

**Amanda Kaminsky**  
101 West Hall  
1085 S. University Ave.  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109  
aekamins@umich.edu  
802-999-7436

---

**EDUCATION:**

- 2017-present    **PhD, Sociocultural Anthropology—PhD candidate**  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2015-2017    **MS, Environmental Policy and Planning**  
School of Natural Resources and Environment  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2009-2013    **BA, Chinese**  
Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT

**PUBLICATIONS:**

- 2018    Chang, C. Y. A., Gao, Z., **Kaminsky, A.**, & Reames, T. G. Michigan Sustainability Case: Revisiting the Three Gorges Dam: Should China Continue To Build Dams on the Yangtze River? *Sustainability: The Journal of Record*, 11(5), 204-215.
- This case is also featured in the repository of interactive Michigan Sustainability Cases:  
<https://www.learnala.com/cases/revisiting-the-three-gorges-dam>

**BOOK REVIEWS:**

- 2024    Chinese Medicine in East Africa: An Intimacy with Strangers, written by Elisabeth Hsu. *Asian Medicine*, 18(1-2), 344-346.

**INVITED PRESENTATIONS:**

- 2022    *Tracing the Chinese crayfish trade in Kenya*. Cornell University
- 2017    *The Chinese safari: tourism and conservation within China-Africa relations*. Middlebury College

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

- 2023    *Zicha: The National and Global Aspirations of Kenyan Purple Tea*. Tea In and After Empire Symposium (virtual). Hosted by Muey Saeteurn (UC-Merced) and Erika Rappaport (UC-Santa Barbara).
- 2023    *The micropolitics of a Chinese deli in Nairobi*. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Toronto.
- 2022    *Little lobsters: tracing the Chinese crayfish trade in Kenya*. African Studies Association Annual Meeting. Philadelphia.
- 2022    *From remote lakes to urban palates: tracing the Chinese crayfish trade in Kenya*. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Seattle.
- 2021    *Artisanal slaughter: The challenges of goat meat in Vermont*. 11th International Conference on Food Studies (virtual). Hosted by Aarhus University, Copenhagen.
- 2019    *Tiger bone and rhino horn: wildlife conservation and anti-Chinese racism*. Dimensions of Political

Ecology Conference. University of Kentucky, Lexington KY.

- 2017 *The Chinese safari: cultural identity and wildlife conservation in Kenya's tourism industry*. China-Africa Conference 2017: Infrastructure, Resource Extraction, and Environmental Sustainability. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI.
- 2017 *The Chinese safari: cultural identity and wildlife conservation in Kenya's tourism industry*. Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference. University of Kentucky, Lexington KY.
- 2016 *Chinese tourism and China-Kenya relations*. African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC.
- 2014 *Representations of animals in contemporary Chinese Essays*, World Animal Day Conference. Shijiazhuang, China.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

- 2024, Winter Instructor of Record, Middlebury College  
The Anthropology of Meat  
ANTH 1023 A
- 2023, Winter Graduate Student Instructor  
Introduction to Anthropology  
ANTHRCUL 101  
Instructor of record: Dr. Leigh Stuckey
- 2021, Winter Graduate Student Instructor  
History of the Arab-Israeli Conflict  
HISTORY 244  
Instructor of record: Dr. Victor Lieberman
- 2020, Fall Graduate Student Instructor  
Anthropology of Food  
ANTHRCUL 254  
Instructor of record: Dr. Mike McGovern
- 2020, Summer Instructional Aide  
Department of Anthropology  
Supervisor: Dr. Ruth Behar  
Duties: Transitioning to remote education, organizing and managing online platforms
- 2016, Fall Graduate Student Instructor  
Introduction to Environmental Politics: Race, Class and Gender  
AAS 322/ENVIRON 335  
Instructor of record: Dr. Omolade Adunbi

### **FELLOWSHIPS:**

- 2020 Fulbright US Student Program, Kenya (Declined)
- 2017- 2022 National Science Foundation, Graduate Research Fellowship Program

### **PAPER AWARDS:**

- 2023 Christine Wilson Award for best graduate student paper, American Anthropological Association, Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition.  
Paper title: *"Artisanal Slaughter: The Challenges of Goat Meat in Vermont"*

- 2022 Wangari Maathai Essay Competition Winner, University of Michigan Department of Afroamerican and African Studies.  
Paper title: *"Blackness and Racialization in China-Africa Relations"*
- 2013 Timothy Loring Prize in Chinese Language and Culture, Middlebury College.  
Thesis title: *Representations of Animals in Contemporary Chinese Essays*

**OTHER AWARDS AND GRANTS:**

- 2023 African Studies Center Research Funding, University of Michigan.
- 2023 South African Initiatives Office (SAIO) Student Research Grant, University of Michigan.
- 2021 Rackham International Research Award, University of Michigan.
- 2021 African Studies Center Research Funding, University of Michigan
- 2021 South African Initiatives Office (SAIO) Student Research Grant, University of Michigan
- 2018 Rackham Language Training Award, University of Michigan
- 2018 University of Michigan Anthropology Department Summer Funding
- 2016 Rackham Summer Research Award, University of Michigan
- 2015 University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment Academic Leadership Fellowship
- 2013 Phi Beta Kappa, Middlebury College

**SERVICE:**

- 2024- AAA Society for the Anthropology of Food and Nutrition (SAFN) Program Committee
- 2022- U-M Anthropology Undergraduate-Graduate Mentoring Program (AUGMENT)
- 2022-2023 U-M Admissions Committee, Sociocultural Student Representative
- 2018-2019 U-M Sociocultural Workshop Student Coordinator

**PEER REVIEW:**

- 2023 Food and Foodways

**OTHER TRAINING:**

- 2022-2023 Rackham Professional Development DEI Certificate, University of Michigan
- 2015-2017 African Studies Certificate, University of Michigan

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

- 2023- Graduate Intern  
African Studies Center  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Omolade Adunbi
- 2016-2017 Research Assistant  
Department of Afroamerican and African Studies

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Omolade Adunbi

- 2015-2016      Research Assistant  
School of Natural Resources and Environment  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Robyn Meeks
- 2014-2015      Intern, The Nature Conservancy, Yunnan and Sichuan, China
- 2013-2014      College Admissions Consultant, Taurus Education, Nanjing, China
- 2012            Intern, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of International Conservation,  
Russia-China office, Arlington, VA

**LANGUAGES:**

English, native  
Standard Mandarin Chinese, near fluent  
Swahili, advanced  
French, intermediate  
Malayalam, beginner