

Preetham Sridharan

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EDUCATION

- 2025 **University of Oregon**, Eugene, OR
(expected) Sixth-year PhD candidate in History. Advanced to doctoral candidacy on September 13th, 2022.
Dissertation: “Enchanted Tongues: Religion and Ideas of Linguistic Perfection in German Romantic Thought from Hamann to the Brothers Schlegel (1760–1840).” Prospectus defended on April 4th, 2023.
Fields of Study: Modern European history (late eighteenth century to the present), intellectual history, modern German history, history of religious and linguistic thought.
- 2018 **Portland State University**, Portland, OR
MA in History
Thesis: “‘Agglutinating’ a Family: Friedrich Max Müller and the Development of the Turanian Language Family Theory in Nineteenth-Century European Linguistics and other Human Sciences.”
Fields of Study: Modern European intellectual history and minor in Soviet intellectual history
- 2013 **Lewis and Clark College**, Portland, OR
BA in Economics with Honours, *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
Thesis: “Geopolitics and the Origins of National States in Europe: The Cases of Iberia and Italy.”

RECENT RESEARCH PAPERS IN PROGRESS

“The Idea of Perfection in Languages: Wilhelm von Humboldt’s Philosophy of Language, Umberto Eco’s Theories of Semiotics, and the *Longue Durée*.”

“Idealistic and Ironic Readings of Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s *Biographia Literaria* (1817) and Implications for his Philosophy of Language.”

“Mediating the Semantic Cold War: Walther Dieckmann, the ‘Two German Languages Problem’ in West and East German Linguistics, and the Rise of Political Linguistics as a Field (1960s–1980s).”

“The Branching Tree Metaphor in Nineteenth-Century Philology and Life Sciences: Independence and Interdependence between the two ‘Sciences.’”

“Romanticism and Orientalism: August von Haxthausen’s Nineteenth-Century Travelogue on Transcaucasia under Imperial Russia.”

CONFERENCES AND GUEST LECTURES

- 2023 “Enchanted Tongues: Religion and Ideas of Linguistic Perfection in German Romantic Thought from Hamann to the Brothers Schlegel (1760–1840),” presented at the Fifth West Coast Germanists’ Workshop, Vancouver, April 2023, and at the Columbia History of Science Conference, Friday Harbour, March 2023
- 2023 “Enchanted Tongues: Religion and Ideas of Linguistic Perfection in German Romantic Thought from Hamann to the Brothers Schlegel (1760–1840),” poster presentation, University of Oregon Graduate Research Forum, Winter 2023.
- 2022 “Statistical Language and Silences in the Shaping of a Public Sphere in the European and Oregon Land Company’s *Railroad Lands in Western Oregon* (1872),” University of Oregon public conference, Winter 2022.
- 2021 “The Idea of Perfection in Languages: Wilhelm von Humboldt’s Philosophy of Language, Umberto Eco’s Theories of Semiotics, and the *Longue Durée*,” at the Annual History Graduate Conference, University of Oregon, Spring 2021.
- 2019 “Seeing ‘Twoness’ in the World: Translating Wilhelm von Humboldt’s “Über den Dualis” (1827),” University of Oregon’s Translation Studies Colloquium, Fall 2019.
- 2019 “The Severans, the Soldier Emperors, and Constantine,” Guest Lecture in History 101: Ancient Mediterranean, University of Oregon, Fall 2019.
- 2014 “Estates (*sosloviia*) Imagination in Nineteenth-Century Memoirs of Two Russian Serf-Businessmen,” Richard Robinson Business History Workshop at Portland State University, Spring 2014.

GRANTS, HONOURS, AND AWARDS

- 2023 Thomas Turner Memorial Prize, History Department, University of Oregon
- 2020 Leah Kirker Memorial Award for Graduate Students, University of Oregon
- 2019 Fritz Thyssen Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, German Historical Institute—West
- 2018–19 Graduate School Promising Scholar Award, University of Oregon
- 2015 Phi Alpha Theta History Honour Society Membership, Portland State University
- 2014 Frederick Tudor Business History Award, Portland State University
- 2013 Phi Beta Kappa Honour Society Membership, Lewis and Clark College
- 2009–13 Barbara Hirschi Neely Scholarship, Lewis and Clark College
- 2006 State-level Rank in Class X Academics, Government of Tamil Nadu, India

TEACHING AND EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2018–
Present **University of Oregon, Departments of History and Religious Studies,
Eugene, OR**
Graduate Employee (Teaching and Grading), September 2018–Present
- Nineteenth-century Europe (Summer 2023) (Instructor of record)
 - Intermediate German 203 (Spring 2021) (Instructor of record)

- Religions of Near Eastern Origin (Spring 2023) (Discussion leader)
- Asian Religions (Fall 2022 and Fall 2023) (Discussion leader)
- World History (Spring 2022) (Discussion leader)
- Making Modern Europe (Winter 2022 and 2021) (Discussion leader)
- Cultures of India (Spring 2020) (Discussion leader)
- Ancient Mediterranean (Fall 2019) (Discussion leader)
- Nineteenth-century Europe (Winter 2023 and 2020) (Grader)
- Twentieth-century Europe (Fall 2021 and Spring 2019) (Grader)
- Twentieth-century Latin America (Fall 2020) (Grader)
- U.S. Military History (Winter 2019) (Grader)
- War in the Modern World (Fall 2018) (Grader).

2021–23 **University of Oregon, Department of History, Eugene, OR**
Co-President of the History Guild and Steward for History in the Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation, Fall 2021–Spring 2023.

2015–16 **Pacific Historical Review, Department of History, Portland State University, Portland, OR**
Student Editorial Intern, October 2015–September 2016.

2011–13 **Venkatalakshmi Matriculation School, Coimbatore, India**
English Communication Teaching Assistant (English as a Second Language), Summers of 2011, 2012, 2013 (Nine months in total).

2010 **The William Stafford Archives, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR**
Student Archival Intern, August–December 2010.

LANGUAGES

Tamil (native), English (fluent), German (advanced proficiency), French (intermediate reading knowledge).

Certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language, Ninja Teacher Academy. Completed in August 2020.

Computer languages and skills: HTML5, CSS3, Python, and basic IT technical support.

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

Dr. John McCole. Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Oregon. E-mail: mccole@uoregon.edu. Ph: 541-346-5906.

Dr. Ian McNeely. Professor, Department of History, University of Oregon. E-mail: imcneely@uoregon.edu. Ph: 541-346-4791.

Dr. Daniel Rosenberg. Professor, Department of History, University of Oregon. E-mail: dbr@uoregon.edu. Ph: 541-346-0520.

Dr. George Sheridan. Professor Emeritus, Department of History, University of Oregon. E-mail: gjs@uoregon.edu. Ph: 541-346-4832.

Dr. Forest Pyle. Professor, Department of English and Comparative Literature, University of Oregon. E-mail: trespyle@uoregon.edu. Ph: 541-346-3928.