

SEEMA SOHI

Associate Professor
Department of Ethnic Studies
University of Colorado, Boulder
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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- **Associate Professor**, Department of Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, June 2016-Present
- **Assistant Professor**, Department of Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, August 2007-May 2016
- **Faculty Affiliate**, Department of History and Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado Boulder
- **Inaugural Associate Chair of Graduate Studies**, Department of Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, 2015-2019

EDUCATION

Ph.D., History, University of Washington, 2008

Dissertation: *Echoes of Mutiny: Indian Anticolonialism in North America*

B.A., English & History, University of California, Santa Cruz, 1997

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

U.S. History; Comparative Ethnic Studies; Asian American Studies; Climate Justice; Sikh American history; Empire; Citizenship; Cold War; Borderlands; Transnationalism; Social Movements; Radicalism and Antiradicalism; Racial Formations

PUBLICATIONS (selected)

Books

Seema Sohi, *Echoes of Mutiny: Race, Surveillance, and Indian Anticolonialism in North America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014).

* India Edition published in 2014.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Seema Sohi, "Barred Zones, Rising Tides, and Radical Struggles: The 1917 Immigration Act," *Journal of American History*, Volume 109, Issue 2, September 2022, pgs. 298–309.

* Winner of the 2023 Binkley-Stephenson Award for the best article that appeared in the *Journal of American History* in 2022.

Seema Sohi, "From Bandung to Little Rock: Dalip Singh Saund and the Limits of Racial Liberalism" Invited contribution to Special Issue of *Amerasia* titled, "Conservatism and Fascisms in Asian America," Volume 48, Issue 1, 2022, pgs. 83-90.

Seema Sohi, "Surveillance and Security Regimes across the British and American Empires," *Journal of Modern European History* 16:3, August 2018.

Seema Sohi, "Sites of 'Sedition,' Sites of Liberation: Gurdwaras, the Ghadar Party, and Anticolonial Mobilization," *Sikh Formations* 10, April, 2014: 5-22.

Seema Sohi, "Race, Surveillance, and Indian Anticolonialism in the Transnational Western U.S.-Canadian Borderlands," *Journal of American History* 98, September 2011: 420-436.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

Seema Sohi, "South Asian American Anticolonial Writings: Critical Reflections on Race, Empire and Migration in the United States," Josephine Lee and Julia Lee eds., *Asian American Literature in Transition* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2021), 54-69.

Seema Sohi, "Repressing the 'Hindu Menace': Race, Anarchy, and Indian Anticolonialism," Vivek Bald, Miabi Chatterji, Sujani Reddy, and Manu Vimalassery, eds., *The Sun Never Sets: South Asian Migrants in the Age of U.S. Power* (New York: New York Univ. Press, 2013), 50-74.

Newspapers, Online Journals, Blogs, and Magazine Publications

Seema Sohi, "An Archive of Anticolonialism and State Surveillance: Tracing Early South Asian American History," *Process* (blog of the Organization of American Historians and *Journal of American History*), March 17, 2023.

Seema Sohi, "The Sikh American Tradition of Resilience," *Washington Post*, April 26, 2021.

Seema Sohi, "Kamala Harris and the Urgency of Now," *Women and Social Movements in the United States, 1600-2000*, volume 25, no. 1; Invited contribution on a roundtable on the election of Kamala Harris as Vice-President (March 2021), pgs. 12-15.

Seema Sohi, "From 1917 to 2017: Immigration, Exclusion, and 'National Security,'" *Tides*, May 2017.

Seema Sohi, "Anti-Immigrant Sentiments One Hundred Years Ago and Now," *Khabar*, August 2017.

Public Scholarship

Seema Sohi, *Our Stories: An Introduction to South Asian America* (Philadelphia: South Asian American Digital Archive, 2021).

**This is a book comprised of 11 chapters that detail the history of South Asians in the United States and is intended for high school and early college-age readers. I served as the editor of the book's first chapter titled, "Early South Asian American History: Pre-1923" (comprised on 9 short essays) and drafted the following three essays for the book:*

Seema Sohi, "Introduction to Chapter One," *Our Stories: An Introduction to South Asian America* (Philadelphia: South Asian American Digital Archive, 2021), 18-22.

Seema Sohi, "The Ghadar Party," *Our Stories: An Introduction to South Asian America* (Philadelphia: South Asian American Digital Archive, 2021), 53-57.

Seema Sohi, "The Komagata Maru," *Our Stories: An Introduction to South Asian America* (Philadelphia: South Asian American Digital Archive, 2021), 58-62.

