

Priyasha Mukhopadhyay

Academic Positions

- July 2018 - **Department of English, Yale University, New Haven CT**
Assistant Professor (tenure-track)
- 2016 -2018 **Society of Fellows, Harvard University, Cambridge MA**
Junior Fellow
- 2010-2012 **St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, India**
Lecturer (ad-hoc) in English
Employed on a series of four-month contracts

Education

- 2012-2016 **University of Oxford, Oxford UK**
DPhil (PhD) in English
Dissertation: *Unlikely Readers: Negotiating the Book in Colonial South Asia, c. 1857-1914*
Ertegun Scholar in the Humanities (2012-2015)
- 2010-2012 **University of Delhi, India**
MPhil in English
First class with distinction
- 2008-2010 MA in English
First class, ranked first in the university
- 2005-2008 BA (Hons) in English
First class, ranked second in the university

Research and Teaching Interests

Colonial and Postcolonial Literature, South Asian Literature, Nineteenth and Twentieth-century British Literature, History of the Book, Media and Archives Studies, Cultural Studies, Intellectual History, Genres of Non-fiction (e.g. the lecture, the essay, the newspaper report)

Publications

Books

- Forthcoming, 2022 Ed. with Peter McMurray, *The Acoustics of Empire: Sound, Power, and Media in the Long Nineteenth Century* (under contract with Oxford University Press)
- 2017 *The Global Histories of Books: Methods and Practices*. Ed. Elleke Boehmer, Rouven Kunstmann, Priyasha Mukhopadhyay, and Asha Rogers (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan).

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- 2018 "Listening Like a Theosophist." *Political Theology* 19:8: 719-733. Special Section: Political Theology in India, ed. Faisal Devji.
- 2017 "On Not Reading *The Soldier's Pocket-book for Field Service*." *Journal of Victorian Culture* 22.1: 40 -56.
- 2015 "Of Greasy Notebooks and Dirty Newspapers: Reading the Illegible in *The Village in the Jungle*." *The Journal of Commonwealth Literature* 50.1: 59-73.

Chapters in edited collections

- 2020 "Books in Ether" in *The Unfinished Book*, ed. Deidre Lynch and Alexandra Gillespie (Oxford: Oxford University Press)
- 2017 Introduction by Boehmer, Kunstmann, Mukhopadhyay, and Rogers. *The Global Histories of Books: Methods and Practices* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan).
- 2017 "Wake Up, India: A Plea for Social Reform (1913): Annie Besant's Anticolonial Networks." *Fighting Words: Fifteen Books that Shaped the Imperial World*. Ed. Benjamin Mountford, Dominic Davies, and Erica Lombard (Oxford: Peter Lang). 89-102.
- 2014 "Death and the Automobile." *Shrapnel Minima: Essays from Underground*. Ed. Prasanta Chakravarty (Calcutta: Seagull Book).18-24.

Book Reviews

- 2018 "From Slate to Silicon?" (Review of Norm Freisen's *The Textbook and the Lecture: Education in the Age of New Media* (2017)), *Public Books*, 23 October 2018.
- 2016 *Lady Nugent's East India Journal* edited by Ashley Cohen. Oxford UP, 2014. *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History* 17.2.
- 2015 *Heroic Imperialists in Africa: The Promotion of British and French colonial heroes, 1870-1939* by Berny Sèbe. Manchester UP, 2013. *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* 17.5: 771-773.
- Modernist Voyages: Colonial Women Writers in London* by Anna Snaith. Cambridge UP, 2014. *Katherine Mansfield and Translation*. Ed. Claire Davison, Gerri Kimbler, and Todd Martin. Edinburgh UP, 2015. 199-202.
- 2013 *Journey to Ithaca* by Anita Desai. Vintage [1995; 2013]. *The Northeast Review* 5 (August 2013). <
<http://northeastreview.com/2013/07/05/completed-journeys-incomplete-truths/>>
- Prose of the World: Modernism and the Banality of Empire* by Saikat Majumdar. Columbia UP, 2013. *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* 15.4 (2013): 605-607.
- The Flower of Empire: An Amazonian Water Lily, the Quest to Make it Bloom, and the World it Created* by Tatiana Holway. Oxford UP, 2013. *The Oxonian Review* 23.3 (2013). <
<http://www.oxonianreview.org/wp/victoria-regia/>>

Select Academic Awards and Honours

- 2014 Best Paper Prize, Resources of Resistance: Production, Consumption, Transformation Workshop, Postcolonial Studies Association
For "An Uneven Modernity: Famine in the Colonial Imagination"
The Chancellor's English Essay Prize, University of Oxford
For "Eccentric Objects: The Literary Afterlife of an Unread War Manual"
- 2011 N.S. Pradhan Memorial Medal, University of Delhi

For the best student in the MA English class across the university
Principal B.B. Gupta Memorial Medal
For the best student in the MA English class across the university

