

Nidhi Shrivastava

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Doctor of Philosophy in English, August 2017 expected
University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada
- M.A. Master's in Women's Studies and Feminist Research, August 2013 *expected*
University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
Advisor: Bipasha Baruah
Master's Thesis : “ ‘Cosmopolitan Women’ or ‘Daughters of Traditions’ ”: *Negotiations of Marriage, Culture, and Identity in First and Second-generation Indo-Canadian women in Contemporary Canada.*”
- M.A. Masters in South Asian Studies, University of Michigan, December 2011
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Master's Thesis: *“Indian at Heart, Global in her Attitude: Representations of the ‘new’ woman in India’s Popular Culture”*
Advisor: Christi Ann Merrill and Leela Fernandes
Honors/Awards: Center of South Asian Studies Academic Award in Fall 2010, FLAS Scholarship for Summer 2010 (Urdu) in Madison, WI, Promising Candidate Scholarship award \$1600 from Center of South Asian Studies
- Certification Women's Studies, University of Michigan, April 2012
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Thesis: *Extension and Contextualization of my Master's Thesis: “Indian at Heart, Global in her Attitude: Representations of the ‘new’ woman in India’s Popular Culture”*
Advisor: Leela Fernandes
WS 890 Thesis Advising Committee: Elizabeth Wingrove, Amal Fadlalla, Ed Goldman, Sara McClelland, and Esther Newton
- B.A. English (honors), University of Connecticut, May 2009
Honors Thesis: *“The Progress of Indian Women from 1900 to Present”*
Advisor: Patrick J. Hogan
Minor: India Studies
Thesis: *“Partition and Why It Happened?”*
Advisor: Elizabeth Hanson
Honors/Awards: Honors Medal, Leadership Scholarship for four years, featured as a success story for India Studies minor -
<http://imjr.uconn.edu/DOCS/indiastudiesminorprofiles.pdf>

AREAS OF SPECIALITY

Globalization, transnationalism, third world feminism, popular culture, literary theory, film and cinema studies, cultural studies, representation, rape and sexual violence studies, and Partition

EXPERIENCE

**Cultural Critic in The Making
Personal Blog**

August 2013 – present

<http://nidhishrivastava1407.blogspot.ca/2013/08/introduction.html>

I maintain and write my own personal blog on issues that I find are important and relevant to the current issues that are happening worldwide and locally. I have reviewed recent films that focus on issues of sexual violence and vulnerability of women in India. Recently, I also interviewed Nisha Pahuja on her controversial documentary, *The World Before Her*, which is a forthcoming blog of mine later this month.

Reader

Working as a reader to visually-impaired undergraduate mature student January 2014- present
2 times a week

Anokhi Media

Online Contributor

September 2013-present

I write two articles and contribute to the Anokhi media, Canada's widely read South Asian magazine bi-monthly.

Anokhi Media

Intern

Blog writer, database management, and editor

May 2013 – August 2013

**Kitab Mandal, University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan**

Kitab Mandal (Academic Books Group)
Co-coordinator

Fall 2009-Winter 2011

My role as a co-coordinator in Kitab Mandal was to work with the committee to create an academic forum for professors and graduate students to engage with South Asian academic monographs, chapters, journals, texts, and also allow a space for creative writing workshops. I also facilitated discussions with professors, writers, and fellow KM members. Kitab Mandal also worked with the Center of South Asian Studies (CSAS) to schedule authors and speakers once a semester.

Center of South Asian Studies Graduate Committee, University of Michigan Fall 2009-Winter 2010

I worked with committee members to design a film series based on the theme of South Asian Women: Gender and Sexuality. We screened films in Hindi, Marathi, and other vernacular languages. After each film was screened, we held a discussion to highlight the themes of the film and how they were related to the societal status of contemporary Indian women.

**UCONN English In London, City University
London, UK**

Spring 2008

I was able to experience a semester abroad in London where I took various classes developed to give students a taste of English culture and literature. I took classes in English drama, Shakespeare, London's history and culture, and British art history. I also had the opportunity to visit Bath, the Lake District, and Stratford-upon-Avon.

CATAMARAN – South Asian Literary Magazine

Storrs, CT

I worked as a paid intern with the Asian American Cultural Center to gain subscriptions and manage the distribution of *Catamaran* during the university events.

Fall 2007

K.U.B.E (Killingly UCONN Brooklyn Experience), University of Connecticut

Storrs, CT

Fall 2005-Fall 2007

I participated in this organization for 2 years, in which I played the role of a mentor to a 4th grader on the first Saturdays of each month. A year later, I applied and became a K.U.B.E leader in Fall 2006. With a fellow leader, I organized a yearbook to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the program. The program was established in order to expose young students to college students in the hopes of inspiring and motivating them to avoid detrimental activities such as illegal drugs and to pursue higher education.

Future Leaders Program, University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT

Fall 2005-Fall 2006

I attended seven workshops, which were based on the themes of community, respect, integrity, pride, and community and was featured twice in the Future Leaders Newspaper – first for being Future Leader of the Month, and the second time for receiving special recognition along with another future leader member for the completion of the Future Leader Program.

