

CURRICULUM VITÆ

Sonita Sarker

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Current Position

Professor, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies/English, Macalester College
(Chair, WGSS, 2000-2006, 2008-2009, 2020-)

Recent Position

Distinguished Scholar in Residence, College of the Holy Cross (Worcester, MA) Fall 2018

Degrees

Ph.D., English, University of California, Los Angeles	1993
M.A., English, University of California, Los Angeles	1989
M.A., English, Kolkata University, Kolkata, India	1987
B.A., English, Loreto College, Kolkata, India	1984

Publications:

A. Books Published and Forthcoming

1. *Women Writing Race, Nation, and History: N/native*. Monograph, A comparative study of six women intellectuals' writings on competing political philosophies and cultural changes that they negotiate as 'N/natives' in their claims to belonging. Forthcoming from Oxford University Press, 2022.
2. *Sustainable Feminisms*. Editor and author of introduction to volume. A transnational, interdisciplinary volume on the various practices and theories of viable feminisms in the context of grassroots movements, consumerism, intellectual exporting and importing, and cultural globalization. *Advances in Gender Research*, Volume 11 (2007), Elsevier Publications, England.
3. *Trans-Status Subjects: Gender in the Globalization of South and Southeast Asia*. Co-edited volume and co-authored introduction with Esha Niyogi De. Duke University Press 2002. A transnational, interdisciplinary collection on changing gender roles and the circulation of concepts from and about South and Southeast Asia. Reviewed in *Journal of Asian Studies (Asia: Comparative and Transnational)*, *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, *American Anthropologist*, *Anthropological Quarterly*, *Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology*, *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*, *Sojourn*. Listed in *Cultural Critique*, *Journal of Asian History*, *Women's Studies*, *Women's Review of Books*.

Monographs in Progress

1. *Breathing, Haunted Air*. Studies the nature of Whiteness in twentieth- and twenty-first literature by White authors and practices decolonial ways of reading. The tentative title

refers both to “I can’t breathe” and breathing as resistance as well as Whiteness as an environment rather than only to a discrete identity. The comma indicates a pause, to breathe and to resist.

2. *Gramscian theories and Feminist Praxis*. Traces new formations of ‘subaltern’ and ‘organic intellectuals’ through the matrices of nationhoods, gendering, and racializations in international and transnational contexts, framed in socialist feminist terms.

Other Works in Progress

1. “Subaltern Studies.” Online source-base under contract with Oxford University Press.
2. “Technologies and Traces.” Chapter in *Modernism and Empire*, under contract with Cambridge University Press.

B. Journal Articles and Book Chapters

1. Cluster on Whiteness. Forthcoming in *Modernism/modernity*. Johns Hopkins University Press.
2. “Born in, First In: Zitkála-Šá and Grazia Deledda Claim Modernity.” Chapter in volume on Indigenous Modernisms. Forthcoming from Routledge Press.
3. “Writing from Somewhere, Reading from Anywhere: New Criticism and (Neo)Liberal Globalization.” Chapter in volume on *Modernism, Theory, and Responsible Reading*. Bloomsbury Press, 189-206.
4. “Inter/Transnational Feminist Literature of the Cold War.” In *The Palgrave Handbook of Cold War Literature* edited by Andrew Hammond, Palgrave Press, 2020, pp.83-102.
5. “Absence and Containment: English-language transnational literary Modernist Studies.” *Modernism/modernity* Print Plus <https://modernismmodernity.org/articles/sarker-absence-containment>. November 2019.
7. “The Bloomsbury Group and Empire.” *The Bloomsbury Group Handbook*, Bloomsbury Press, 2018, pp.75-93.
8. “A Position Embedded in Identity: Subalternity in the Age of Neoliberal Globalization.” *Cultural Studies* 2016, Vol. 30, issue 5, pp. 816-838.
9. “Subalternity in and out of Time, in and out of History.” *Gramsci and Foucault: A Reassessment*. Ashgate Press, 2014, pp 91-109.
10. “Virginia Woolf in the British Commonwealth.” *Selected Papers of the Twenty-Third Annual International Conference on Virginia Woolf*. Eds. Helen Wussow and Mary Ann Gillies, 2014, pp. 65-76.
11. “Woolf and Postcolonialism.” Chapter in *Virginia Woolf In Context*. Eds. Jane Goldman and Bryony Randall. Cambridge University Press, 2013, pp. 110-128.
12. “On Remaining Minor in Modernisms: The Future of Women’s Literature,” in “The Future

