

Krupa Shandilya

301E Johnson Chapel · Amherst College · Amherst, MA 01002

kshandilya@amherst.edu · 607-280-3112

Academic Appointments

- Associate Professor, Sexuality, Women's and Gender Studies; Contributing Faculty, English, Amherst College (July 2017-)
- Assistant Professor, Sexuality, Women's and Gender Studies, Amherst College (August 2010-June 2017)
- Assistant Professor, Postcolonial Literature, English Department, Trinity University (August 2009-May 2010)

Education

- 2009, Ph.D., English, Cornell University
- 2004, B.A., English, University of Rochester
- 2002, B.A., English, University of Mumbai (St. Xavier's College)

Research and Teaching Interests

South Asian literature and poetry (Bengali, Urdu, Hindi, English), postcolonial theory, feminist theory, translation studies, postcolonial literature and Bombay cinema.

Publications

Academic Monographs

- *Intimate Relations: Social Reform and the Late-Nineteenth Century South Asian Novel* (Northwestern University Press, FlashPoints Series, 2017; published in India by Orient Blackswan, 2017).
A monograph that remaps the discussion on gender and the nation in South Asia through a close study of the Bengali and Urdu domestic novel as a literary genre and a tool for social reform in late-nineteenth century South Asia.
- *The Muslim Question: Bombay Cinema in the Age of Hindu Nationalism* (in progress).
A book project that argues that recent Bombay cinema adapts the literature of the Progressive Writers' Association (PWA) (1935-1947) to challenge Hindu right-wing nationalism in India.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- "The Poetics of Revolution: Hindu Right-Wing Politics and the Kashmir Question in *Haider*." *Literature/Film Quarterly* 47.2 (2019).
- "The Gaze of the Raping Muslim Man: Love Jihad and Hindu Right-Wing Rhetoric in Sanjay Leela Bhansali's *Padmaavat*." *Studies in South Asian Film and Media* 9.2 (2019): 97-112.
- "A Patchwork of Desire: Queering/Gendering Translations of Ismat Chughtai's 'The Quilt.'" *MLA: Options for Teaching* (forthcoming).

- “(In)visibilities: Homosexuality and Muslim Identity in India after Section 377.” *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 42.2 (2017): 459–484.
- “The Widow, the Wife and the Courtesan: A Comparative Study of Social Reform in Premchand’s *Sevasadan* and the Late-Nineteenth Century Bengali and Urdu Novel.” *Comparative Literature Studies* 53.2 (2016): 272–288.
- “Nirbhaya’s Body: The Politics of Protest in the Aftermath of the Delhi Gang Rape.” *Gender and History* 27.2 (2015): 465–486.
- “The Long Smouldering Night: Sex and Songs in the Desi Feminist Noir.” *New Cinemas: Journal of Contemporary Film* 12.1–2 (2014): 97–111.
- “Writing/Reading the Subaltern Woman: Narrative Voice and Subaltern Agency in Upamanyu Chatterjee’s *English, August*.” *Postcolonial Text* 9.3 (2014): 1–16.
- “Of Enraged Shirts, Gyration Gangsters, and Farting Bullets: Salman Khan and the New Bollywood Action Film.” *South Asian Popular Culture* (2014): 111–121.
- “The Sacred and the Secular: Spirituality, Aesthetics and Politics in Rudyard Kipling’s *Kim* and Vikram Chandra’s *Sacred Games*.” *Modern Fiction Studies* 60.3 (2014): 345–365.

Edited Collections

- *Miraji and South Asian Aesthetics, Poetics, and Politics*, co-edited with Sean Pue, special issue of *South Asian History and Culture* (in progress).

Edited collection on the aesthetics and politics of modern Urdu poet Miraji.

Translations

Books

- *The Madness of Waiting* by Muhammad Hadi Ruswa, co-translation with Taimoor Shahid (Zubaan Press, distributed by the University of Chicago Press, 2013).
- *An Evening Beyond the Wine Glass and Other Poems: A Translation of Miraji’s Poetry and Essays with a Critical Introduction and Explanatory Notes*, co-translation with Khadeeja Majoka and Noor Habib (in progress).

A translation of modernist Urdu writer Miraji’s poetry and essays with a critical introduction.

Poems

- “God” and “The Distance of Nearness” by Miraji, co-translation with Khadeeja Majoka and Noor Habib (under consideration).
- “The Void of Nonbeing,” “The Washerman’s Riverbank” and “Pain: Medicine for the Heart” by Miraji, co-translation with Khadeeja Majoka and Noor Habib (under consideration).

Book Reviews

- Book Review of *Bombay Modern: Arun Kolatkar and Bilingual Literary Culture* by Anjali Nerlekar. *South Asian Review* 38.1 (2017): 134–136.

