



New Arcadia Collection: Histories across Species

Over the last decade, the study of non-human animals has grown at the intersection of several academic fields. Scholars from social sciences, humanities, arts, and environment-related disciplines have effectively pursued research to re-center the role of animals and other non-human organisms in socio-ecological change. Non-humans have also been a fundamental part in the history of environmental sciences, ecology, and biology. Within the social sciences and the humanities, scholars from anthropology, cultural studies, science and technology studies, and the environmental humanities have expanded the analysis of multi-species relations and non-human agencies. Historians and other social scientists have similarly questioned traditional anthropocentric narratives to assess how animals have been both a tool and a driver in socio-political and environmental change.

Although the social and historical study of animals has expanded, the question about how to effectively engage narratives of human and non-human agencies and (in)justice has remained. This unresolved question has heightened tensions and hindered further dialogue among scholars in these disciplines. This has been particularly evident in areas around the world where human and civil rights movements are still ongoing processes and accounts about animals seem divorced from needed contemporary social and political actions.

This collection explores epistemological, ethical, techno-scientific, and socio-political aspects in the study of nonhuman animals across species. We particularly welcome contributions that address the tensions between human and non-human agencies within socio-ecological issues in a particular place and time, but that offer insights into broader processes of change.

Some of the topics addressed may include, but are not restricted to:

Animal rights, human rights, and environmental policy • Farming and livestock production • De-extinction sciences and technologies • Animal sciences, testing, and cognition • Synthetic biology, biodiversity, and co-evolution • Wildlife and ecological conservation • Animals, race, and environmental justice issues • Machine learning and AI in ecosystem management • Multispecies relations • Hunting and poaching • Zoos and animal exhibitions • Human-wildlife conflicts • Breeding and domestication • Animal representations, education, and game development • Wildlife corridors and biophilic design • Animal robotics in ecological research • Microbiology, marine ecology, and outer space environments

The collection is curated by William San Martín (Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA).

We look forward to your contribution!