Academic Alliance Associate Program Manager, EMC Corporation
Franklin, MA

January 2012 –
August 2012

I worked in EMC and was part of the Academic Alliance program. The goal of the program is to develop courses, train faculty to teach them, and prepare students for the IT industry. The program acts as a liaison between universities and IT industry. Education services department offers courses, which are taught in universities affiliated with the program. While indirectly related to my career, this experience has provided me with exposure to the methods used to develop courses taught at universities worldwide. EMC and other IT companies later hire these students. I developed a Wikipedia page for the program and worked on creating a You Tube video that provides succinct directions to navigate through the main site conduct research as well as maintain the database of the program.

Tutor, Aadharshila The Learning Foundation Stone (ATFS)
Shrewsbury, MA

September 2011 – December 2011

I tutored K-2 students in reading, writing, and math from 3-6 p.m. daily in the afterschool program.

Tutor, America Reads
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Fall 2009-Spring 2010

I taught 3rd graders in Ypsilanti Elementary School how to read and write. I had three students from Ypsilanti Elementary School, Michigan where I went weekly on Tuesday and Thursday mornings to teach them to read and write. I spent a year tutoring and teaching three students to feel inspired and motivated to better their reading and writing skills.

Summer Intern, Dakshina Chitra
Chennai, India

June 2009 – August 2009

I edited a book about Mahaballipuram, Chennai by the Professor S.S. Swaminathan in IIT, Madras. I also designed activities for 7th and 11th class students to educate them about South Indian art history. Through this experience, I was able to learn about how non-governmental organization such as the Madras Art Foundation worked to develop knowledge about history, culture, and art and attempted to transmit it to high school students to educate them and inspire them to learn about their heritage and culture.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, University of Western Ontario
ENGL 2017: READING POPULAR CULTURE

Fall 2013- present

Teaching Assistant, University of Western Ontario

Fall 2012- April 2013

WS 2010e: INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN'S STUDIES

An introductory and interdisciplinary survey of the status of women taught with a contemporary, historical, and cross-cultural lens. This course explores the ways in which gender and other differences materialize or are resisted within institutional systems and individual practices and centers on the feminist resistance to oppression worldwide. As a teaching assistant, I work with a team of five other teaching assistants. I also conduct tutorials wherein we engage in the discussions of the lecture and readings. My TA duties also include marking papers and examinations, holding office hours, and working with undergraduate students to ensure their success in the course. I encourage them to also think critically and develop skills that will aid them to thrive in their undergraduate career. For example, I encourage them to plan ahead of time for their midterms and papers.

Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan

Fall 2010

ASIAN/SCI 341 BOLLYWOOD AND BEYOND: INTRODUCTION TO INDIAN CINEMA

Dr. Sharmadip Basu, University of Michigan designed the course as an introduction to Indian cinema in order to engage students to understand and learn about history, culture, and politics of India through the study of popular and parallel cinema films such as *Shree 420* (1955), *Pyasa* (1957), *Sholay* (1975), *Deewar* (1975), *Dilwale Dulhania Le Jaayenge* (1995), *Harishchandradi Factory* (2009), *Dev D* (2009), *Bhumika* (1977), and *Pather Panchali* (1928). As his teaching assistant, I screened the film every Tuesday and then assisted Dr. Basu in preparing discussions, which complemented the lectures and screenings on Fridays. Having a total of 35 students, the class was divided into 2 sessions. I would engage in the discussion with the students incorporating Dr. Basu's lectures, readings, and observations of culture and films during the discussion. I assigned them three quizzes and also graded essays. Being passionate about my teaching, I would have longer office hours to help the students in difficult topics. I held mini-lectures during office hours to clarify student's questions.

Academic Alliance Associate Program Manager, EMC Corporation
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PUBLICATIONS

“The Progress of Indian Women from 1900s to Present”, University of Connecticut Spring 2009
Storrs, CT
Published Online on Digital Commons (http://digitalcommons.uconn.edu/srhonors_theses/76/)

Shrivastava, Nidhi. “Tanishq Ad Breaks Traditional Indian Taboos.” *Anokhi Media*. November 10, 2013. Web.

Shrivastava, Nidhi. “Pantene Advertisement Centered On Sexism At Workplace.” *Anokhi Media*. January 2, 2014. Web.

Shrivastava, Nidhi. “Mindy Kaling Defends Controversial ELLE Cover.” *Anokhi Media*. January 22, 2014. Web.

PRESENTATIONS

“Indian at Heart, Global in her Attitude:
Representation of the ‘new’ woman in India’s Popular Culture.” October 4, 2012

Women’s Studies and Feminist Research Graduate Seminar Conference
University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario, Canada

“Indian at Heart, Global in her Attitude:
Representations of the ‘new’ woman in India’s Popular Culture” April 13-15, 2012

South Asian Studies Association Conference
Claremont Graduate University
Claremont, California, USA

“This is the Real India: Portrayal of Poverty and
Indianness by Indian and Western filmmakers” March 19, 2010

Asian American Studies Conference 2010
Austin, Texas

“This is the Real India: Portrayal of Poverty and
Indianness by Indian and Western filmmakers” – April 9, 2010
Poster Presentation
Interdisciplinary Conference on Poverty and Inequality
Ann Arbor, Michigan

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English (native), Hindi (native), Spanish (Intermediate), Urdu (Intermediate)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

South Asian Studies Associations, Asian American Studies Association

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Teaching Assistant Training Program (TATP Session)
University of Western Ontario

September 21-23, 2012

REFERENCES

Upon request