



Amanda Coate

Ph.D. Student in History, admitted Autumn 2019

Bio

BIO

Amanda Coate is a Ph.D. candidate in History at Stanford University. She works on the cultural and intellectual histories of early modern Europe. She is particularly interested in the history of famine and hunger, animal-human interactions, the history of medicine and related fields of knowledge, and how people have conceptualized human nature and the extremes of human behavior, such as survival cannibalism. Her dissertation, "Experiences and Meanings of Hunger in Early Modern Europe, c. 1550-1700," examines early modern European cultural understandings of hunger and food scarcity. Using a wide range of sources (including diaries, sermons, news pamphlets, and medical literature), her dissertation tracks the multifaceted ways in which early modern Europeans experienced, portrayed, and comprehended their own and others' hunger. Her work has been supported by Stanford University's School of Humanities and Sciences, the Europe Center at Stanford University, the Program in History and Philosophy of Science at Stanford University, and the Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies at Stanford University.

Amanda's article, "An Elephant in Dublin: Animals and Knowledge in the Late Seventeenth Century," was recently published in the journal *Early Science and Medicine*. She has been a writer for the blog *Synopsis: A Health Humanities Journal*, and has written and recorded a podcast episode, "Cannibalism at the Siege of Sancerre," for the *French History Podcast*. Amanda is also enthusiastic about fostering appreciation for history and the humanities through teaching and is currently working on completing an Associate Level Teaching Certificate from Stanford's Center for Teaching and Learning.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Graduate Research Opportunity (GRO), School of Humanities and Sciences, Stanford University (2023)
- Graduate Student Research Grant, CMEMS, Stanford University (2023)
- Robert M. Kingdon Prize, Sixteenth Century Society Conference (2023)
- Emerging Scholar Award, 12th International Conference on Food Studies (2022)
- Graduate Student Grant, The Europe Center, Stanford University (2022)
- History of Technology & Science Research Grant, HPS, Stanford University (2022)
- Extraordinary Journeys Featured Senior, Cornell University (2018)
- George S. Lustig Prize, Department of History, Cornell University (2018)
- Phi Beta Kappa, Cornell University (2018)
- Goethe Essay Prize, Department of German Studies, Cornell University (2015)
- James E. Rice, Jr. Essay Award, Knight Institute, Cornell University (2015)

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

- M.A., Stanford University , History (2021)
- B.A., Cornell University , History (2018)

LINKS

- Synopsis Author Profile: <https://medicalhealthhumanities.com/author/amandacoate/>
- Podcast: Cannibalism at the Siege of Sancerre: <https://www.thefrenchhistorypodcast.com/cannibalism-at-the-siege-of-sancerre-with-amanda-coate/>

Teaching

COURSES

2025-26

- Disasters: Environment, Disease, and War in Early Modern Europe: HISTORY 231D (Spr)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **An Elephant in Dublin: Animals and Knowledge in the Late Seventeenth Century** *Early Science and Medicine*
Coate, A.
2025; 30 (6)
- **Animal-Human Relationships in Medieval Iceland: From Farm-Settlement to Sagas (Book Review)** *COMITATUS-A JOURNAL OF MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE STUDIES*
Book Review Authored by: Coate, A.
2023; 54: 225-227

PRESENTATIONS

- Desire and Disgust in Early Modern Accounts of Hunger and Starvation - Renaissance Society of America (February 19, 2026)
- Hunger and Familial Violence in Early Modern European Culture - Sixteenth Century Society Conference (November 1, 2025)
- Appetite, Hunger, and Health in Early Modern Medicine - Sixteenth Century Society Conference (November 2, 2024)
- "Boiled with Nettles they accompted that good fare": Hunger and Starvation in the 1641 Depositions - Sixteenth Century Society Conference (October 29, 2023)
- An Elephant in Dublin: Animals and Knowledge in the Late Seventeenth Century - Anthrozoology as International Practice: A Student Conference in Animal Studies (November 11, 2022)