

# Jennifer Cohen

## Curriculum Vitae

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## Education

- M.A. 2006 **Textiles and Apparel**, *Cornell University*  
Minor in Comparative Literature  
*Thesis: "Making Time: Toward a historical materialist fashion"*
- 2003 Design coursework, *Fashion Institute of Technology*
- B.A. 2003 **Comparative Literature** (summa cum laude), *Cornell University*  
Concentration in Latin American Studies  
*Thesis: "Holy Objectivity: Exorcizing the Outmoded in Dalí's Marble or García Lorca's Flesh"*

## Teaching Experience

### Visiting Assistant Professor (2006-07)

Textiles, Apparel, and Merchandising  
West Virginia University

- *TAM 231, 293 Costume History I & II*

Two 3-credit courses spanning the history of Western costume and fashion from antiquity to the present, explored through the particular historical, political, economic, aesthetic, technological, social and cultural factors that influenced fashion change. The second semester emphasized the emergence, evolution, and work of fashion designers.

- *TAM 140 Introductory Textiles*

A 3-credit introduction to the study of fibers, yarns, fabric construction, methods of color application and fabric finishing agents and processes; and how they affect the appearance, utilization, care and maintenance of apparel products. Laboratory work consisted of the use of various methods and testing instruments to evaluate physical and chemical properties of textiles.

- *TAM 493 Portfolio Presentation* (Co-taught)

A 1-credit course refining existing portfolios using Photoshop and Illustrator.

- *TAM 490 Teaching Practicum*

A 3-credit introduction to teaching in the TAM field.

### Teaching Assistant (2003-05)

Textiles and Apparel  
Cornell University

- *TXA 145 Introduction to Apparel Design*

Developed and taught a lab on sample development and finished garment execution.

- *TXA 470 Portfolio Development*

Led critiques and gave one-on-one reviews on professional portfolio presentation and organization, sketches, and technical flats. Conducted tutorials on Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

- *TXA 346 Design Process and Pattern Development*

Taught design through one-on-one and group critiques from concept research to sample construction, using both draping and flat patternmaking (knits and wovens). Gave tutorials on relevant technology: Patternmaking/grading by hand and using Modaris, and digital printing.

- *TXA 433 Apparel Production and Management* and *TXA 332 Designers as Entrepreneurs*

Lectured on apparel manufacturing practices and social responsibility in the apparel industry. Directed case studies on apparel business and entrepreneurship issues. Interfaced with 3-D body scanning technology, and examined the implications of use in industry. Contributed to an online teaching supplement.

- TXA 300 *Special Studies for Undergraduates: The Ithaca Fashion Project*  
Led a group of advanced undergraduates in ethnographic fashion research and writing on the unique mixture of youth sub-cultures in Ithaca, NY.
- TXA 125 *Art, Design, and Visual Thinking*  
Conducted review sessions on art and design history and principles of design.

## Professional Experience

### Wardrobe Assistant and Asst. Costume Designer (2006)

KOOROC Films, Los Angeles, CA

Designed and constructed costumes, managed wardrobe continuity for the independent feature “Like Moles, Like Rats.”

### Freelance Designer and Patternmaker (2006-present)

Designed on a commission basis, and made production patterns primarily for a small mens’ and womens’ knitwear company based in Los Angeles, CA.

### Studio Intern (2002)

Stephen Sheffield, Boston, MA

Assisted in the darkroom and mounted a multimedia installation for a fine art photographer.

### Consulting Intern (2000)

Arthur D. Little, Global Management Consulting

Conducted market research and engineering trade studies; assisted with product development for a new wearable flotation device that is now used by the Army; developed, conducted and reported on user tests of Army field equipment.

## Art/Design Exhibitions

“**Made with Love**” (Masters thesis show, installation including clothing, video projection, and process documentation). Shown in an out-of-use retail space, Ithaca, NY. May 2005.

“**The Mirror Stage**” (doll and life-sized clothing, resin, latex, shoes, and hand mirrors). Solo show. Tjaden Gallery, Cornell University. November 2004.

“**In Loving Memory Of**” (fabric, copper wire). Group show: *Body of Work*. Tjaden Gallery, Cornell University. March 2004.

**Cornell Design League Fashion Show**, Ithaca, NY. Two menswear ensembles. April 2003.

## Scholarly Activities

### Collections Manager: WVU Historic Costume Collection (2006-07)

In the process of archiving, photographing, and cataloguing a regional collection of more than 750 items. Collaborating with the university libraries and collections software developer in order to allow the collection to be viewed online.

**Approaching the Unapproachable: *Au bord de l’Inapprochable***. International and Interdisciplinary Bilingual Colloquium, Queen’s University. Kingston, Canada. Presented the paper, “Christian Boltanski’s communal *mémoire involontaire*: The *lieu de mémoire* unearthed in a Collector’s inventory and a Storyteller’s vicarious experience.” December 2003.

**Guest lecturer**. “Textiles for Interiors.” West Virginia University, *ID 200: Interior Materials and Structures*. February, 2007.

## Grants and Fellowships

**The College of Human Ecology.** Cornell University. Full funding and stipend for master's degree (2003-2005).

**The College of Human Ecology Graduate Student Research Awards Fund.** Partial funding for master's thesis research (2004).

**The Cornell Council for the Arts.** Full funding for "The Mirror Stage" (2004).

**Einhorn Discovery Grant.** Partial funding for senior thesis research in Spain (2003).

## Jury Memberships

**WV Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Design Exhibition.** Morgantown, WV. January 2007.

## Foreign Languages

Proficient in Spanish, Reading knowledge of French.

## Teaching Workshops

**Graduate Teaching Development Workshop,** Cornell University. "Brain Based Learning" and "Initiative and Motivation," Spring 2004.

## Community Involvement

**Hospice Care, WV.** Led a project in which my Introductory Textiles students selected used clothing for reconstruction, dyeing, and surface design. Reconstructed garments were donated to an area "upscale resale" boutique benefiting the Hospice Care system of West Virginia. Fall 2006.

**Cornell Alumni Association.** Advised prospective Cornell students from the Huntsville, AL area. July 2006.

**ESL Conversation Partner.** Met weekly with Mexican PhD candidate Francisco Flores-Lopez in Ithaca, NY (2003-2005).

## Student Work

[www.jennifercohen.net/studentwork.html](http://www.jennifercohen.net/studentwork.html)