

Michelle L. Lopez

Phone: 562-519-1289 • E-Mail: michelle@michellelopez.com

Education

- In progress Ph.D. Leadership Studies
University of San Diego
Area of Specialization: Higher Education
Certificate: Restorative Justice Facilitation and Leadership
- 2016 M.A. Art History
California State University, Los Angeles
Areas of Specialization: Pre-Columbian and Chicana/o/x Art
Thesis: Mujeres de Maiz: Forcing Change in the Art Landscape of Los Angeles – Investigates the impact Mujeres de Maiz had on the contemporary art world in Los Angeles.
- 2014 M.F.A. Studio Arts
California State University, Los Angeles
Area of Specialization: Photography, Video, and Sculpture
Thesis: Offerings of the Flesh – An exploration of identity through memory.
- 2011 B.A. Studio Arts
California State University, Los Angeles
Areas of Specialization: Photography and Mixed media
- 2004 A.A. Liberal Studies
East Los Angeles College, Monterey Park, CA
Areas of focus: Studio Art and History

Teaching Experience

- Nominated for lecturer of the year 2025, Cal State LA
- Integrated decolonial teaching models and healing-centered pedagogy into curriculum.
- Led efforts in course redesign to enhance student engagement and accessibility, particularly in leadership and Chicana/Latinx studies courses.
- Developed assignments that emphasize leadership, advocacy, and community engagement, including the Changemaker Challenge and law-related research projects.

Full-Time Adjunct Faculty, *California State University, Los Angeles*
Courses taught for the Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies Department:

2016-
Present

- Cultural Expression in the Americas
- Mediterranean and pre-Columbian Myths in Latin American Literature
- Family Structures in the Americas
- The Constitution, Equity and Chicanas/os and Latinas/os
- Environmental Justice
- Cultural Diversity, Chicanas/os, and Latinas/os

Non-Teaching Projects

- Co-led the redesign of courses to improve engagement, accessibility, and

student outcomes.

- CLS 1500
- CLS 1600

Lecturer, University of San Diego

Fall 2024

Course taught for the Department of Leadership Studies

- Emerging Leaders
- Led redesign of LEAD 150 to improve engagement, accessibility, and student outcomes.

Adjunct Faculty, *California State University*, Los Angeles

2018

Course taught for the Liberal Studies Department:

- Multicultural Arts – L.A.

Teaching Associate, *California State University*, Los Angeles

2013

Course taught for the Art Department

- Beginning Photography

Freelance Experience

Freelance Editor

2023-
Present

- Edited articles, grant proposals, and manuscripts, ensuring clarity, accuracy, and adherence to client requirements.
- Provided comprehensive proofreading, copy editing, and content feedback.
- Maintained regular communication with client to ensure satisfaction and timely delivery.

Selected Professional Experience

Finance Director, *Mujeres de Maiz*, Los Angeles, California

2019

- Establish and solidify relationships with community organizations, colleges, and universities.
- Oversee and plan the annual budget.
- Participate in the planning and expansion of annual events.
- Curate annual art exhibition.
- Assisted in establishing Mujeres de Maiz as a non-profit organization.
- Explore and apply for funding and development opportunities.

Fiscal Coordinator, *College of Natural and Social Sciences Deans Office*, California State University, Los Angeles

2015

- Process all faculty appointments for the college using Oracle software.
- Prepare and distribute offer letters for full and parttime faculty appointments.
- Track retention, tenure, and promotion eligibility.
- Liaison between the fiscal office and the college departments.

Gallery Assistant, *Fine Art Gallery*, *California State University*, Los Angeles

2014

- Assist artists with the installation and de-installation of artwork.
- Art preparation and handling.
- Order food and supplies for exhibition openings.

