



*Routledge Human-Animal Studies Series*

# **METHODS IN HUMAN-ANIMAL STUDIES**

**ENGAGING WITH ANIMALS THROUGH  
THE SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Edited by  
Annalisa Colombino and Heide K. Bruckner



# Methods in Human-Animal Studies

This timely book provides a methodological guide for how to conduct and theorise research in human-animal studies. In response to critiques of the anthropomorphic slant to human-animal research and the increasing political relevance of animals in contemporary environmental debates, this book emphasises methods which bring to light the animal side of multispecies encounters.

Drawing from the interdisciplinary strength of human-animal studies, this book contains contributions from practitioners and scholars working in sociology, anthropology, ethology and geography. Each chapter uses a case-study approach to present a theoretical framework and empirical application of cutting-edge methods in human-animal studies, from creative writing in multispecies ethnographies to visual methods like videography and body mapping. Organized in three parts – theorizing; collaborating; visualizing – the book equips readers with methodological tools to conduct human-animal studies research attentive to animal lives. Furthermore, chapters reflect on the opportunities, limitations and ethical considerations of research that seeks to understand our more-than-human worlds.

The book is aimed towards undergraduate and graduate students in human-animal studies and scholars investigating human-animal relations. It will also be of interest to practitioners and policy-makers who engage with conservation, wildlife management or the human-animal interface of urban and regional planning.

**Annalisa Colombino** holds a PhD in human geography from the Open University. She now works at Ca' Foscari, University of Venice, Italy. Her research applies cultural geography to topics such as place-marketing, commodification and branding processes, the geographies of consumption, the bioeconomy and the diverse economy. Most recently, she has been working at the intersection of economic geography, animal geographies and the geographies of food adopting a more-than-human approach inspired by biopolitical thought. Her interdisciplinary research is published in Italian, English and German.

**Heide K. Bruckner** is a researcher and lecturer currently working in the Department of Geography at the University of Graz, Austria. In her scholarship, she focuses on the promises and challenges of “alternative” food systems in the Global North and South. In particular, she is drawn to embodied, visceral geographies that capture the intersection of personal experience and more-than-human political ecologies. Her diverse research projects span the globe, from the United States and Latin America, to western Europe and the South Pacific.

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*Professor of Geography, University of Exeter, UK*

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# **Methods in Human-Animal Studies**

Engaging With Animals Through  
the Social Sciences

**Edited by Annalisa Colombino and  
Heide K. Bruckner**

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# Contributors

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**Heide K. Bruckner** is a researcher and lecturer currently working in the Department of Geography at the University of Graz, Austria. In her scholarship, she focuses on the promises and challenges of “alternative” food systems in the Global North and South. In particular, she is drawn to embodied, visceral geographies that capture the intersection of personal experience and more-than-human political ecologies. Her diverse research projects span the globe, from the United States and Latin America, to western Europe and the South Pacific.

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