

KAT ROBERTS

EDUCATION

The Graduate Center, CUNY | New York, NY

Master of Arts, Liberal Studies- Fashion Studies Track

Concentration: Sustainability, Material Culture, Women & Identity, Interactive Technology & Pedagogy

2018

Parsons School of Design, New School University | New York, NY

Certificate in Fashion Design

2017

Appalachian State University | New York, NY

Bachelors in Social Work

Concentration: Women's Advocacy, Domestic Violence, Education Initiatives for At-Risk Children

2011

Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY | New York, NY

Associate in Applied Science, Illustration

2011

Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY | New York, NY

Associates in Applied Science, Accessories Design

2005

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

New York City College of Technology, CUNY | New York, NY

Substitute Lecturer

2017-present

Textile Arts Center | New York, NY

Instructor

2012-2018

Make Workshop | Brooklyn, NY

Instructor

2012-2018

Rudolf Steiner School | New York, NY

Adjunct Instructor

2014-2015

3rd Ward | Brooklyn, NY

Instructor

2010-2013

Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY | New York, NY

Adjunct Instructor

2008-2011

COURSES TAUGHT

New York City College of Technology, CUNY | New York, NY

Substitute Lecturer – BUF 3400 E-Commerce and Global Marketing

2018

Beginning with the history of e-commerce, this course examines how the rapid evolution of online shopping has transformed the way that businesses and consumers interact with one another. Students are encouraged to take a holistic view of these concepts by analyzing how emerging technologies, cultural shifts, and new strategies in advertising have reshaped the opportunities for commerce to happen anytime and anywhere in the world.

New York City College of Technology, CUNY | New York, NY

Substitute Lecturer – BUF 3100 Trend Forecasting and Social Media

2018

This course focuses on understanding the techniques and resources needed to forecast upcoming fashion trends, in both the short-term and the long-term. Students are tasked with providing evidence of how social media can be used as a tool in further anticipating these consumer trends. The final project requires students to research and present forecasts about a specific fashion category relating to fabrication, color, trim, and detailing. Their results are shown through a combination of textual references and visual elements such as illustrations and fabric swatches.

New York City College of Technology, CUNY | New York, NY

Substitute Lecturer – SBS 3201 Gender, Dress, and Society 2018

Using historical, economic, sociological, and psychological perspectives, this course examines appearance and dress as a complex form of communication. Students delve into understanding the many-layered meanings in dress as they relate to one's gender, culture, and individual identity, culminating in two major assignments. The first requires students to look at their own personal history to find specific examples of having used certain types of dress to mark momentous times in their lives. The second, requires students to apply the lessons of the class to examine a fictitious character from cinema to uncover how costumes are used to reveal the character's personality, roles, and evolution throughout the story arc.

New York City College of Technology, CUNY | New York, NY**Substitute Lecturer – BUF 1101 Introduction to the Fashion Industry** 2017, 2018

This writing intensive course is aimed at exploring the many facets of the fashion industry. Students examine the effect of cultural and historical trends on what is being seen on and off the runway. Readings, films, and numerous short writing assignments help the students form a well-rounded understanding of the fashion designers, production teams, retailers, and consumers. The final project is a culmination of the skills learned throughout the semester, asking students to research and present information about a specific designer, their target market, fabrication, and significance.

New York City College of Technology, CUNY | New York, NY**Substitute Lecturer – BUF 2400 Product Development** 2017, 2018

This course guides students through the many complexities of taking a product from concept to reality. Beyond thinking just of the public-facing designer, students explore the roles of significant, though less visible, members of the production chain such as technical designers, patternmakers, merchandisers, and factory workers. Students engaged in a number of projects such as the creation of a mood board, seasonal color palette, and creating a mock fashion line with peers from class.

New York City College of Technology, CUNY | New York, NY**Substitute Lecturer – BUF 2203 Visual Merchandising** 2017, 2018

This course provides a rigorous understanding of visual merchandising through required readings, comprehensive papers, and multiple assignments that charge students with stepping into the retail environment to observe store windows, merchandise displays, and store layouts. As visual merchandising is an inherently creative and visual practice, students must also complete a number of hands-on assignments that test their understanding of color theory along with the principles of design.

New York City College of Technology, CUNY | New York, NY**Substitute Lecturer – BUF 3300 International Retailing** 2017

This course is aimed at teaching students the many complex factors and considerations involved in a company's decision to expand its retailing business internationally. Specific attention given to theories of expansions, modes of expansions, and diverse cultural and economic climates, culminating in a scaffolded research assignment.

