

Dr Agnese Cretella

CV and List of Publications – February 2022

Education

Sep 2015 – May 2019

Ph.D. in Social and Behavioural Sciences – University of Amsterdam

Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research.

My Ph.D. research dealt with the emerging of 'urban food strategies' in European cities: food-focused urban policies aimed at enhancing human and environmental urban health. I have explored political processes, tensions and contradictions in selected cities to understand the role that food policy implementation can play in connection with social and environmental demands, city branding and creative cities. Methods used include survey design and distribution, review of documents and reports, structured and semi-structured interviews and focus groups (with policymakers, activists, food professionals, farmers and producers, NGOs etc.) with the employment of ethnographic and interpretative analysis.

Mar 2008 – Mar 2010

MA – Geography and Territorial Processes

University of Bologna, Italy

Thesis: The 'green' seduction: from utopic garden cities to the sustainable metropolis.

Aug 2008 – Dec 2008

Visiting Fellowship – University of Helsinki

Department of Geoscience and Geography, Finland

Dec 2005 – Mar 2008

BA – Drama, Art and Music Studies

University of Bologna, Italy

Main subjects: History of Art and Architecture, Urban Studies, Sociology, Cultural Anthropology

Research Experience

April 2020 – Aug 2021

Food Smart Dublin Postdoctoral Fellow – Trinity College Dublin

Dublin, Ireland. Trinity Centre for Environmental Humanities (TCEH).

I am currently an affiliated Fellow with the TCEH, where I joined in 2020 the project "Food Smart Dublin", funded by the Irish Research Council – aiming at promoting smart and sustainable seafood consumption in the city of Dublin. As the social scientist of the project, I worked with a multi-disciplinary team consisting of a marine ecologist, a marine historian and a coastal biologist. My role has been to enhance knowledge exchange and production between academia, businesses, government and civil society in order to promote and assist healthy and ecologically sustainable consumption. Beside the research and the dissemination activities of the project, including the publication of a monograph on sustainable seafood consumption, I coordinated the design and delivery of a series of seafood focused workshops for second grade Irish students in collaboration with the environmental organization Eco-Unesco. For the book publication and the organization of these workshops, I was awarded two awards by the Irish Marine Institute. Moreover, I acted as a co-PI by leading a consortium of 29 partners towards a 12 million proposal submission for the EU Green Deal Farm to Fork funding call in collaboration with the Centre for the Study of the Sciences and Humanities of University of Bergen (Norway).

Jan 2019 – March 2020

SHARECITY ERC Postdoctoral Fellow – Trinity College Dublin

Dublin, Ireland. Department of Geography.

At the Department of Geography, I joined the European Research Council project "SHARECITY: Assessing the practice and sustainability potential of city-based food sharing economies", which consisted of a collaborative, multi-phased investigation of the phenomenon of ICT-mediated food sharing initiatives in cities. At SHARECITY, I led the research on the urban governance of food sharing with an international policy analysis perspective. Besides the research and the dissemination activities of the project, including publishing on peer-reviewed journals and other media outlets such as The Conversation and the World Economic Forum, I have been in charge of the design and organization of a multi-stakeholder international workshop focused on future policy solutions for urban food sharing. The workshop involved policymakers, academics, practitioners, urban planners and activists. The results of this workshop have been published in the form of a Manifesto and are meant to guide city leaders on the most appropriate policy paths to improve social and environmental sustainability in urban contexts.

Sep 2011- Sep 2015

Marie Curie Research Fellow – Wageningen University

Wageningen, The Netherlands. Department of Rural Sociology.