- of Women in Modernism” (special issue), *Literature Compass*, 2013, 10:1, pp. 8-14.
13. “Gwendolyn Bennett and Victoria Ocampo Capture the Continents.” Essay in *The Review of International American Studies*, Fall/Winter 2009/10, pp. 14-20.
 14. Introduction to *Sustainable Feminisms*, *Advances in Gender Research*, Vol. 11, Elsevier 2007, pp. 1-26.
 15. “Race, Nation, and Modernity: The Anti-Colonial Consciousness of Modernism.” Chapter in *Gender in Modernism: New Geographies, Complex Intersections*, edited by Bonnie Kime Scott. University of Illinois Press, 2007, pp. 472-482, edited section, pp 482-515.
 16. “Modernisms in our Image...Always, Partially.” Afterword, *Modernism/Modernity* 13.3, Special Issue: Modernism and Transnationalisms, Johns Hopkins University Press, September 2006, pp. 560-566.
 17. “Introduction: Marking Times and Territories.” Primary author, in my co-edited book, *Trans-Status Subjects: Gender in the Globalization of South and Southeast Asia*. Duke University Press, 2002, pp. 1-27.
 18. “Unruly Subjects: Cornelia Sorabji and Ravinder Randhawa.” In my co-edited book, *Trans-Status Subjects: Gender in the Globalization of South and Southeast Asia*. Duke University Press, 2002, pp. 267-288.
 19. “Legacies of Strength.” Afterword to Shashi Deshpande’s *The Binding Vine*. New York: The Feminist Press, 2001, 209-247.
 20. “Locating a Native Englishness in Virginia Woolf’s *The London Scene*.” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Journal*, Summer 2001, Volume 13 (2), 1-30.
 21. “Larger than Bengal: Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain and 20th century Global Feminist Modernity.” *Archiv Orientalni*, Prague, Vol. 68 (2000): 441-456.
 22. “*Three Guineas*, an In-corporated Intellectual, and a Nostalgia for the Human.” *Virginia Woolf in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction*, ed. Pamela Caughie, Garland Press, 2000, pp. 37-66.
 23. “An Unharmonious Trio? Georg Lukács, Music, and Virginia Woolf’s *Between the Acts*.” In the *Virginia Woolf and the Arts: Selected Papers from the Sixth Annual Conference on Virginia Woolf*, eds. Diane F. Gillespie and Leslie K. Hankins, Pace University Press, 1997, pp. 158-165.

C. Book Reviews and Other Shorter Scholarly Items

1. Review of *Feminist Cultural Studies of Science and Technology* by Maureen McNeil, in the *European Journal of Cultural Studies* (2010) 13.2: 265-267.
2. “Feminism and Globalization.” Entry in the *Encyclopaedia on Globalization*, edited by Roland Robertson, Routledge 2007, pp. 429-433.
3. Review of *Women’s Experience of Modernity, 1875-1945*, co-edited by Ann Ardis and Leslie W. Lewis, in *Cultural Critique*, no. 59, Winter 2005, pp. 213-218.

4. Review of Nancy Cunard's *Essays On Race and Empire*, edited by Maureen Moynagh, in *University of Toronto Quarterly*, vol. 73:1, Winter 2003/4, pp. 300-302.
5. Review of *Disciplining Feminism: From Social Activism to Academic Discourse* by Ellen Messer-Davidow, in *Cultural Critique*, no. 53, Winter 2003, pp. 87-89.
6. Review of *Using the Master's Tools: Resistance and the Literature of the African and South Asian Diasporas* by Anuradha Dingwaney Needham, in *Callaloo*, 25:2, 2002, pp. 26-30.
7. Review of *May her Likes be Multiplied: Biography and Gender Politics in Egypt* by Marilyn Booth, in *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*, 3:1, Spring 2002.
8. "Moving Target." *Women's Review of Books*, special issue, "The World in the Classroom: Women Teaching Diaspora," February 2002, XIX: 5, 3.
9. Review of *Virginia Woolf's Essays* by Elena Gualtieri, in *Modern Fiction Studies* 47.2, Summer 2001, pp. 245-248.
10. "Academics and Activism in Women's Studies." *Women's Studies Quarterly*, Fall 1999, pp. 266-267.
11. "Terrae Incognitae: Global Feminism, Canons, and the Case of Brazil." *Macalester International*, Macalester College, 1998, pp. 238-252.
12. "Bessie Head." Entry in *Feminist Writers*, New York: St. James Press, October 1996, pp. 226-227.

Editorships and Similar Professional Activity

Board Member, SAGE Open

Article Editor, SAGE Open Manuscripts

Advisory Board member, *Review of International American Studies*

Review Team member, Women's Studies Departments nationally

Advisory Editor, *Wagadu: Transnational Women's and Gender Studies* e-journal.

Reviewer for *Modern Fiction Studies*, *The Woolf Studies Annual*, *Callaloo*, *Cultural Critique*, *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*, *University of Toronto Quarterly*, *Modernism/Modernity*, *European Journal of Cultural Studies*.

Reader for *International Review of Social Economy*, *Women's Studies International Forum*, *Ariel: International Review of English Literatures*, *National Women's Studies Association Journal*, Duke University Press, Notre Dame University Press, University of Toronto Press, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada, and Oxford University Press.

Contributing Editor to the Caribbean section of *Who's Who of Contemporary Women Writers*. London: Routledge 2001 and 2002.