- 2009 Muriel Wasi Prize for English, St. Stephen's College, Delhi
- 2008 Rang Lal Department of English Prize, St. Stephen's College, Delhi
Cambridge Essay Prize, St. Stephen's College, Delhi
Subhash Dua Prize for English, St. Stephen's College, Delhi
- 2007 Shri Ram Popli Essay Prize, St. Stephen's College, Delhi

Research Grants and Fellowships

- 2019 A. Whitney Griswold Faculty Research Award, Yale University
South Asia Council Faculty Research Award, Yale University
Junior Faculty Travel Grant, Yale University
- 2016-2019 Junior Fellowship, Society of Fellows, Harvard University (accepted 2016-2018)
- 2015 Wolfson College Fee Bursary, Oxford
Vice-Chancellors' Fund Scholarship, Oxford
- 2014 Maxwell and Meyerstein Fund (x2), Faculty of English, Oxford
Digital Humanities Summer School Bursary, Oxford
Wolfson South Asia Cluster Conference Organisation Grant, Oxford
BAVS (British Association for Victorian Studies) Conference Bursary
- 2013-2014 Conference travel and fieldwork grants (x4), Wolfson College, Oxford
2013 Grimstone Foundation Travel Award for Research in South Asia, Wolfson College
- 2012-2015 Ahmet and Mica Ertegun Scholarship for Graduate Studies in the Humanities for DPhil degree, University of Oxford
Awarded to only four incoming DPhil students across the Humanities division in 2012
- 2010 Junior Research Fellowship for MPhil degree (up to three years), University Grants Commission, India, accepted August-October 2010
- 2005-2008 St Stephen's College Sumitomo Corporation Scholarship for Scholastic Excellence in the BA degree

Invited Talks

- 2019 "How to Read a Petition: Bureaucracy and Book History in Colonial South Asia," The History of the Book Colloquium, Beinecke Library, 6 December
- "Reading for Time," Material Texts Colloquium, Columbia University, 27 March
- (with Moira Weigel), "Unmedia," The Media Concept: A Roundtable, Theory and Media Studies Colloquium, Yale University, April
- 2018 "Unread: A History of the Book in Colonial South Asia," Material Texts Colloquium, University of Pennsylvania, 8 October
- 2017 "Annie Besant's Anti-Colonial Networks," Bibliography and Social Justice Special Session, Bibliography Across the Disciplines, Philadelphia, October
- 2016 "Towards an Eccentric History of Reading: South Asia, 1857-1914," Postcolonial Writing and Theory Seminar, Oxford

Conference and Seminar Presentations

- 2019 (with Moira Weigel), "Unmedia," American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Washington DC
- 2018 (with Peter McMurray), "Towards a Global Acoustics?," Acoustics of Empire, University of Cambridge
- 2017 "Plagiarism as Cultural Contact: The Case of the Theosophical Society," Bibliography Across the Disciplines, Philadelphia
- "Irrelevant Margins: The Panjika in Nineteenth-Century Bengal," American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Utrecht
- Special session Participant, "Present Absence: World Literature and Book Circulation in the Nineteenth Century," Modern Language Association Conference, Philadelphia
- 2016 "Theosophy's Empire: Cosmopolitan Networks," Cosmopolis and Beyond: Literary Cosmopolitanism after the Republic of Letters, Oxford
- 2016 "Towards an Eccentric History of Reading: South Asia, 1857-1914," Postcolonial Writing and Theory Seminar, Oxford (invited)

- 2014 "Why Tagore's *Gitanjali*," Panel on Books that Shaped the Colonial and Postcolonial Worlds, *The Global History of the Book, 1780-present*, Oxford
- 2014 "Material Times: The Gupta Press Almanac," SHARP: Religions of the Book, Antwerp (September); Annual Conference on South Asia, Wisconsin-Madison (October)
- 2014 "An Uneven Modernity: Famine in the Colonial Imagination," *Resources of Resistance: Production, Consumption, Transformation* (Postcolonial Studies Association graduate conference), York
Winner of Best Paper Prize
- 2014 "Print Objects and the Making of Colonial Intimacy in Tagore's *Nashtanir*," *Print Culture and Gender in the British Empire*, Warwick
- 2014 "The Stench of Dead Oysters: Reading the Imperial Coast in Leonard Woolf's 'Pearls and Swine,'" *Coastal Cultures in the Long Nineteenth Century*, Oxford
- 2014 "The Stench of Dead Oysters: Leonard Woolf's Ugly Feelings," *South Asian Literature Colloquium*, English Faculty, Oxford
- 2014 "The Materiality of the Letter: Garnet Wolseley's Correspondence," *Workshop on Literary Letters*, Oxford Centre for Life Writing, Wolfson College, Oxford (invited)
- 2013 "The Colonial Soldier and the War Manual," *Object: English Postgraduate Conference*, Oxford
- 2013 "War and the Art of (Not) Reading," *Global Knowledge Workshop*, Global and Transnational History Group, Oxford
- 2013 "'Their little greasy notebooks': Debt and the Headman in Leonard Woolf's *The Village in the Jungle*," *Leonard Woolf Symposium*, Wolfson College, Oxford (March); *Workshop at Concurrences in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies Centre*, Linnaeus University, Sweden (April); *Leonard Woolf Society's Annual Meeting*, Senate House, London (May: invited)