Book Reviews

Seema Sohi, "Constructing 'Good Immigrants': South Asian Migration during the Cold War," a review of Quraishi Uzma, *Redefining the Immigrant South: Indian and Pakistani Immigration to Houston during the Cold War* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2020) in *Diplomatic History*, July 2021, <https://doi.org/10.1093/dh/dhab033>.

Seema Sohi, "Across Oceans of Law," a review of Renisa Mawani, *Across Oceans of Law: The Komagata Maru and Jurisdiction in the Time of Empire* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2018) in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Vol. 50, No. 3, Winter 2020, pp. 454-456.

Seema Sohi, "Understanding Exclusion," a review of Lon Kurashige, *Two Faces of Exclusion: The Untold History of Anti-Asian Racism in the United States*, (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2016) in *Journal of American Ethnic History*, Vol. 37, No. 4, Summer 2018, pgs. 105-106.

Seema Sohi, "Conflicting Visions," a review of Ryan M. Touhey, *Conflicting Visions: Canada and India in the Cold War World, 1946-76* (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 2015) in *Canadian Journal of History*, Vol. 52, Issue 2, Autumn 2017, pgs. 411-413.

Seema Sohi, "The Good Immigrants," a review of Madeline Hsu, *The Good Immigrants: How the Yellow Peril Became the Model Minorities* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2015) in *Journal of American History*, Vol. 103, Issue 1, June 2016, pgs. 257-258.

Seema Sohi, "Roots and Reflections," a review of Amy Bhatt and Nalini Iyer, *Roots and Reflections: South Asians in the Pacific Northwest* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2013), in *American Historical Review*, December 2015).

Seema Sohi, "Uncovering Multiracial South Asian America: A Review of Vivek Bald's *Bengali Harlem*," Vivek Bald, *Bengali Harlem and the Lost Histories of South Asian America* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2013) in *South Asian Magazine for Action and Reflection (SAMAR)*, Vol. 20, May 2013 (online magazine).

Seema Sohi, "Driven Out," a review of Jean Pfaezer, *Driven Out: The Forgotten War Against Chinese Americans* (New York: Random House Press, 2007) in *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* Vol. 99, Summer 2008:142-143.

Other Publications

Seema Sohi, "Immigration Act of 1917 and the Barred Zone," in *Asian Americans: An Encyclopedia of Social, Cultural, Economic, and Political History*, Edward J.W. Park and Xiaojian Zhao, eds., (ABC-CLIO, 2013), 534-535.

Seema Sohi, "Indian Exclusion," in *Asian Americans: An Encyclopedia of Social, Cultural, Economic, and Political History*, Edward J.W. Park and Xiaojian Zhao, eds., (ABC-CLIO, 2013), 562-564.

Seema Sohi, "Ghadar," in *Asian Americans: An Encyclopedia of Social, Cultural, Economic, and Political History*, Edward J.W. Park and Xiaojian Zhao, eds., (ABC-CLIO, 2013), 454-455.

Seema Sohi, "Ghadar Party," in *Asian Americans: An Encyclopedia of Social, Cultural, Economic, and Political History*, Edward J.W. Park and Xiaojian Zhao, eds., (ABC-CLIO, 2013), 455-456.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Book Manuscript

Seema Sohi, "*We are Each Other's Magnitude and Bond: A History of Climate Justice from Warren County to the Sunrise Movement*"

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS (selected)

Winner of the 2023 Binkley-Stephenson Award from the Organization of American Historians for the best article that appeared in the <i>Journal of American History</i> in 2022.	February 2023
President's Fund for the Humanities Grant, University of Colorado Boulder	AY 2023-2024
Faculty Fellowship, Center for the Arts and Humanities, University of Colorado Boulder	AY 2021-2022
Internal Nominee from University of Colorado Boulder for National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) Summer Stipend	August 2020
Leadership Education for Advancement and Promotion (LEAP), Individual Faculty Grant, University of Colorado Boulder	April 2020
Distinguished Service Award <i>Ethnic Studies Department, University of Colorado</i>	May 2018
Arts and Science Fund for Excellence Award <i>College of the Arts and Sciences, University of Colorado</i>	October 2016 & October 2013
Nominated for the Outstanding Graduate Student Faculty Mentor Award CU Boulder, Department of Ethnic Studies	April 2016
Provost's Faculty Achievement Award <i>Office of Faculty Affairs, University of Colorado</i>	July 2015
Implementation of Multicultural Perspectives and Approaches in Research and Training (IMPART) Award <i>Office of Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement University of Colorado</i>	April 2014 & May 2010
Women Who Make a Difference Award <i>Women's Resource Center, University of Colorado</i>	December 2012
Dean's Fund for Excellence Award <i>College of the Arts and Sciences, University of Colorado</i>	November 2010
American Institute of Indian Studies Research Fellowship <i>American Institute of Indian Studies</i>	October 2008
Dissertation of the Year Award	September 2008

