ELLA HADACEK

EDUCATION

PhD History, University of Notre Dame 2022- Expected 2027

Dissertation: "Going to Rome: British and American Women's Conversion to Catholicism, 1840-1930"

Exam Fields

U.S. Religious History, 1492-Present	Kathleen Sprows Cummings
Modern American History, 1780 to Present	Joshua Specht
Transatlantic Women & Gender, Colonial to Present	Emily Remus

MA History, Baylor University May 2022

Thesis: "'Of Old Puritan Stock': Shifting Catholic Memory of the Puritans Across the Long Nineteenth Century, 1788–1920"

BA History, Northwest Nazarene University (*summa cum laude)* May 2018

Thesis: Republicanism, Revivals, & Anti-Catholicism in American Education

PUBLICATIONS

Book Review, *Converts: From Oscar Wilde to Muriel Spark, Why So Many Became Catholic in the 20th Century* (Yale, January 2026) in *The Journal of Religious History,* forthcoming

Article, "Doubly Intolerable: Gender, Union Busting, and the Fear of Catholic Power in the Loeb Affair, 1915-1917," *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era,* First View

Book Review**,** *Making Catholic America: Religious Nationalism in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* by William S. Cossen (Cornell University Press, 2023) in the *American Catholic Studies Newsletter,* Fall 2023

Blogpost, "'Mother Duck': How San Antonio Native Margaret Swan Helped Turn Synchronized Swimming into an Olympic Sport." *The Texas Collection Blog*, March 28, 2022

EXTERNAL GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Hank Fellowship | The Hank Center for the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, Loyola University of Chicago Summer 2025

New England Regional Fellowship Consortium 2025-2026

Henry F. May Research Fellowship | Society for U.S. Intellectual History July 2024

INTERNAL HONORS & AWARDS

Rome Dissertation Research Fellow | University of Notre Dame Fall 2025

Summer Research Grant | de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture, University of Notre Dame Summer 2025

Summer Research Grant | Nanovic Institute for European Studies, University of Notre Dame Summer 2025

Vincent P. DeSantis Prize | University of Notre Dame 2024

Mother Theodore Guerin Research Travel Grants | Cushwa Center, University of Notre Dame 2024

Summer Research Grant | Nanovic Institute for European Studies, University of Notre Dame 2023

Phi Alpha Theta | Baylor University 2021

Guittard Fellowship | Baylor University Accepted 2020, Declined 2022
The Guittard Fellowship Fund provides first year full tuition and stipends for both the top incoming MA student and the top incoming PhD student

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

Paper Presentation, The Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, June 2026

Workshop Presenter, Bielefeld-Notre Dame Workshop, Bielefeld University, Bielefeld, Germany, May 2026

Workshop Presenter, Bielefeld-Notre Dame Workshop, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana, May 2025

Paper Presentation, "Catholic Women among the Boston Brahmins: American Protestant Women's Conversion to Catholicism," American Catholic Historical Association, January 2025

Guest Lecture, Consuming America, University of Notre Dame, February 29, 2024

Paper Presentation, An Age of Saints and Martyrs: Uses of Protestant and Catholic History in Maryknoll's The Field Afar, 1906-1930, American Society of Church History, January 2024

Paper Presentation and Panel Organizer, "Our Joan of Arc, Margaret Haley": Religion, Gender, and the Fear of Catholic Power in the Loeb Affair, 1915-1917," American Catholic Historical Association, January 2024

Guest Lecture, Gender @ Work in U.S. History, University of Notre Dame, February 28, 2023

Paper Presentation, "Of Old Puritan Stock": Catholic Claims of Blood and Religious Inheritance amidst Post–Civil War Anti-Catholicism," American Catholic Historical Association, January 2023

Podcast, hosted Book Talk on *The Revival of Evangelicalism* with author Andrew Michael Jones, Conference on Faith and History Podcast, September 2022

Paper Presentation, "The Romance of The Puritans: Gender and Nation in Nineteenth-Century Catholic Rhetorical Uses of the Puritans," Conference on Faith and History, April 2022

Workshop, "Your Hunt, Your History: Leveraging Digital Tools to Engage with Local History," Texas Association of Museums Conference, March 2022

Workshop, "Your Hunt, Your History: Leveraging Digital Tools to Engage with Local History," Texas Historical Commission conference, February 2022

Podcast Appearance, "Waco Founding: Your Hunt, Your History," *Know Waco Podcast,* August 27, 2021

Paper Presentation, "Republicanism, Revivals, & Anti-Catholicism in American Education," Intermountain West History Conference, October 2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Fellow for London Global Gateway | University of Notre Dame | Spring 2026

- Designed and taught a course in English Women's History that used London as a campus and introduced students to hands-on archival research

Graduate Assistant | University of Notre Dame | January 2023 – May 2024
Department of American Studies

- Grading for AMST 30129: Notre Dame and America
- Graded and taught two discussion sections for AMST 22100: Intro to American Studies

Department of History

- Graded for HIST30655: Consuming America

Graduate Assistant | Baylor University | August 2020 to May 2021
Department of History, Dr. Andrea Turpin

- Graded for HIS 4378 History of the American Woman since 1865
- Graded for HIS 1300 United States in Global Perspective

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Editorial Assistant | *Modern American History* | January 2025-Present

Graduate Assistant | Baylor University | August 2021 to May 2022

The Texas Collection, a special library, archival research center, and the University Archive that collects, preserves, and provides access to materials documenting the history, heritage, and culture of Texas for the Baylor community and the public

- Accessioned collections and developed finding aids
- Aided patrons with research

Graduate Assistant | Baylor University | August 2021 to May 2022
Waco History App

- Continuing social media and content creation work began during the D.M. Edwards Internship.

D. M. Edwards Endowed Internship, Joint: The Texas Collection and the Institute for Oral History | Baylor University | May 2021-August 2021
Internship working with the Waco History App, a project created by Dr. Stephen Sloan in collaboration with The Texas Collection and the Institute for Oral History, with a focus on community engagement and local history projects.

- As part of the internship, I designed, planned, marketed, and executed the Waco Founding: Your Hunt, Your History scavenger hunt. This process included training more than 20 volunteers. This public history event attracted more than 40 teams from the Waco community, taught analytical history skills in a fun and engaging way, and increased community awareness of local history and the Waco History app.
- Ran the social media for Waco History with the goal of increasing community engagement and interaction with local history

DEPARTMENT SERVICE & VOLUNTEERING

Association of Graduate Historians | University of Notre Dame
President, May 2023-May 2024
Social Chair, May 2024-May 2025

Colloquium on Religion and History | University of Notre Dame
Co-Director, May 2023-May 2025

Heart of Texas Regional History Fair
Judge for Junior Group Website Preliminary, February 2021

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

American Historical Association, American Catholic Historical Association, Oral History Association, American Society of Church History

LANGUAGES

English: Native Language
French: Reading proficiency
Italian: Reading proficiency
Spanish: Elementary reading proficiency

REFERENCES

Dr. Kathleen Sprows Cummings
Professor, Department of American Studies and Department of History
University of Notre Dame
kcumming@nd.edu

Dr. Joshua Specht
Associate Professor, Department of History
University of Notre Dame
jspecht@nd.edu

Dr. Emily Remus
Associate Professor, Department of History
University of Notre Dame
eremus@nd.edu

Dr. Darren Dochuk
Andrew V. Tackes College Professor of History and William W. and Anna Jean Cushwa Co-director, Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism
University of Notre Dame
ddochuk@nd.edu