Marketing Assistant, <i>Housing Department, California State University, Los Angeles</i>	2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create promotional material for university housing such as slideshows, flyers, bookmarks, and brochures. • Assist in maintaining housing website. • Photograph and document student move-in days. • Assist in promoting student housing events. 	
Office Manager, <i>School of Nursing, California State University, Los Angeles</i>	2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison for the Director, faculty, staff and students in the School of Nursing. • Supervise department staff and student assistants. • Monitor balances in all accounts and regularly provide budget information to the School Director. • Served as a resource and assisted faculty in making arrangements for special events that included obtaining food permits, reserving facilities, creating flyers, and arranging accommodations for catering needs. • Prepared travel arrangements and order office supplies and equipment. 	
Coordinator I, <i>Faculty Affairs Human Recourses, California State University, Los Angeles</i>	2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain employment eligibility records for the university. • Process adjunct hires. • Process salary increases for adjunct faculty using Oracle software. • Maintain faculty records for the university. 	
Records Assistant, <i>Academic Records, California State University, Los Angeles</i>	2005
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process and maintain student records for the university using Oracle and Oasis software. • Update and process grade changes, academic renewals, and academic leaves of absence. • Process transcript requests. • Troubleshoot enrollment issues and academic holds with students. 	
Grants and Awards	
• Mary Woods Scherr Scholarship - \$843	2025
• The Department of Leadership Studies Graduate Student Travel Fund Award - \$500	2024
• CSU Chancellors Doctoral Incentive Program Fellowship Travel Grant - \$1500	2023
• Aguilas de Oro, Chicanx Latinx University Association at Cal State LA	2023
• Exceptional Levels of Service to Students Award – 3 Units of Assigned Time at Cal State LA	2021
• Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation - \$7,500	2018
• The California Endowment - \$25,000	2018
• Eastside Arts Initiative - \$5,000	2016
• Center for Cultural Innovation and Department of Cultural Affairs, Creative Economic Development Fund Grant - \$12,500	2016

- California Humanities: Community Stories Grant - \$10,000 2016
- Creative Capacity Fund Grant, Center for Cultural Innovation 2015

Fellowships

- Developing Hispanic Serving Institution: Reclaiming Pedagogy, Community and Student Success, Cal State LA 2023-Present
- CSU Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program Fellowship 2023-Present
- Excellence and Equity Fellows Program, Cal State LA 2021
- ACTIVATE Arts Advocacy Leadership Fellow, Arts For LA, Los Angeles 2018-2019

Presentations, Speaking Engagements, Jury Panels, and Workshops

- *Beyond Stereotypes: Reimagining Latinx Leadership in Juana Bordas' Framework* – Collaborative Panel Presentation- National Association for Chicano Studies Annual Conference – Albuquerque, NM Forthcoming Spring 2025
 - Co-presenting with Anita Tijerina Revilla and Arturo Anaya Servin
 - Critically analyzed *The Power of Latino Leadership* by Juana Bordas, highlighting its reinforcement of stereotypes and advocating for a more nuanced understanding of Latinx leadership.
- *Decolonial Teaching Models: Reimagining Education* – Ethnic Studies Pedagogies – Association for Ethnic Studies Annual Conference – Bakersfield, CA 2024
 - Presented research on the Falkon model at Mondragon University and its potential application for transformative change in U.S. higher education.
 - Panel included diverse scholars discussing research on Ethnic Studies in education. The panel included Kyle Serrott from North Idaho College, Cindy Mata from UC Irvine, Kamani-Renedo from Sanford University, and Michael Angel Vazquez from Harvard University
- *Mujeres de Maiz en Movimiento: La Cultura Cura, Activist Aesthetics* – Collaborative Panel Presentation– Chicana and Chicana Studies in the 21st Century: The Continuities and Ruptures within the Field – National Association for Chicano Studies Annual Conference – San Francisco, CA 2024
 - Co-presented with Felicia "Fe" Montes, Felicia, Nadia Zepeda, Norell Martinez, Maribel Martinez, Maya Chinchilla, Vickie Vertiz, Claudia Serrato, Christine Vega, Amber Rose Gonzalez
 - Discussed the arts component of the book, *Mujeres de Maiz en Movimiento: Spiritual Activism, Healing Justice, and Feminist Praxis*
- *Creative Youth Development*, Grant Program – Reviewer – California Arts Council 2023
- *2022 Fund for the Arts*, Grant Program – Reviewer - National Association of Latino Arts & Cultures 2022

