

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Ana María León Crespo, assistant professor of history of art, assistant professor of romance languages and literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and assistant professor of architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of history of art, with tenure, associate professor of romance languages and literatures, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and associate professor of architecture, without tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2015	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
M.Des.S.	2001	Graduate School of Design, Harvard University
M.Arch	1999	Georgia Institute of Technology's College of Architecture
B.A.	1996	Architecture and Urbanism, Universidad Católica de Santiago de Guayaquil in Ecuador

Professional Record:

2015-present	Assistant Professor, Departments of the History of Art and Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Michigan
2017-present	Assistant Professor, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor León Crespo is an accomplished and inspiring teacher and mentor who has found ways to share her specialist knowledge of modern Latin American architecture, theory, and transnational modernisms, along with her commitments to decoloniality and feminist thought, in an accessible manner to a diverse student body. Her pedagogical strategies focus on collaboration and active engagement, encouraging students to gain a broader understanding of the Western Hemisphere and to reconsider their place in it. She is currently serving on four dissertation committees.

Research: Professor León Crespo has an accomplished record of published, forthcoming, and completed works of scholarship, including a book and numerous articles. They reflect deep research, a close attention to artistic, intellectual, and political connections and contexts, a serious engagement with theory in the humanities, and fine readings of primary material, be it buildings, plans, spaces, texts, images, or films. She is especially skillful in bringing out revealing “echoes” between institutions and in drawing out the connections between architecture and politics. She also has made a significant contribution to globalizing studies in modern architecture and to exploring the intersection of architecture and discourses of decoloniality.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Modernism for the Masses: Antonio Bonet's Dreams for Buenos Aires. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2021.

Herscher, Andrew and Ana María León. *Detroit Resists: Digital Occupation of the U.S. Pavilion at the 2016 Venice Biennale.* Glasgow: The Newspaper Club, May 2016.

“Designing Dissent: Vilanova Artigas and the São Paulo School of Architecture.” In *Architecture and the Paradox of Dissidence*, edited by Ines Weizman, 74-88. London: Routledge, 2013.

“Prisoners of Ritoque: The Open City and the Ritoque Concentration Camp.” *Journal of Architectural Education* 66, no. 1 (Fall 2012): 84-97.

Service: Professor León Crespo is an outstanding citizen of the profession and her two departments. Her activity in the governance of both History of Art and Romance Languages and Literatures has helped to bring together scholarship, teaching, and service in order to broaden diversity and inclusion at all levels. Since her arrival in 2015, she has organized over twenty scholarly and teaching events, including regular conference panels and several workshops on anti-racist and decolonizing methodologies; feminist pedagogies to teach the foundations of collaboration, intersectionality and empowerment; and Latin American architectural history from the perspective of the South.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): “León Crespo’s incisive attention to formal expression usually manages to maintain the balance between interpretative analysis and a wider historico-political perspective, thanks not least to her being an exceptionally gifted and eloquent writer.”

Reviewer (B): “Her research and publications are significant, and her book will, I believe be widely read, publicly debated, and recognized for its quality and impact.”

Reviewer (C): “Among *Modernity for the Masses*’s [sic] greatest strengths is the fluidness and precision with which Prof. León Crespo knits together histories of architecture and urbanism with those of literature, art, politics, and economics.”

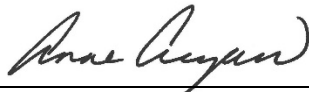
Reviewer (D): “When I look at the constellation of scholars working on modern architecture in Latin America, it is clear that Dr. Ana María León Crespo is a rising star in our field. I actually should rephrase that without the geographic qualifier: Dr. León Crespo is a rising star in the field of architectural history in general. What she has done in an amazing number of articles, editorial works and exhibitions is remarkable for using art and architectural history to explain contemporary issues of racism, sexism and exclusion. And those problems have no geographical boundaries.”

Reviewer (E): “I find Dr. León Crespo’s ambitious attempt to combine cultural studies, decolonial critique, and architectural history admirable, important and promising. She is a [junior] scholar and an enormously productive one.”

Reviewer (F): “If I were to most succinctly identify her primary scholarly contribution, it would be her commitment to a project of asking how to write histories of twentieth century architecture in Latin America differently, in ways that help to dismantle normative epistemologies and codified disciplinary frameworks and open up the field and its metrics to other voices and concerns.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor León Crespo’s scholarly productivity is high, and she is making significant contributions to the fields of architectural studies, urban studies, and cultural studies, with well-respected publications in English and Spanish. She has proven herself to be an excellent and creative teacher, and already has established a strong record of service and leadership in her two departments and scholarly fields. For these reasons, the Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Ana María León Crespo be promoted to the rank of associate professor of history of art, with tenure, associate professor of romance languages and literatures, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and associate professor of architecture, without tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.



Anne Curzan, Dean
Geneva Smitherman Collegiate Professor of
English Language and Literature, Linguistics,
and Education
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts



Jonathan Massey
Dean and Professor
A. Alfred Taubman College of
Architecture and Urban Planning

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