

## Gretchen Holtzapple Bender

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Ph.D. History of Art and Architecture, Bryn Mawr College

MA History of Art, The American University

BA History of Art with Business & Classics Concentrations, Franklin & Marshall College

### Faculty (Teaching Professor), University of Pittsburgh

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History of Art and Architecture Department	2002 – present
• Assistant Chair	2012 – 2023
• Director of Undergraduate Studies	2008 – 2022
◦ Oversaw development of new Museum Studies minor and major	
• Undergraduate Academic Advisor	2002 – 2016
College of General Studies	
• Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs	2017 – 2020
◦ Oversaw curricular revision of multiple majors and certificates in College dedicated to “non-traditional” undergraduates	

### Select University Service

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- Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award Selection Committee	2018 – 2021
- Provost’s Advisory Committee on Undergraduate Programs	2017 – 2020
- Dietrich School of Art and Sciences Undergraduate Council	2017 – 2020
- Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Council	2014 – 2015
- Provost’s Advisory Committee for Instructional Excellence	2013 – 2015

### Select Honors and Awards

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- Co-Teaching Fellowship, Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, for development of interdisciplinary course, “What to do? Environmental Crisis and Reparative Artistic Practices,” with Mark Collins, Environmental Studies Program, Department of Geology, 2024-2025
- Innovation in Education Award, Provost’s Office and Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pittsburgh (\$18,692 to support “How to Talk with a Work of Art”), 2023-2024
- Open Educational Resource Award, Provost’s Office, University of Pittsburgh, (\$3,000 to support “How to Talk with a Work of Art”), 2023-2024
- Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award, University of Pittsburgh, 2015
- Tina and David Bellet Teaching Excellence Award, The Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh, 2009
- AMCPO Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising, The Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2013
- Curriculum Development Grants from the Global Studies Center & University Honors College

### Teaching and Teaching Mentoring

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#### Recent Featured Projects:

- “Innovation in Education: ‘How to Talk with a Work of Art,’” [University Times, July 21, 2023](#)
- “Faculty Experimenting with ‘Ungrading’ Find Some Success,” [University Times, December 2, 2021](#).

WHAAM. (Why the History of Art and Architecture Matters) Broad public engagement project launched in 2014.

- Wholesale revisioning of global disciplinary survey for majors and general education students. Development of “anti-textbook” and other Open Educational Resources, ongoing.

- College in High School. Oversee teaching of Intro to World Art class in several high-schools in Pennsylvania, ongoing
- Art in Public. Partnership with PACES (Pittsburgh Assistance Center for Educators and Students) and Pittsburgh Public School's Science and Technology Academy. Workshop for secondary school students and service-learning course for undergraduates. Led to exhibition of student artwork at University Art Gallery, 2014 - 2015

NEH Summer Institute: Museums – Humanities in the Public Sphere. Washington, DC, July 2019.  
Invited Scholar Participant.

Going Gradeless. Co-facilitated working group for faculty from various schools, Fall of 2021.

Anti-Racist Pedagogy. Co-Facilitator, departmental reading group, Fall 2020.

Select Courses & Units Developed and Taught:

Intro to World Art; World Art: Contact and Conflict; Museums, Society & Inclusion?; Imperialism in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century; Writing with Things; Jasper Johns, Faith Ringgold and the U.S. Flag; Berlin Palimpsests: Marking History in Urban Space; Approaches to the Built Environment; Feminism and Art History; Teaching of Art History (graduate); mentored numerous undergraduate theses and funded independent research projects, 2002 – 2024.

### Recent Pedagogical Publications

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- *How to Talk with a Work of Art*, alternate “anti-survey” textbook for an inclusive Art History, in development
- “Get Rid of the Exam! Alternate Assessment in Art History Courses,” co-authored with Matthew Levy, Penn State Behrend. Under review, *Art History Pedagogy and Practice*
- “Why World Art is Urgent Now: Rethinking the Introductory Survey in a Seminar Format,” *Art History Pedagogy and Practice* 2:2 (2017). <https://academicworks.cuny.edu/ahpp/> (1,033 downloads as of May 2022)

### Recent Professional Development

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- Developing Diversity Consciousness to Foster Antiracist Practices, Cultures and Communities. Office of Diversity and Inclusion, April – May 2021.
- Critical Digital Pedagogy Workshop, June – August 2020.
- Diversity Experience Training workshop, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, November, 2017
- Mellon Foundation Workshop: “Race-ing the Museum,” Pittsburgh, PA, May 2016
- Global Studies Center, Faculty Development Seminar: “Humanizing the Global, Globalizing the Human,” 2015-2016

### Recent Conference Papers, Panels & Invited Presentations

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- “Falling Down Rabbit Holes: Liberatory Assignment Design for Students and Those Who Teach Them,” SECAC Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, October 2024
- “Teaching as Public Engagement,” led session for the *Humanities Engage* workshop organized by the Office of the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, May 2024
- “Ungrading Art History: How It Works and Why To Do It,” co-chair of panel with Matthew Levy, Penn State Behrend, SECAC Annual Conference, Richmond, VA, October, 2023.
- “Teaching an Anti-Survey,” co-presenter with Andrea Maxwell, Panel: Innovative Pedagogies for the Survey, chaired by Monica Blackmun Visona and Kristin Barry, SECAC Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD, October, 2022.
- “Ungrading Strategies in a Large Enrollment Course.” Led workshop for the “Grading Differently Academy” at Penn State University, Shreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence, June 3, 2021.
- “‘Intending Toward One Another’ – Why the History of Art and Architecture Matters,” College Art Association 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, New York, NY, February 2017. In panel chaired by Cindy Persinger and Azar Rejaie, “Defining and Exploring Socially Engaged Art History”