Conference/Workshop/Seminar Series Organisation

- 2019 Media Fails, American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Washington DC (with Moira Weigel, Society of Fellows, Harvard University)

- 2018 Acoustics of Empire: Sound, Media, and Power in the Long Nineteenth Century (with Peter McMurray, Department of Music, University of Cambridge)
- We organised a series of three events, at Harvard and the Max-Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin (March) and a conference at the University of Cambridge (December). The project was supported and funded by a European Research Council Grant (ERC) held by David Trippett, who teaches Music at the University of Cambridge.*
- 2014 -2015 Core team-member and coordinator, The Archive and Forms of Knowledge, a year-long seminar series
- 2014 Organising Member, The Global History of the Book from 1780-present, Ertegun House, Oxford, 4-5 December
- 2014 (with Asha Rogers), in conversation with Antoinette Burton and Isabel Hofmeyr on *Ten Books that Shaped the Modern British Empire* (2014)
- 2014 Co-organiser, Tracking Notions of Progress in South Asia: From the Colonial to the Postcolonial, Wolfson College, Oxford, 16 June
- 2014 Co-organiser, Unconventional Archives: Literature and the Uses of History, Ertegun House, Oxford, 17-18 January

Teaching Experience (Yale only)

Courses Offered

Spring 2020

ENGL 128: Readings in World Comparative English Literatures

ENGL 290/LITR 263: The Canon in the Colony: Reading English Literature Abroad

Fall 2019

ENGL 025/SAST 059/LITR 023: Modern South Asian Literature, 1857-2017

ENGL 128: Readings in World Comparative English Literatures

Spring 2019

ENGL 128: Readings in World Comparative English Literatures (*2)

Fall 2018

ENGL 025/SAST 059/LITR 023: Modern South Asian Literature, 1857-2017

ENGL 290/LITR 269: The Canon in the Colony: Reading English Literature Abroad

Senior Thesis Advisor

Ruiyan Wang (2021)

Maya Pasic (2021)

Thesis/Dissertation Reader

Gillian Fu (UG: Fall 2019)

Bofang Li (PhD: Fall 2019)

Mariana Tinone (UG: Spring 2020)

Emma Ruoheniemi (UG, Education Studies: Spring 2020)

Orals Committees

Micah Siegel (Fall 2019)

PhD dissertation committees

Micah Siegel (Spring 2020 -)

Undergraduate Advising

Macrina Wang (2019 -)

Ishaana Aggarwal (2020 -)

Jack Ocken (2020 -)

Academic Service

Department of English, Yale University

2020-2021	Respondent, Un-disciplining 18 th and 19 th century studies, 18 and 19 th century colloquium Senior Thesis Committee Prizes Committee Graduate Admissions Committee
2019-2020	Senior Thesis Committee Prizes Committee Graduate Admissions Committee Faculty Advisor, 20 th and 21 st century colloquium Professionalisation Panel for Graduate Students
2018 - 2019	Search Committee, World Anglophone Literature (Junior Appointment) Prizes Committee Professionalisation Panel for Graduate Students

South Asian Studies Council, Yale University

2019-20	Respondent, Modern South Asia Graduate Workshop Respondent, Mohammed Hanif's <i>Red Birds</i> , South Asia Writes@ Yale
2018-2019	Reviewer, South Asia Council Student Research Grants Respondent, Modern South Asia Graduate Workshop

In conversation with Ania Loomba about her new book, *Revolutionary Desires* (2018)

Reviewing Abstracts for Modern South Asia Graduate Workshop (February 2019)

In conversation with Sadia Abbas about her novel, *The Empty Room* (2017), South Asian Studies Colloquium

University Service

2019-2020 Reviewer, Henry Fellowship Committee
Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center

In the field

2020 Manuscript Reviewer, Edinburgh University Press
2019 Journal Article Reviewer, *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*

Public Engagement and Outreach

2019-2020 Organizer, South Asia Writes @ Yale Speaker Series (with Subhashini Kaligotla, History of Art)

2014 -2015 Object Archives: Reading and Writing Eccentric Histories (blog, part of The Archive and Forms of Knowledge project), <<http://objectarchives.wordpress.com/>>

2014 "Books that Shaped the Modern British Empire." Exhibition in collaboration with the Bodleian Library for the Global History of the Book workshop, December

2014 Podcast for *The Journal of Commonwealth Literature* on *The Village in the Jungle* (with Elleke Boehmer, Dominic Davies, and Charne Lavery)

2013 "Rabindranath Tagore and the Nationalist Movement in India." Great Writers Inspire Project, University of Oxford, <<https://writersinspire.wordpress.com/2013/02/12/rabindranath-tagore-and-the-nationalist-movement-in-india/>>

2013 "Leonard Woolf and Empire: *The Village in the Jungle*." Great Writers Inspire Project, University of Oxford, <<https://writersinspire.wordpress.com/2013/02/08/leonard-woolf-and-empire-the-village-in-the-jungle/>>