- *Creative Youth Development*, Grant Program – Reviewer – California Arts Council 2022
- *Impact Projects*, Grant Program – Reviewer – California Arts Council 2021
- *Plática: Decoding Linda Vallejo's Brown Belongings* – Panelist – LA Plaza de Cultura Y Artes 2019
- *Pláticas: Power, Protest, Prayer* – Panelist – LA Plaza de Cultura Y Artes 2017
- *Coatlicue and Coyolxahqui* – Guest Lecturer – Cal State LA 2016
- *LA Havana*, Cuba Exchange Residency – Juror – Self Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA 2015
- *Resume Writing*, Workshop – Self Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA 2015
- *Chicana Art: a Brief Survey*, Guest Lecturer - Cal State LA 2015
- *Mujeres de Maiz: Artivism in Action*, Guest Speaker - Fullerton City College 2015
- *Mujeres de Maiz: Artivism in Action*, Guest Speaker – Cal State LA 2014
- *Customer Service*, Workshop – Cal State LA 2009

Publications

- *Mujeres de Maiz en Movimiento: Spiritual Activism, Healing Justice, and Feminist Praxis*, "Bringing Art to the People: Decolonizing Art Spaces and Exhibitions," Arizona University Press – Essay contributor 2024
- *Linda Vallejo: Brown Belongings*, LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes, Exhibition Catalog – Essay contributor 2019
- *Entre Tinta y Lucha: 45 Years of Self Help Graphics & Art*, Cal State LA, Exhibition Catalog – Essay contributor and editor 2019
- *Womxn Warriors: Honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Walkouts and Intergenerational Organizing*, Mujeres de Maiz, Annual Publication - Editor 2018
- *ONE: Body, Mind, Spirit*, Mujeres de Maiz, Annual Publication - Contributor 2016
- *Made, Mother*, Mujeres de Maiz, Annual Publication- Contributor 2015
- *Ofrendas of the Flesh*, Mujeres de Maiz, Annual Publication - Contributor 2014
- *16: Identity Blinging*, Mujeres de Maiz, Annual Publication - Contributor 2013
- *Man as Object, Reversing the Gaze*, Women's Caucus for Art, Exhibition Catalog - Contributor 2011

Solo Exhibitions

- *The Boyfriends*, Closet of Modern Art, Cal State LA 2014
- *Noni's Table*, Closet of Modern Art, Cal State LA 2013

Group Exhibitions

- *The Very Very Very Long Day*, Self Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA 2020
- *Mujeres de Maiz: 20 Years of ARTivism and Herstory en LA*, LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes, Los Angeles, CA 2017
- *ONE: Mind, Body, Spirit*, Self Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA 2016
- *Madre, Mother*, Avenue 50 Studio, Los Angeles, CA 2015

- *Una Cita con La Vida*, Self Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA 2014
- Graduate Thesis Exhibition, Fine Arts Gallery, Cal State LA 2014
- *Ofrendas of the Flesh*, Tonalli Studio, Los Angeles, CA 2014
- *New Arrivals: CSULA Graduate Students Take on LA*, Red Pipe Gallery, Los Angeles, CA 2013
- *Connectivity*, The Luckman Fine Arts Complex, Cal State LA 2013
- Graduate Art Exhibition, Fine Arts Gallery, Cal State LA 2013
- Graduate Art Exhibition, Fine Arts Gallery, Cal State LA 2012
- *Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze*, SOMArts Cultural Center, San Francisco, CA 2011
- *Here Today, Gone Tomorrow*, The Luckman Fine Arts Complex, Cal State LA 2011
- Undergrad Art Exhibition, Fine Arts Gallery, Cal State LA 2011
- Annual Student Exhibition, Vincent Price Art Museum, Monterey Park, CA 2004
- Annual Student Exhibition, Vincent Price Art Museum, Monterey Park, CA 2003
- Annual Student Exhibition, Vincent Price Art Museum, Monterey Park, CA 2002