Institute for Pacific Northwest Studies, University of Idaho

Dissertation of the Year Award <i>History Department, University of Washington</i>	June 2008
Anita Affeldt Graduate Travel Fund <i>Asian American Studies Association</i>	February 2007
J.C. Smith Dissertation Fellowship <i>History Department, University of Washington</i>	September 2006-June 2007
Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies Research Grant <i>Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies, University of Washington</i>	June 2006
Canadian Studies Research Grant <i>Canadian Embassy, Washington D.C.</i>	March 2005
Huggins-Quarles Dissertation Award <i>Organization of American Historians</i>	February 2005
Rondeau Laverne Evans Dissertation Fellowship <i>History Department, University of Washington</i>	October 2004
Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Dissertation Fellowship <i>South Asian Studies Program (Hindi), University of Washington</i>	September 2004-June 2005
Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship <i>South Asian Studies Program (Intermediate Hindi), University of Washington</i>	September 2003-June 2004
Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship <i>South Asian Studies Program (Beginning Hindi), University of Washington</i>	September 2002-June 2003

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

INVITED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

- “Punjabi Sikhs and the Anticolonial Diaspora of the Early Twentieth Century,” Invited Speaker, Distinguished Speaker Series, Centre for Diaspora Studies, Punjabi University, Patiala, India, online lecture, December 9, 2021
- “South Asian Migration in Global History,” Invited Speaker, University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, October 2017

“Repressing ‘Hindu Conspiracies; from Lahore to San Francisco: Tracing the Inter-Imperial Collaborations of the British and U.S. Empires,” Invited Speaker, University of Marburg, Marburg, Germany, March 2016

“Exclusion, Resistance, and Repression across the British and American Empires: The *Komagata Maru* in Transnational Contexts,” Invited Speaker, Punjabi University, Patiala, India, December 2014

“The *Komagata Maru* and ‘The Fate of 330 Million Indians’: Anticolonialism and State Repression across the British and American Empires,” Invited Speaker, University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, May 2014

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

"Archives of Anticolonialism, Surveillance, and Solidarities: Tracing Early South Asian American Histories" Inaugural Kedia-Tayur Distinguished Lecture in South Asian American History, co-hosted by Carnegie Mellon University and the South Asian American Digital Archive, March 13, 2024

“100 Years After the 1924 Immigration Act,” Immigration and Ethnic History Society & Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota, Zoom Webinar, February 20, 2024

“South Asian American History in the Classroom,” Launch of the “South Asian American in the Classroom, Curriculum Event, South Asian American Digital Archive, Virtual presentation, May 19, 2023

“Real Talk: Racism and Colorism in South Asia and South Asian America,” Carnegie Mellon, Department of History, March 28, 2022

“The Ghadar Party,” *Our Stories* Book Launch, South Asian American Digital Archive, Virtual presentation, July 8, 2021

“A Voter’s Guide to South Asian American History,” South Asian American Digital Archive Virtual presentation, October 1, 2020

“The Color of Surveillance,” Invited Speaker, “The Color of Surveillance: Government Monitoring of American Immigrants,” Georgetown Law Center, Washington, D.C., June 2017

“Forms of Sikh Anticolonial Activism and Thinking Decolonially,” Invited Speaker, Sikh Studies Symposium, Religious Studies Department, UC Riverside, Riverside, California, May 2017

“Radical Migrations: Indian Anticolonialism in North America and Across the Pacific,” Invited Speaker, Dhar India Studies Program and the Mathers Museum of World Cultures at Indiana University, Bloomington, February 2016

“Indian Anticolonialism in the Transnational U.S.-Canadian Borderlands,” Invited Speaker, Race, Radicalism, and Repression on the Pacific Coast and Beyond, University of Washington, Seattle, May 2011

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AT CU BOULDER

“Anti-Asian Violence, Silence, Race, and Patriarchy,” Roundtable discussion sponsored by The Center for Humanities & the Arts and the Department of Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado, Boulder, March 2021

“Citizenship Past and Present,” Colloquium sponsored by The Center for Humanities & the Arts, the Immigration and Citizenship Law Program, and the Department of History, University of Colorado, Boulder, January 2021

“Race, Surveillance, and South Asian Exclusion,” Citizenship and Equality Colloquium, University of Colorado Law School (jointly sponsored by the CU Immigration Law & Policy Program and the Colorado Immigration Scholars Network), November 2017.