- Book Review of *Forget English!: Orientalisms and World Literature* by Aamir Mufti. *Novel* 50.2 (2017): 288–290.
- Book Review of *Outside the Lettered City: Cinema, Modernity, and the Public Sphere in Late Colonial India* by Manishita Dass. *South Asia* 40–2.2 (2017): 416–418.
- Book Review of *Beyond Belief: India and the Politics of Postcolonial Nationalism* by Srirupa Roy. *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* 10.2 (2008): 256–258.

Other Articles

- “Home and Belonging in Jennifer Acker’s *Limits of the World*.” *Los Angeles Review of Books* (forthcoming)
- “Gender Politics and Small Town India: The Cinema of Abhishek Chaubey.” *Behind The Scenes* (ed. Aysha Iqbal and Vimal Mohan John). Sage Publications, India (2017).
- “The fearless fight for women’s freedom” (co-authored with Amrita Basu). January 10, 2013, <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2013/01/20131992216242987.html>.

Languages

Urdu, Hindi, Bengali, Gujarati, Marathi

Teaching Experience

Amherst College, Department of Sexuality, Women, and Gender Studies

- Reading the Romance. Fall 2019.¹
- Global Women’s Literature. Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2019.¹
- The Postcolonial Novel: Gender, Race and Empire. Fall 2016, Fall 2018.¹
- South Asian Feminist Cinema. Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Spring 2019.²
- The Home and the World: Women and Politics in South Asia. Fall 2011*, Spring 2013*, Spring 2015, Spring 2016*, Spring 2017*, Fall 2019 (* co-taught with Amrita Basu).³
- Cross Cultural Constructions of Gender. Fall 2018, Fall 2010*, Spring 2012*, Fall 2012, Fall 2014** (* co-taught with Margaret Hunt; ** co-taught with Khary Polk).
- Feminist Theory. Fall 2011, Spring 2013, Spring 2015*, Spring 2016*, Spring 2017 (* co-taught with Sahar Sadjadi).
- *After Midnight’s Children: Gender, Genre and the Contemporary South Asian Novel*. Fall 2012.
- *Mother India: Reading Gender and Nation in South Asian Fiction and Film*. Fall 2010.
- *Other Shakespeares: Gender, Race and Sexuality*. Spring 2011.

¹ Cross-listed with English.

² Cross-listed with Film and Media Studies.

³ Cross-listed with Political Science.

Amherst College, Undergraduate Thesis Advising

- Thesis advisor to Theo Peierls (SWAGS Department), “Jewish Masculinity and Transgender Identity.” 2019.
- Thesis advisor to Claudia Wack (SWAGS Department), “Listening Differently: The Feminist Verses of Alice Fulton.” 2013.

- Thesis advisor to Andrea Park (SWAGS Department), “Yellow Actor, Black Mask, and the White Stage: Gender and Race in U.S. Hip-Hop Culture.” 2012.
- Honors Committee for Nina Bernard (English Department), “Writing of Salman Rushdie/Jamaica Kincaid/Segun Afolabi.” 2011.

UMass Amherst, Ph.D. Advising

- Committee member for Maryam Fatima, UMass Amherst, Comparative Literature, Ph.D. candidate, Twentieth Century Hindi and Urdu Literature.
- Committee member for Noor Habib, UMass Amherst, Comparative Literature, Ph.D. candidate, Twentieth Century Urdu and Persian Literature.

Trinity University, English Department

- Other Shakespeares. Spring 2010.
- Mother India: Reading Gender and Nation in South Asian Fiction. Fall 2009, Spring 2010.
- Introduction to World Literature. Fall 2009, Spring 2010.
- Global Romance: Crossing Boundaries. Fall 2009

Cornell University, English Department

- Multiple freshman writing seminars and upper-level expository writing seminars, 2005–2008.

Invited Talks

- “Miraji, Lyrical Translations, the Poetics of Theory.” University of Virginia, October 2019.
- “The Poetics of Revolution: Contesting Hindu Right-Wing Politics in *Haider*.” Five universities in India (Ashoka University, Jadavpur University, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Ramjas College, Jawaharlal Nehru University), September–October 2017.
- “The Map of Longings with No Limits: Muslim Identity and the Postcolonial State.” Newcastle University, March 2017.
- “*Haider* and Hamlet: Shakespeare in Kashmir.” George Washington University, February 2016.
- “Bollywood: Cinema of Interruptions.” Smith College, October 2012.