Textile Arts Center | New York, NY**Instructor – Leatherworking** 2012-2018

Creation of syllabus and course projects for adult learners looking to understand the process of leather working. Instruction is given on all necessary steps for transforming an original design into a finished product. This includes a technical sketch, patternmaking, cutting techniques, machine and hand sewing techniques, working with hardware, decorative and finishing techniques.

Make Workshop | Brooklyn, NY**Instructor- Footwear Design and Construction** 2012-2018

Created syllabus for adult learning course on the design and development of a various types of footwear such as sandals, moccasins, and pumps. Each student is guided through the process of designing, patternmaking, working with materials, and ultimately constructing the shoes.

Make Workshop | Brooklyn, NY

Instructor- Leather Working Created syllabus for adult learning course on working with leather. Responsible for guiding student through the process of creating a design, original pattern, and finalized project. There is also attention given to the appropriate terminology and tools associated with leatherworking, and understanding how to source the appropriate materials for each project.	2012-2018
Queens College, CUNY Queens, NY Guest Speaker – “Denim: Reconsidering the Life of Used Objects” Workshops taught in conjunction with <i>Fabric of Cultures: Systems in the Making</i> and with Freshman Year Initiative. Students were taught about how past civilizations received garments before the age of mass production, perceived value of textiles and garments in the past, and how fast fashion has promoted the viewpoint of clothing as a disposable commodity. Students were then instructed in various mending techniques to repair worn or damaged denim, and set to work on fixing garments they had brought from home.	2017
Rudolf Steiner School New York, NY Adjunct Instructor- Leather Working Designed syllabus and semester projects for ninth grade students learning the basics of working with leather and suede. Introduction of both traditional and modern tools, strategies for taking designs from concept to finished product, and various decorative and finishing techniques. Students were assessed on three different projects that varied in scale and complexity.	2014-2015
3rd Ward Brooklyn, NY Instructor- Footwear Design and Construction Design and development of syllabus, all course-related materials, and projects for adult learning courses devoted to the design and creation of original footwear designs. Lectures included how to source materials, terminologies, and step-by-step instruction of all elements of patternmaking and fabrication of the student's pair of shoes.	2010-2013
3rd Ward Brooklyn, NY Instructor- Handbag Design and Construction Creation and development of syllabus, all course-related materials, and projects for an adult learning course related to the design and construction of handbags. Students are lectured on the functional and anatomical considerations one must take into account when designing various types of bags. Original patterns created by the instructor are shared with students for beginning projects, so that they may focus on considerations such as adequate seam allowance and the basics of sewing with a machine. For the final project, students are guided through the basics of patternmaking to create an original design.	2010-2013
Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY New York, NY Adjunct Instructor- LD 133 Footwear Design and Construction I Teaching students the basic concepts of footwear design history and types of footwear, helping students develop skills for working with a last, learning patternmaking, sewing construction, and finishing techniques for open shoes, such as thongs, sandals, and mules. General understanding of industry standards, footwear terminology, and a familiarity with footwear machinery and equipment. Weekly lectures focused on the development of sewing proficiency and the specific construction. Introduction of specification sheets needed for factory interpretation of original designs.	2008-2011
Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY New York, NY Adjunct Instructor- LD 133 Footwear Design and Construction II Building on expectations and skills introduced in LD 133, my responsibilities included teaching students advanced footwear techniques for the design and creation of original closed shoes, such as pumps and oxfords along with complete patterns and specification packets. Facilitated peer-to-peer class critiques of finalized shoe projects for each of the three required designs.	2008-2011
Fashion Institute of Technology, SUNY New York, NY Adjunct Instructor- HLD 014 Accessories Design Techniques A summer class for high school-aged students providing an introduction to the tools, sewing machines, and techniques required to construct a variety of basic handbags. In addition to the hands-on curriculum within the classroom, experiential learning is provided by way of a tour through the fashion district and the many shops for sourcing textiles and other notions needed for completing the assigned projects.	2008-2011

RELATED ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Dr. Elizabeth Wissinger New York, NY	2016 -2017
Research Assistant	
Assisted in research related to: trends in wearable technology within the fashion industry, technology as it relates to gender, and advertising of technology as related to gender.	