“Costumes and Cultural Appropriations,” Sugar Free Feminisms Program Series, Women’s Resource Center, University of Colorado, Boulder, October 2012

“Asian American Cultural Productions,” Eye-Resist, University of Colorado, Boulder, April 2012

MEDIA

Featured on ABC News Special on Asian American Pacific Islander Month, “Big Things You May Have Missed While Studying U.S. History,” released on May 27, 2022

Featured in the Podcast Sikh Archive, “Echoes of Mutiny with Professor Seema Sohi,” released on January 17, 2021

Interviewed on KUOW (Seattle NPR station), “Eerie Parallels between 1907 Bellingham Riots and Anti-Sikh hate in 2017,” March 7, 2017

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

Roundtable Panelist, “100 Years after the 1924 Immigration Act,” Organization of American Historians, New Orleans, LA, April 2024

Roundtable Panelist, "Rethinking Im/migration History in a Troubled Time: New Approaches, New Chronologies, New Paradigms," American Historical Association, San Francisco, CA, January 2024

Moderator and Commentator, "Citizenship Theory beyond Legal Status," Rothgerber Conference, "Pursuing Citizenship," CU Boulder Law School, April 2021

Chair and Commentator, "South Asian Feminisms," American Studies Association, Baltimore, Maryland, November 2020 (cancelled due to Covid)

"Transnational Student Activism in the 20th Century," Society for Historian of American Foreign Relations, New Orleans, Louisiana, June 2020 (unable to participate due to Covid)

"Transpacific Militarization and Permanent War," Roundtable, American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, November 2016

"Dalip Singh Saund: Cold War Ambassador," Asian American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Miami, Florida, April 2016

Chair and Commentator, "New Perspectives on Migrations, Radicalisms, and Transformations in 20th Century North America," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, January 2016

"Radical Migrations: Indian Anticolonialism in North America and Across the Pacific," American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ontario, October 2015

"Tradition and Taboo in Asian American History," Organizations of American Historians Annual Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri, April 2015

"Race, Repression, and Indian Anticolonialism across the American and British Empires," American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York City, January 2015

"South Asian American Studies: Pasts, Presents, and Futures," Roundtable, Asian American Studies Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, April 2014

"The Transnational Dimensions of Indian Anticolonialism and State Repression in the U.S.-Canadian Borderlands," American Historical Association-Pacific Coast Branch Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, August 2013

"Insiders and Outsiders: Citizenship and Belonging in the United States," Chair and Commentator of Panel, American Historical Association-Pacific Coast Branch Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, August 2013

"Anarchy, Surveillance, and the 'Hindu Menace,'" Asian American Studies Association Annual

Meeting, Seattle, Washington, April 2013

“Exclusion and Empire: Imperial Immigration Policy, Antiradicalism, and Indian Anticolonialism in the American Empire,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Puerto Rico, November 2012

“Indian Anticolonialism and the Consolidation of White Supremacy,” Critical Ethnic Studies Conference, University of California, Riverside, March 2011

“Race, Surveillance, and South Asian Radicalism in North America,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., April 2010

“The ‘State’ of South Asian American Studies,” Plenary Session, Asian American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas, April 2010

“South Asian Radicalism and the Contradictions of Imperial Citizenship,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., November 2009

“Asian Indian Radicalism in the American Empire,” Asian American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Honolulu, Hawaii, April 2009

“Antiradicalism and Immigration Policy: The Lahore, Chicago, and San Francisco Conspiracy Trials, 1917-1918,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 2008

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Colorado, Boulder

FYS 1000, First Year Seminar: Race and Citizenship in U.S. History and Culture

ETHN 1025, Introduction to Asian American Studies

ETHN 3015, Transnational Asian Pacific American Pacific Communities

ETHN 3105, South Asian American History

ETHN 3105, Theory, Methods, Writing in Ethnic Studies

ETHN 3105, South Asian Women’s Diasporic Literature and Film

ETHN 4951, Senior Seminar: Race and Citizenship

ETHN 6000, Graduate Seminar: Foundations in Comparative Ethnic Studies

ETHN 6001, Graduate Seminar: Theory and Methods

ETHN 6002, Graduate Seminar: Professionalization Seminar

ETHN 6100, Graduate Seminar: Race and Citizenship in U.S. History and Culture

Graduate Advising

Co-advised first two Ph.D. recipients in the doctoral program in Critical Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Currently serve on ten graduate committees across the University of Colorado Boulder