At Wageningen UR I was awarded a Marie Curie Skłodowska Fellowship as an early career researcher. The fellowship was part of the project "Purefood: Urban, peri-urban and regional food dynamics: toward an integrated and territorial approach to food" directly funded by the European Commission's Seventh Framework PEOPLE program. While in Wageningen, I completed cycles of seminars and conferences on urban and regional studies, by crossing different disciplinary fields such as sociology, gender studies, public policy analysis and environmental studies amongst others. In order to complete this training, I travelled and worked between different cities such as Barcelona, Riga, London and Cardiff, in collaboration with six different universities: City in London and Cardiff (UK), Pisa (Italy), Rio Grande do Sul (Brazil), Makerere (Uganda) and Riga (Latvia). Through this multidisciplinary network, I had the opportunity to work and meet with academics, policymakers and professionals from all over the world. This experience gave me the opportunity to develop my personal research trajectory that later developed into a Ph.D. project.

Previous Research & Professional Experience

04/09/2013 – 04/11/2013

Researcher – Assistant PR Officer

FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, Italy.

Contributed to the activities of the "Food for the Cities" group. Worked on the "Food, agriculture and cities" paper in order to improve the methodology for designing and implementing local food policies.

17/09/2010 – 16/12/2010

Research assistant

UK Food Group, London, UK.

I assisted the Project Coordinator in working on various local and international research projects on urban agriculture.

03/05/2010 – 17/07/2010

Research assistant

Italian General Consulate of Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey.

I designed a research project aimed at assessing the environmental and social impacts related to the construction of a new bridge on the Bosphorus in the city of Istanbul.

14/04/2009 – 14/09/2009

Project assistant

Sustain: The Alliance for Better Food and Farming, London, UK.

Coordinating a survey on behalf of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE). Desk research, drafted reports and collaborated on various internal projects including the Capital Growth Campaign, commissioned by the mayor of London and affiliated with the 2012 London Olympics.

Teaching Experience

Classroom

Sept 2021 – Jan 2022

High School Geography Teacher – Istituto Tecnico Agrario Chimico Scarabelli Ghini & Istituto Tecnico Paolini-Cassiano

Imola, Bologna – Italy.

Hands-on experience in teaching Geography full time to different age groups (14-18), distributed in 11 classes for a total of 288 students. Area of expertise include Human and Physical Geography, specifically Population Geography, Cultural Geography and Economic Geography. Main responsibilities: writing engaging lessons and impart instruction; manage and grade activities, conduct written and oral exams to ensure instilment of concepts in students; set and maintain standards of behaviour inside the classroom; designing and implementing class curriculum – including tailoring it for students with special needs or with disabilities.

Workshops

Sept- Oct 2020

“Food Smart Dublin Workshops”, Trinity College Dublin and Eco-Unesco, virtual workshops.

Duties: Together with the environmental organization Eco-Unesco I supported the coordination of five workshops for second grade Irish students. I collaborated to the overall workshops design, prepared PowerPoint presentations, led discussion and activities sections including an online final cooking workshop, designed feedback forms and delivered a final facilitator’s summary. For the organization of these workshops, I was awarded an award by the Irish Marine Institute.

MSc Courses

a. y. 2013-2014

“Food Sociology: Emerging Theories and Themes”, Wageningen University, Rural Sociology Group (NL).

Duties: Taught a section on urban food policies, with a focus on policy development vis a vis the role of social movements. I collaborated to the overall course design, prepared lectures and oral presentations, led discussion sections, graded final exams.

a. y. 2012-2013

“Food Sociology: Emerging Theories and Themes”, Wageningen University, Rural Sociology Group (NL).

Duties: Taught a section on urban food policies with a focus on policy development vis a vis the role of social movements.

BSc thesis supervision

2014

Stella Bünge, “Urban agriculture as creative city politics in the city of Rotterdam. Merging neoliberal and radical agendas”, Wageningen University, Rural Sociology Group (NL).

2012

Tjitske Anna Zwart, “Building Sustainable Food Systems: Urban Food Strategies in Amsterdam and Utrecht”, Wageningen University, Rural Sociology Group (NL).

Peer-reviewed publications

Cretella, A., Scherer, C., & Holm, P. (forthcoming). "Encouraging sustainable seafood consumption among teenagers in Dublin: the role of marine heritage".