Curatorial Experience

- *Entre Tinta y Lucha: 45 Years of Self Help Graphics & Art*, William D. Cannon Art Gallery, Carlsbad, CA 2019
- *Entre Tinta y Lucha: 45 Years of Self Help Graphics & Art*, The Todd Madigan Art Gallery, Cal State Bakersfield, CA 2019
- *Entre Tinta y Lucha: 45 Years of Self Help Graphics & Art*, Ronald H. Silverman Fine Arts Gallery, Cal State LA 2018
- *Women Warriors: Honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Walkouts*, Self-Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA 2018
- *Mujeres de Maiz: 20 Years of ARTivism and Herstory en LA*, LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes, Los Angeles, CA 2017
- *ONE: Mind Body Spirit*, Self-Help Graphics & Art, Los Angeles, CA 2016
- *Madre, Mother Part 2*, M.A.N Insurance, Los Angeles, CA 2015
- *Madre, Mother*, Avenue 50 Studio, Los Angeles, CA 2015
- *Ofrendas of the Flesh*, Tonalli Studio, Los Angeles, CA 2014
- *16: Identity Blinging*, Corazon Del Pueblo, Los Angeles, CA 2013

Service and Community Engagement

- College of Ethnic Studies Course Coordinator, ensuring alignment of multiple-section courses and assessment of general education courses.
- Lead reviewer of course syllabi, ensuring adherence to learning outcomes and equity-focused curriculum design.
- Active in university-wide committees focused on diversity, equity, and inclusive teaching strategies.
- College of Ethnic Studies Course Coordinator, *Cal State LA* Present

- School of Leadership and Education Studies Student Ambassador, University of San Diego Present
- Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies Department, Curriculum Committee, *Cal State LA* Present
- College of Ethnic Studies, Curriculum Committee, *Cal State LA* Present
- College of Ethnic Studies, Student Success Committee, *Cal State LA* – Committee Co-Chair Present
- Board of Directors Member, *Mujeres de Maiz*, Boyle Heights, CA Present
- Artist Advisory Committee, *Self-Help Graphics & Art*, Boyle Heights, CA Present
- College of Ethnic Studies Program Assessment Coordinator, *Cal State LA* 2023/2024
- Academic Senate Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Task Force, *Cal State LA* 2020-2023
- Chicana(o) and Latina(o) Studies Department Study Abroad Committee, *Cal State LA* - Lead 2020-2023
- Artist Roundtable Member, *Self-Help Graphics & Art*, Boyle Heights, CA 2014-2020
- Programing Committee Chair, *Self-Help Graphics & Art*, Boyle Heights, CA 2015-2016

Professional Development

- Applied accessibility, AI, and culturally responsive pedagogy in course redesign and student engagement.
- Regularly integrate best practices from professional development in online and hybrid learning models.
- Trained in AI-driven educational tools to support equitable and inclusive classroom experiences.
- CSU AI Tools for Higher Ed Professional 2025
- CSU Analytics Certificate Program 2025
- CSU Accessible Document Course 2025
- ACUE AI Quick Study Series 2025
- Culturally Responsive Pedagogy Series 2024
- Empowering Students to Use AI Responsibly 2024
- AI Tools for Teaching and Learning 2024
- Infusing Culturally Sustaining Curriculum and Teaching 2024
- Career-Engaged Departments: Teaching with the Future in Mind – Center for Effective Teaching and Learning 2024
- Quality Matters Rubric Update Seventh Edition – Quality Matters 2023
- Inclusive Teaching Toward a Just Classroom – Center for Effective Teaching and Learning 2022
- CSU Advanced QLT Course in Teaching Online – CSU Academic 2022

- Technology Services, Online Course Services Program
- Designing Your Blended Course Fifth Edition – Quality Matters 2021
 - Credential in Effective College Instruction - The Association of College and University Educators 2021
 - Independent Improving Your Online Course – Quality Matters 2021
 - Micro credential in Designing a Learner-Centered and Inclusive Online Courses – The Association of College and University Educators 2020
 - Teaching First Generation College Students by Drawing on Cultural Strengths – California State University Chancellors Office 2020
 - Alt-Instruction – Center for Effective Teaching and Learning 2020
 - Designing Online Courses – Center for Effective Teaching and Learning 2020
 - Micro credential in Promoting Engaged and Active Learning – The Association of College and University Educators 2020
 - The Teaching Project - Center for Effective Teaching and Learning 2018
 - Active Learning Program - Center for Effective Teaching and Learning 2017
 - T.E.C.H (Technology Enhanced Certificate Holder) Certificate - Center for Effective Teaching and Learning 2017
 - Mindful Teaching and Learning - Center for Effective Teaching and Learning 2016
 - Grant Writing Course, A to Z Grant Writing 2015