Conference Presentations

- “Miraji’s Sexual Themes: Sexuality and A New Urdu Literary Modernism.” *Wisconsin–Madison Annual Conference on South Asia*, October 2018.
- “The Feminine Voice in Miraji’s Poetry: Sexual Pleasure in Miraji’s *Kaif-e-Hayat*.” *Wisconsin–Madison Annual Conference on South Asia*, October 2018.
- “Miraji’s use of *Jins* [Sex] in Poetry.” *Wisconsin–Madison Annual Conference on South Asia*, October 2018.
- “An Incomplete Modernism: On Translating Miraji’s Lost Archive.” *Postcolonial Print Cultures Conference* at Newcastle University, January 2018.
- “The Poetics of Revolution: Contesting Hindu Right-Wing Politics in *Haider*.” *American Comparative Literature Association*, July 2017.

- “The Progressive Legacy: Faiz Ahmed Faiz in South Asian Literary Culture.” *Postcolonial Print Cultures Conference* at New York University, April 2017.
- “The Poetry of Revolution: *Haider* and the Kashmir Conflict in Urdu Poetry.” *American Comparative Literature Association*, March 2016.
- “Victim or Agent? The Politics of Movement in Yael Farber’s *Nirbhaya*.” Feminist Pre-Conference, *Wisconsin–Madison Annual Conference on South Asia*, October 2015.
- “Refiguring Conjuality: Sex and the Small Town in *Shudh Desi Romance*.” *Modern Language Association*, January 2015.
- “Sex, Guns and Songs: The Desi Feminist Noir.” *American Comparative Literature Association*, March 2014.
- “Desire, Death, and the Discourse of *Sati*: Bankimchandra Chatterjee’s *Krishnakanta’s Will* and Rabindranath Tagore’s *Chokher Bali*.” *Amherst College Conference, Suicide Protest: Normative Intrusions*, October 2013.
- “Negotiating the Norms of *Purdah*: The Respectable Woman in the *Zenana*.” *Wisconsin–Madison Annual Conference on South Asia*, October 2013.
- “Social Reform and the Status of Urdu Poetry.” *Rutgers University Conference, Indian Literature as Comparative Literature*, September 2013.
- “Muscular Masculinity: Salman Khan and the New Bollywood Action Film.” *American Comparative Literature Association*, April 2012.
- “Between Liberal Thought and Hindu Philosophy: Saratchandra Chatterjee’s Radical Feminist Politics.” *Mellon Connected Histories Conference*, February 2012.
- “Global Cinema, Local Language: Gender and the Urdu *Ghazal* in Bollywood Cinema.” *American Comparative Literature Association*, April 2010.
- “‘Deep Focus’: Towards a Methodology for Comparative Literature.” *Modern Language Association*, December 2009.
- “Inside *Purdah*/Outside *Purdah*: Sexuality, Islam and the State in Muhammad Hadi Ruswa’s *Umrao Jaan Ada*.” *Wisconsin–Madison Annual Conference on South Asia*, October 2009.

Honors and Funding

- Faculty Research Award Program, Amherst College, 2017–2019 (\$16,525).
- Dean’s Prize for Distinguished Teaching, Cornell University, 2007.
- John S. Knight Teaching Portfolio Award, Cornell University, 2006.
- Sage Fellowship, Cornell University, 2004, 2009.

Service

Departmental and College Service

- Committee on Educational Policy, 2019–2020.
- Faculty Advisor to departmental majors and undeclared students, 2011–2013; 2014–2017; 2018–2019.
- Steering Committee, Five College Women’s Studies Research Center, 2011–2013; 2014–2017, 2018–2019, 2019–2020.

- Award Committee, Alpha Delta Phi & David P. Patchel research travel grants, 2016–2017.
- Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Sexuality, Women’s and Gender Studies, Department of Sexuality, Women’s and Gender Studies, 2012.
- Extra-Departmental Advisor to Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Modern South Asia, Department of History and Department of Asian Languages and Civilization, Amherst College, 2012.
- Extra-Departmental Advisor to Search Committee, Assistant Professor of South Asia, Department of Anthropology/Sociology, 2012.

Service to the Field

- Reviewer for *Contemporary South Asia*, *English Language Notes*, *Journal of Commonwealth Literature*, *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, *Oxford University Press*, *PMLA*, *Routledge Press*, *Rutgers University Press*, *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, *South Asian Review*, *Women’s Studies Quarterly*.
- Organizer of panel “Rethinking Miraji: Explorations of Miraji’s Poetics” at the Annual Conference on South Asia at University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2018.
- Co-organizer of Feminist Pre-Conference at the Annual Conference on South Asia at University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2016.
- Co-Chair, South Asian Political Cultures (Five College Faculty Colloquium of Scholars of South Asia; formerly, Inter-Asia), 2012–2013; 2015–2016.
- Commentator for Fareen Parvez, Assistant Professor of Sociology, UMass Amherst, “Debt, Dowry, and Labor Migration: Reconfiguring Family Life among the Indian Muslim Urban Poor” (work in progress), April 2013.

November 2019