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Palatines Shoes Los Angeles, CA	2017 - 2017
Fashion Illustration	
Provided illustrations of Spring 17 line for promotional items.	
Project Accessories- Television Show Promo New York, NY	2011 - 2011
Accessories Design Consultant	
Worked with a producer to manage the show's prop styling, ensuring accurate depiction of workshop environments, tools, and materials needed in the creation of accessories such as shoes, handbags, and small leather goods.	
Ryan Kippel Washington DC	2010 - 2011
Freelance Technical Design	
Created technical specification packets for a line of women's handbags.	
Christopher Nava New York, NY	2010 - 2010
Freelance Accessory Design, Technical Design	
Provided full sketches and technical specification packet for a line of men's accessories, specifically backpacks.	
Far, Far Away New York, NY	2010 - 2010
Sample Maker	
Created a finished samples for an upscale bridal line.	
American Alzheimer's Foundation of America New York, NY	2010 - 2010
Freelance Designer	
Designed a promotional item to be used in an Alzheimer's awareness campaign.	
Whitehaus Accessories Brooklyn, NY	2008 - 2012
Designer	
Design and development of a small collection of accessories and jewelry, with a strong emphasis on the use of vintage and reclaimed materials.	
Egg by Susan Lazar Brooklyn, NY	2009 - 2009
Freelance Designer	
Design, development of technical specification packets, and evaluation of samples for a maternity and accessories line.	
Ernest Alexander New York, NY	2010 -2010
Freelance Designer	
Design and development of a men's line of accessories.	
Urbano LTD New York, NY	2008 - 2009
Freelance Designer	
Design, technical development, evaluation of samples, and consulting for a line of men's professional accessories.	
Brown Shoe Company New York, NY	2008 - 2008
Freelance Sketcher	
Hand rendering footwear designs for the upcoming season.	
Spiegel Brands New York, NY	2008 - 2008
Freelance Sketcher	
Hand rendering footwear designs for the upcoming season.	

The Divine Tribe | New York, NY

Accessories Designer **2007 - 2007**
 Duties included concept and design, creation of technical specification packets, merchandising, trend forecasting, and communicating with vendors.

Vivienne Tam | New York, NY **2005 - 2005**
 Intern/Design
 Duties included accessories design and development, and archiving past designs.

PROCESS PAPER

Paulicelli, E. (Ed.). (2017). *Fabric of Cultures: Systems in the Making*. Queens, NY. **2017**

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

“Fabric of Cultures: Systems in the Making”
 Presenter at the *Fashion Now and Then* conference at LIM College, New York, NY **2018**

“The Collaborative Quilting Project”
 Selected exhibitionist at *Parisian Salon: The Soul of Fashion* at The Paris American Academy, Paris, France **2018**

“Fashion Objects Through the Meditative Deconstruction/Reconstruction of Jeans”
 Invited exhibitionist at *Fabric of Cultures: Systems in the Making* exhibition at Queens College, City University of New York, Queens, NY **2017**

“Alternative Futures: Reconsidering the Lives of Worn Fashion Objects”
 Presenter at the *Fashion Now and Then* conference at LIM College, New York, NY **2017**

“The Old and the New: Sustainable Fashion”
 Invited panelist at *Fabric of Cultures: Objects, Memory, Technology* conference at Queens College, City University of New York, Queens, NY **2017**

WORKING GROUPS

The VHS Archives Working Group
 Meeting monthly at The CUNY Graduate Center, this group explores the value and logistics of digitally preserving VHS tapes, particularly those that document the AIDS activism, art, as well as the art, lives, history and experiences of feminist, queer, and minority groups. **2017-2018**

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Textile and Apparel Association **2018**

Fashion Studies Alliance **2018**

CRAFT BOOKS

Roberts, K. (2018). *DIY for Dog Lovers*. New York: Lark Crafts. **In Press**

Roberts, K. (2018). *Crafting for Cat Ladies: 35 purr-fect feline projects*. New York: Lark. **2017**

Fisher, R., Roberts, K., & Woods, K. (2016). *Make It by the Book*. New York: Parragon Inc. **2016**

Roberts, K., & Sillars-Powell, T. (2014). *Loom Band It: 60 rubber band projects for the budding loomineer*. Hauppauge, NY: Barrons. **2014**

Roberts, K., & Neale, K. (2013). *Friendship Bracelets*. Bath: Parragon Ltd. **2013**

Le Van, M. (Ed.). (2012). *30-Minute Bracelets: 60 quick and creative projects for jewelers*. New York: Lark. **2012**

INDUSTRY PROFILE AND MEDIA

Work, Interviews, or profiles published on: *The New York Times*, *The Museum at FIT*, *Martha Stewart*, *Boing Boing*, *Bust Magazine*, *Etsy*, *The L Magazine*, *La Repubblica D Magazine*, *BurdaStyle*, *Craftzine*