

Seema Sohi

Associate Professor & Associate Chair of Graduate Studies
Department of Ethnic Studies
University of Colorado, Boulder

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., History, University of Washington, 2008
B.A., English, University of California, Santa Cruz, 1997
B.A., History, University of California, Santa Cruz, 1997

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor, Department of Ethnic Studies University of Colorado, Boulder	2016-Present
Assistant Professor, Department of Ethnic Studies University of Colorado, Boulder	Fall 2007-Spring 2016

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Asian American History; Twentieth-Century U.S. History; Asian American Studies; Empire; Borderlands; Transnationalism; Social Movements; Radicalism and Antiradicalism; Racial Formations; Postcolonial Theory; Comparative Ethnic Studies; South Asian American Cultural Productions

PUBLICATIONS

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, "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, "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 University Press, 2013), 50-74.

Book Reviews

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.

Online Magazine Publications

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

“Anti-Immigrant Sentiments One Hundred Years Ago and Now,” *Khabar*, August 2017.

Other Publications

“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.

“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.

“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.

“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, *Global Travelers: Intellectual and Political Crossings in the Age of Decolonization*

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapter

Seema Sohi, “South Asian American Anticolonial Writings: Critical Reflections on Race, Empire and Migration in the United States,” *Asian American Literature in Transition*, Josephine Lee and Julia Lee eds., Cambridge University Press, (submitted December 2017).

Other

Chapter Editor and Contributor to *Our Stories: An Introduction to South Asian America* (Philadelphia: South Asian American Digital Archive, 2017).

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS (selected)

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

Nominated for the Outstanding Graduate Student Faculty Mentor Award CU Boulder, Department of Ethnic Studies	April 2016
Winner of the University of Colorado Boulder Internal Competition for the NEH Summer Stipend	September 2015
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 (declined) <i>Office of Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, University of Colorado</i>	April 2014
Arts and Science Fund for Excellence Award <i>College of the Arts and Sciences, University of Colorado</i>	October 2013
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
Implementation of Multicultural Perspectives and Approaches in Research and Training (IMPART) Award <i>Office of Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, University of Colorado</i>	May 2010
American Institute of Indian Studies Research Fellowship (Declined) <i>American Institute of Indian Studies</i>	October 2008
Dissertation of the Year Award <i>Institute for Pacific Northwest Studies, University of Idaho</i>	September 2008
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

Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, Honorable Mention <i>Ford Foundation</i>	April 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
Ph.D. Qualifying Exam with Honors <i>History Department, University of Washington</i>	February 2004
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

INVITED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

“South Asian Migration in Global History,” Invited Speaker, University of Victoria, BC, 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: Understanding the *Komagata Maru* in Transnational Contexts,” Invited Speaker, Punjabi University, Patiala, India, December 2014

“The *Komagata Maru* and ‘The Fate of 330 Million Indians’: Immigrant Exclusion, Anticolonialism, and State Repression across the British and American Empires,”

Invited Speaker, University of Victoria, BC, May 2014

“Anticolonialism, State Repression, and the Making of the U.S.-Canadian Border,” Invited Speaker, Borderlands and Transnationalism: New Perspectives on Immigration to Canada and the United States Workshop, York University, Toronto, October 2012 (Paper read by fellow panelist)

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

“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 Workshop, University of Washington, Seattle, May 2011

“Indian Radicals on Canada’s Pacific Coast: The Importance of Canadian Studies in Asian American History,” Invited Speaker, Canadian Consulate, San Francisco, California, April 2006

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AT CU BOULDER

“Activism, Courage, and Playing the Game: Navigating a Successful Academic Career,” CU Women Succeeding Professional Development Symposium, University of Colorado, February 2018.

