporic Visual Culture and the Americas*) are housed in the Department-affiliated Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art. Three undergraduate degree programs are offered through the Department: Art History; Art History and Film Studies; and Art History and Studio Art. There is a stand-alone Master's in Art History, and an inter-university PhD program, offered collaboratively with Université de Montréal and Université du Québec à Montréal.

The Department of Art Education is the most extensive Art Education program in Canada and one of the largest in the world. We are home to one of the only BFA community-based Art Education degree programs in Canada. Additionally, our BFA Specialization, which leads to teacher certification in Quebec and transfers across Canada is unique. Our MA in Art Education offers two professional pathways, where students can pursue a scholarly thesis, a studio arts-based thesis, or a teaching-based thesis. Our PhD in Art Education is world class.

We count among us an author of multiple books and [international expert in arts-based research](#); a UNESCO co-Chair in Prevention of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism; a [Research Chair in Socially Engaged Art and Public Pedagogies](#); an [expert in art museum education](#); a [National Art Education Association Distinguished Fellow and expert on the artistic development of artists](#); a [researcher of performance art and theory](#); an [expert on mobile and social media learning](#); and an [expert on the creative cultural practices and the author of a book on how to write a graduate thesis](#).

Information about the Faculty of Fine Arts

With over 4,000 students, faculty, and staff, the Faculty of Fine Arts is among the five largest art and design schools in North America. Fine Arts has BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour) faculty members and research chairs in many of its departments (including Art Education and Art History). The Faculty is also home to a number of research projects, centers, and student groups committed to BIPOC concerns. Concordia University is in the process of implementing university-wide policies about EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion), and there are currently several individuals, units, and faculties interested in launching a Black Studies program. Nestled in the heart of a pulsing city, embraced by a dynamic research university, the Faculty of Fine Arts benefits from extraordinary access to brilliant

practitioners, thriving venues, cross-cultural perspectives, and an extensive network of outstanding facilities for research and production.

Taking advantage of our place within the rich fabric of a research university and our long history as one of the premiere sites in Canada for the study and creation of the arts and arts-based scholarship, the Faculty of Fine Arts is currently engaged in a transformative moment in which pedagogical, conceptual, theoretical, and material practices find resonance with a significant diversity of approaches. In our university community we value equally those practices that embrace aesthetic activism, live performance, historical scholarship, technical experimentation, skills-based production, community fieldwork, as well as traditional and digital fabrication. In addition to curricular advances, the formation of significant research centres and external partnerships in the Faculty of Fine Arts continue to enrich opportunities for faculty and students alike. For more information about the Faculty of Fine Arts, please visit us at: www.concordia.ca/finearts.

Information about Concordia

Profoundly global, Concordia is North America's top university under the age of 50 and is recognized for attracting some of the most talented faculty and students from around the world. Driven by ambition, innovation and a commitment to research and community engagement, Concordia is celebrated for advancing transformative learning, convergent thinking and public impact.

Located on two campuses in the heart of Montreal, Concordia is a next-generation university. Given the skills of our faculty and the strengths of local and global partnerships, we set our sights further and more broadly than others and align the quality of learning opportunities to larger trends and substantial challenges facing society.

Researchers at Concordia are leading investigations into some of the world's most critical issues, such as health, Indigenous futures, sustainability and cities — more important today than ever. Our priority is to mobilize cross-sections of experts to translate novel scholarship into real-world applications.

With 118 research chairs, 24 research centres and institutes, and research income of more than \$56 million annually, Concordia is fast advancing on its strategic direction to Double Our Research. Our nine far-looking [directions](#) demonstrate the university's commitment to being agile and innovative and ensuring student success. Our 6,600 faculty and staff and 50,800 students benefit from state-of-the-art research and teaching facilities, technology and pedagogical support, and compelling program offerings in our four faculties, library, School of Graduate Studies and Centre for Continuing Education. These modern venues, such as the Applied Science Hub and modular Learning Square, allow us to foster multidisciplinary collaboration.

“Concordia is a young, forward-looking university. It's a unique place where experimentation, innovation and creativity are truly valued. Our community of students, faculty, staff and alumni all contribute to our momentum as Canada's next-gen university.” — Concordia President Graham Carr.

Information about Montreal

Montreal, our home, is exceptional. It is a truly unique city — safe, clean, vibrant and diverse, with new things to discover around every corner. With a population of 1.7 million, it is home to four major universities and several clinical research centres and has been named the best student city in the world. It offers the most affordable tuition in Canada.

The city enjoys a thriving multicultural scene. Bilingualism is a part of Montreal's tradition and adds to its inspiring atmosphere. While supporting a significant anglophone population, it is one of the largest French-speaking cities in the world.

Montreal is famed for its innovative culinary scene and festivals. It was also the first metropolis to be designated a UNESCO City of Design by the Global Alliance for Cultural Diversity.

The city is recognized globally as an important centre for commerce, aerospace, transport, finance, pharmaceuticals, technology, design, gaming and film.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Concordia University is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters on which we gather today. Tiohtiá:ke/Montreal is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.

Employment Equity

Concordia University is strongly committed to employment equity within its community, and to recruiting a diverse faculty and staff. The University encourages applications from all qualified candidates, including women, members of visible minorities, Indigenous persons, members of sexual minorities, persons with disabilities, and others who may contribute to diversification; candidates are invited to self-identify in their applications.

Immigration status

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian and Permanent Residents will be given priority. To comply with the Government of Canada's reporting requirements, the University is obliged to gather information about applicants' status as either Permanent Residents of Canada or Canadian citizens. While applicants need not identify their country of origin or current citizenship, all applications must include one of the following statements:

Yes, I am a citizen or permanent resident of Canada

or

No, I am not a citizen or permanent resident of Canada.