Davies, A., Cretella, A., Edwards, F., & Marovelli, B. (2020). "The social practices of hosting P2P social dining events: insights for sustainable tourism", *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 1-16.

Cretella A., (2019). "Alternative food and the urban institutional agenda: Challenges and insights from Pisa", *Journal of Rural Studies*, 69, 117-129.

Davies A., Cretella A., Frank V., (2019) "Urban food sharing and food democracy: practice, place and policy", *Politics and Governance*, 7 (4), 8-20.

Cretella A., Buenger M. S., (2016). "Food as creative city politics in the city of Rotterdam", *Cities*, 51, 1–10, in *Current Research on Cities*.

Cretella A., (2015). "Beyond the Alternative Complex. The London Urban Food Strategy and Neoliberal Governance", *Métropoles* 13, Special Issue on Alternative Urban Development Policies.

Book chapters

Cretella A., (2016). "Revealing Urban Food Strategies", in *Metropolitan Ruralities*, edited by Terry Marsden, Kjell Andersson, Stefan Sjöblom and Peter Ehrström, Emerald eds., 307-323.

Scherer, C., & Cretella, A., (2022, *in press*). "Ireland and its relationship with seafood", in *Ocean Governance. Pasts, Presents, Futures*, edited by Anna-Katharina Hornidge, Maria Hadjimichael, Stefan Partelow, MARE Publication Series, Springer.

Monographs

Cordula S. & Cretella A.: "One Year of Irish Seafood – Traditional, Historical, Sustainable, Global Academic Press, 2021, ISBN: 9789464234060.
https://www.globalacademicpress.com/ebooks/agnese_cretella/

Cretella A., "Between promise and practice. Exploring the politics of urban food strategies in European cities", University of Amsterdam, 2019, (Ph.D. dissertation), ISBN:978-94-6380-328-1.
https://pure.uva.nl/ws/files/35059651/Thesis_complete_.pdf

Edited Works

Cretella A., Special Issue on "Geographies of Responsibility for Just and Sustainable Food Systems" *Sustainability*, MDPI (ISSN 2071-1050).
<https://www.mdpi.com/si/45261>

Reports

Cretella A., Scherer, C., 2021. "Food Smart Dublin report on sustainable Irish seafood Workshop series Workshop report", Trinity Centre for Environmental Humanities, Trinity College Dublin for the Irish Marine Institute.
https://www.tcd.ie/tceh/projects/foodsmartdublin/output/Workshop_Summary.pdf

Other media contributions

Blog posts on research activities: Trinity Centre for Environmental Humanities blog (<https://www.tcd.ie/tceh/blogs/>), SHARECITY blog (<https://sharecity.ie/blog/>), weblog of the *Rural Sociology Group* (<http://ruralsociologywageningen.nl/>), PUREFOOD blog *Easy to Digest* (<http://purefoodlinks.eu/>).

The Conversation: "For a sustainable future, we need to reconnect with what we're eating – and each other", 04/11/2019, URL: <https://theconversation.com/for-a-sustainable-future-we-need-to-reconnect-with-what-were-eating-and-each-other-123490>, circulated among others by:

World Economic Forum: "We've stopped eating together. This is why that's a bad thing", URL: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2019/11/for-a-sustainable-future-we-need-to-reconnect-with-what-we-re-eating-and-each-other/>

Vice US: "More people than ever are eating alone, and it's making everyone nervous", 04/11/2019.

Quartz: "Solo dining is bad for our mental health—and for the planet", 04/11/2019.

Yahoo news: "For a sustainable future, we need to reconnect with what we're eating – and each other", 04/11/2019.

The Independent: "For a sustainable future we need to learn to eat together again" 13/03/2021.

National newspapers: Cretella A., (2010), "Orti urbani nel cuore di Londra cibo 'verde' per i Giochi 2012" URL: https://www.repubblica.it/ambiente/2010/12/06/news/premio_rinnoviamoci_orti_urbani_londra-9882276/, La Repubblica.