“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

Interviewed on KUOW (Seattle NPR station), "Erie Parallels between 1907 Bellingham Riots and anti-Sikh hate in 2017," March 7, 2017

Podcast interview, Couture Rani, December 2017

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

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

"Dilip 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
- “Antiradicalism, Anticolonialism, and Repressing the ‘Hindu Menace’: The Chicago and San Francisco Conspiracy Trials, 1917-1918,” Asian American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, April 2008
- “Indian Intellectuals in the City,” Asian American Studies Association Annual Meeting, New York, New York, April, 2007
- “Migration, Race, and Empire: South Asian Revolutionaries in the Borderlands,” Empire, Borderlands, and Border Cultures, California State University, Stanislaus, California, March 2006
- “South Asian Revolutionaries and White Exclusionists: Rethinking the Borderlands and the Transnational,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2004
- “Rethinking the Borderlands and the Transnational,” University of California Transnational and Transcolonial Studies Annual Meeting, University of California, Los Angeles, May 2004

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Colorado, Boulder
ETHN 1025, Introduction to Asian American Studies

ETHN 3015, Transnational Asian Pacific American Pacific Communities
ETHN 3105, South Asian American History
ETHN 3105, South Asian American Radicalisms
ETHN 3105, South Asian Women's Diasporic Literature and Film
ETHN 3105, Theory/Methods/Writing in Ethnic Studies
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

Ph.D. Graduate Advisor

Deanne Grant (Co-Advisor), Department of Ethnic Studies (2016-Present)
Amani Husain, (Co-Advisor), Department of Ethnic Studies (2016-Present)
Raul Melgoza, Department of Ethnic Studies (2017-Present)
Shawn O'Neill (Co-Advisor), Department of Ethnic Studies (2017-Present)

Ph.D. Graduate and Dissertation Committee Member

Rebecca Avalos, Department of Communication (2015-Present)
Gino Canello, Department of Communication (2016-Present)
Jared Browsh, Department of Media Studies (2015-2018)
Monica Gonzalez, School of Education (2015-Present)
Shannon O'Sullivan, Department of Media Studies (2015-2017)
Simone Hyater-Adams, ATLAS Institute and Department of Physics (2017-Present)
Cynthia Howard, Department of Religious Studies (2018-Present)
Laura Thomson, Department of Art and Art History (2018-Present)

Senior Honor's Theses Advised

Lauren Massie (2017-2018)
Elizabeth Gangware (2015-2016)
Emma Kate Harsin Drager (2012-2013) (Chair of Committee)
Cathy Xiong (2012-2013)
Nisha Shah (2011-2012)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ethnic Studies Department, University of Colorado

Associate Chair of Graduate Studies, Department of Ethnic Studies, 2016-Present
Chair, Asian American Studies Tenure-Track Search Committee, 2018-2019
Chair, Clint Carroll Tenure Committee, 2018-2019

Chair, Graduate Studies Committee, Department of Ethnic Studies, 2015-Present
Co-Chair, Curriculum Committee, Department of Ethnic Studies, 2016-Present
Graduate Director, Ph.D. program in Department of Ethnic Studies, 2014-2016
Graduate Admissions Committee, 2013-Present
Search Committee, American Indian Studies, 2013-2014
Graduate Program Handbook Committee, 2013-2014
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:

Review Committee, Graduate Diversity Top-Up Fellowships, Arts and Science, University of
Colorado, January 2018-Present
Review Committee, Sanville Graduate Fellowships, Graduate School, University of Colorado
Boulder, November 2016-2018
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:

President, Board of Directors, South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA), May 2017-
Present
Co-Chair, Academic Advisory Council, SAADA, October 2017-Present
Chair, Editorial Collective, *Tides* (online magazine of South Asian American Digital Archive),
October 2016-Present
History Book Award Selection Committee, Asian American Studies Association, 2018
Member, Program Committee, Asian American Studies Association, 2017-2018
Board of Directors, South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA), January 2016-Present
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-Present

Selection Committee, Dissertation of the Year Award Committee, Institute for Pacific Northwest Studies, University of Idaho, 2009

Article manuscript referee:

Journal of American History
Pacific Historical Review
Pacific Northwest Quarterly
Journal of Historical Geography
South Asian Diaspora

Manuscripts Reviewed:

Joanne Ogden, *India's Oregon Trail: Ghadar, Thind, and the Struggle for Belonging*, University of Washington Press, 2017. Recommended for publication (with revisions).

Nico Slate, *Freedom's Thugs: The Struggle for Democracy in the United States and India*, Harvard University Press, 2017. Recommended for publication.

Manan Desai, *The United States of India*. Temple University Press, 2018. Recommended for publication (with revisions).

Rita Kaur Dhamoon, Davina Bhandar, Renisa Mawani, and Satwinder Bains, eds., *Charting Imperial Itineraries: Unmooring the Komagata Maru*, University of British Columbia Press, 2017. Recommended for publication.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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