Have served on 25 graduate committees across the University of Colorado Boulder and nationally

Served as the Inaugural Director of Graduate Studies (later named Associate Chair of Graduate Studies) in Comparative Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Dissertations Advised

Malaver, Lau. *Recovecos: Race, Time, and the Performance of Trans Embodiment*, Ph.D., University of Colorado Boulder, 2023. Chairs: Seema Sohi and Nishant Upadhyay
* *Tenure-track Assistant Professor of Race, Ethnic, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, St. Olaf College*

Melgoza, Raul. *Chicanx Kinetics: The Forces and Motions of Settleness in Chicanx Cultural Politics*, Ph.D., University of Colorado Boulder, 2022. Chair: Seema Sohi
* *Tenure-track Assistant Professor of Chicano/a Studies, Metro State University of Denver*

Grant, Deanne. *Indigenous Women at the Heart: An Imagining of Indigenous Decolonial Sexualities*, Ph.D., University of Colorado Boulder, 2019. Chairs: Clint Carroll and Seema Sohi
**Tenure-track Assistant Professor of Sociology and Native American and Indigenous Studies at Fort Lewis College*

Husain, Amani. *Seeds of Resistance: An Intersectional Analysis of Migrant Protest Discourse*, Ph.D., University of Colorado Boulder, 2019. Chairs: Seema Sohi and Emma Perez

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ethnic Studies Department, University of Colorado

Graduate Committee, 2013-Present

Executive Committee, 2016-Present

ARPAC Committee, 2019-2020

Associate Chair of Graduate Studies, Department of Ethnic Studies, 2016-2019

Chair, Graduate Studies Committee, Department of Ethnic Studies, 2015-2019

Co-Chair, Curriculum Committee, Department of Ethnic Studies, 2016-2019

Chair of Search Committee, Asian American Studies tenure-track position, 2018-2019

Chair of PUEC Committee for Dr. Clint Carroll (achieved tenure in 2018)

Graduate Director, Ph.D. program in Department of Ethnic Studies, 2014-2016

Member of Search Committee, Native American and Indigenous Studies, tenure-track position, 2013-2014

Graduate Program Handbook Committee, 2013-2014

Member of Search Committee, Africana Studies/African American History, 2012-2013
Program Review Committee, 2012-2013
Graduate Proposal Committee, Ethnic Studies Department, University of Colorado, 2009-2010
Advisory Committee, Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race (CSERA), Ethnic Studies Department, University of Colorado, 2007-2010
Curriculum Committee, Ethnic Studies Department, University of Colorado, 2007-2009

University of Colorado

Executive Steering Committee, Center for the Humanities and Arts, University of Colorado, Boulder, September 2022-Present
Planning Committee, Rothgerber Conference, "Pursuing Citizenship," University of Colorado, Boulder Law School, April 2021
Review Committee, Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies (NCAIS), University of Colorado Internal Committee, Spring 2018
Cohort Member, Faculty Leadership Institute (FLI), 2017-2018
Review Committee, Sanville Graduate Fellowships, Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder, 2016-2017
Review Committee, Graduate Program Teaching Instruction Excellence Review Committee, Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder, 2016-2017
Selection Committee, Implementation of Multicultural Perspectives and Approaches in Research and Training (IMPART) Award, Office of Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, University of Colorado, April 2015
Department Representative, Arts and Science Council, University of Colorado, January 2012-May 2013
Panelist, Undergraduate Research Symposium, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, University of Colorado, February 2010
Faculty Advisory Council, Center of the American West, University of Colorado, 2008-Present

National/Other Service

Advisory Committee, Documentary film on Congressman Dalip Singh Saund directed by Mridu Chandra, Summer 2022-Present
Advisory Committee, SAADA and American Historical Association and National Endowment of the Arts Initiative, September 2022-Present
Member, Editorial Collective, *Sikh Formations Journal*, January 2020-Present
President, Board of Directors, South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA), May 2017-December 2019
Co-Chair, Academic Advisory Council, SAADA, October 2017- December 2019
Member, Program Committee, Asian American Studies Association, June 2017-June 2018
Board of Directors, South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA), January 2016- December 2019
Chair, Editorial Collective, *Tides* (online magazine of South Asian American Digital Archive), October 2016- December 2019
Board of Directors, Boulder Valley Women's Health, December 2014-2016

Academic Council, South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA), October 2014-Present
Academic Advisory Committee, Beyond Bollywood: Indian Americans Shape the Nation,
Smithsonian Institution, May 2011-2017

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Organization of American Historians Association
American Historical Association
American Studies Association
Association for Asian American Studies