Presentation in conferences

Cretella A., Scherer C., "Food Smart Dublin: an interdisciplinary approach to sustainable seafood", Spaces of Possibility Confex: communities and places in times of social and environmental uncertainty, Brussels/Online, 7 -11 June 2021.

Cretella A., "The Governance of Urban Food Sharing", SHARECITY Virtual Conference, 22-24 September 2020.

Cretella A., "The Rules of Food Sharing: regulatory enablers and constraints in urban systems", Royal Geographical Society - IBG Annual International Conference, London, 27-30 August 2019.

Cretella A., "The Pisa Food Plan. Promoting sustainable food between grassroots activism and institutional reformism", Greener Cities 2017, University of Bologna (Italy), 12-15 September 2017.

Cretella A., "Politicising food movements in urban contexts", 7th International Conference of Critical Geography, Ramallah (Palestine), 26-30 July 2015.

Cretella A., "Exploring the alternativeness of Urban Food Strategies", Beyond Divides: An International Winter School and Forum on Contemporary Agri-food Issues, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Barcelona (Spain), 12-22 November 2012.

Cretella A., "Urban food strategies: towards sustainability or a tool for civic consensus?" Agriculture in an urbanizing society, Wageningen (The Netherlands), April 4, 2012.

Cretella A., "Towards a research trajectory on Urban Food Strategies", FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome (Italy), 4th June 2012.

Chaired panels

Cretella A., Scherer C., "The Researcher as Political Mediator: Co-creation Processes

in Transdisciplinary and Trans-sectoral Research”, Spaces of Possibility Confex: communities and places in times of social and environmental uncertainty, Brussels/Online, 7 -11 June 2021.

Cretella A., Rut M., Williams J., “Geographies of responsibility for just and sustainable food systems”, Conference of Irish Geographers 2021, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland, May 21-23, 2020 (cancelled due to Covid-19).

Cretella A., Lummina H., “Food and cultural sustainability,” The Value of Heritage for Sustainable Development, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje (Macedonia), September 2-4, 2013.

Chaired seminars

“Growing more just and caring food futures: documenting community food initiatives across Sydney”, Dr. Miriam Williams, Distinguished International Lecturers in Geography: Trinity College Dublin, September 4, 2019.

Public events

Cretella A., Cordula S.: “One Year of Irish Seafood – Book Launch and End of Project Event”, Online Event with Poul Holm, Nessa O'Connor, Niall Sabongi and Darina Allen, Trinity College Dublin, 07/06/2021.

Cretella A., “Roller-coasting between disciplines in food studies”, The Postdoc Papers – Seminar series on cutting edge research and career pathways, Botany Lecture Theatre, Trinity College Dublin, 04/12/2019.

Cretella A., M. Bergamaschi, M. Castrignano, “Tra i mercanti e il mercato” (trasl. Between the merchants and the market), Public debate on the historical, cultural and social changes affecting the Bologna food market, Fun-Cool-Oh, Bologna (Italy), 12/04/2018.

Grants and awards

Aug 2021- Networking & Research Communication Award
Marine Institute Foras na Mara, Ireland (€2,000)

Sept 2020- Networking & Travel Award
Marine Institute Foras na Mara, Ireland (€1,210)

Sept 2015- Dissertation Writing Grant
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands (24.0000 €)

Sept 2011- Marie Curie Early-Stage Researcher Fellowship
University of Wageningen, The Netherlands (150.400 €)

Dec 2010- “Rinnoviamoci” Emerging Environmental Journalist Award
Article publication on the Italian national newspaper “La Repubblica”, Italy

Memberships and Affiliations

Affiliated fellow at the Trinity Centre for Environmental Humanities of Trinity College Dublin, Ireland; Affiliated researcher at the European Observatory of Humanities for Environment; Member of the University of Amsterdam Alumni Network and the Marie Curie Alumni Association; Reviewer for the Vienna Science and Technology Fund - Environmental Systems Research.

Language skills

English: fluent written and spoken proficiency; Italian: Mother tongue; Dutch and Spanish: basic knowledge.