Fiction Editor, *Jacaranda Review*, UCLA literary journal, 1991-1993

Research Editor, M.P.Birla Encyclopaedia project, Calcutta, 1987-88

External or National Awards

The Luisa Selis Fellowship, University of London and the Italian Institute of Culture in London, 2017.
IES Abroad Faculty Seminar, Amsterdam, “Gender and Sexuality in a Multicultural World,” 2014.
American Council of Higher Education (ACE) Fellowship, 2007-2008 (New York University)
FaCE award for Research, Associated Colleges of the Midwest Consortium, 2007 (Oxford University, Dartington Archives)
University of Oxford International Gender Studies Centre, 2007
State of Minnesota Humanities Commission, NEH Grant, (Houghton Library, Harvard), 2005
Ford Foundation “Emerging Leaders, New Directions” Grant, (awarded to the Women’s and Gender Studies Department, Macalester College, under Dr. Sarker’s authorship and directorship of grant proposal), 2002-2004
University of Sussex Gender Studies Program Visiting Scholar, 1999
London School of Economics Gender Institute, Visiting Fellow, 1999
NEH Summer Seminar, Yale University, 1995
Newberry Library Fellowship, Chicago, 1994
University of Oxford Scholarship for International Summer School, 1989

Internal or Local Awards

Wallace Research Grant for study at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, 2018
Wallace International Travel Grant, 2014
Wallace Travel Grant, 2007
Wallace Research Grant for study at the Houghton Library (Harvard U), 2005
Hewlett Liberal Arts College Grant for Course Development, 2002
Mellon Carleton-Macalester Consortium Co-mentoring Grant, 2001-2002
Hewlett stipend for Policy Studies and Community Based Research group 2002
Associated Colleges of the Midwest Minority Academic Fellowship (with student), 2000
Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship Program (with student), 2000-2002
Bush Grant for Race and Diversity, 2000
Keck Foundation Grant for student mentorship in research project, 1999
Wallace Research Grant for study at the British Library in London, 1998
Macalester International Studies Program Grant for Research Trip to Brazil, 1997
Wallace Faculty Development Grant for Travel Abroad (Oxford, England), 1996
Wallace Grant for Summer Research, 1995 & 1996
Bush Grant for Course Development, 1996
Ford Diversity Grant (with Prof. Christine Loflin, Grinnell College), 1995-96
UCLA Department of English non-resident tuition fellowship for 1988-1993
Center for the Study of Women at UCLA Travel Grant, 1992-1993
Phi Beta Kappa Fellowship, 1992
Hortense Fishbaugh Memorial Fellowship, 1992
UCLA Humanitarian Service Award nominee 1991
International Students Association commendation for outstanding service to the international community at UCLA, 1990

Amiya Memorial Trust Grant for study abroad, 1988-1989
University of Calcutta R.B.Ghose Traveling Fellowship, 1988-1989
P.C.Ghose Gold Medal, Calcutta University for MA exams, 1987
Sarojini Dutt Silver Medal, Loreto College for BA exams, 1984

Other Recognition

External Reviewer for Women's Studies and English departments (Smith, Pomona, Colorado, Beloit, Lake Forest, Kenyon, St. Olaf)

Academia.edu states that 59 academic papers mention my name, that 245 people on this website have read my papers, that there have been 1,848 total views of my profile.

ResearchGate notes that my uploaded articles have 2511 reads and 28 citations.

Invited Lectures

"There all Along: on Margaret Atwood's 'Penelopiad.'" At Theatre Unbound donor reception, November 2019.

Speaker on Panel on Caryl Churchill's "Escaped Alone" and "Here We Go." Frank Theatre, September 2019.

Speaker on Panel on Anna Zeigler's "Actually." Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company, March 2018.

"Gramsci and Deledda: Two Sardinians in the World." Department of Italian Studies, New York University, October 2017.

"Humanism." Unitarian Universalist centenary celebration of Humanism, October 2016.

"Subalternity." Departments of English and Political Science, University of Minnesota, January 2016.

"Native-ness and Subalternity." International Relations Colloquium, University of Minnesota, April 2014.

"Virginia Woolf in the Commonwealth." Plenary address at the International Virginia Woolf Conference, Vancouver, Canada, June 2013.

"Justice—The Organic Intellectual—Nation: 1930s Women Writers Today." Kellogg College (Oxford University) and Centre for the Study of Social and Global Justice, University of Nottingham, UK, February and March 2008.

Feminist Open Forum, Modernist Studies Association Convention 9, Long Beach, November 2007.

Feminisms Roundtable. Modernist Studies Association Convention 6, Vancouver (Canada), October 2004.

Modernisms And Feminisms Roundtable. Modernist Studies Association Convention 4, Madison (Wisconsin, USA), October 2002.

“Will the Real Feminists Please Stand Up?” International Women’s Day, Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, St. Paul (Minnesota), March 2002.

“Virginia Woolf and the Possibility of a Postcolonial Modernism.” Plenary speaker at the 10th Annual Virginia Woolf conference, University of Maryland, June 2000.

“Marking Times and Territories: Unruly Subjects in the Globalization of South and Southeast Asia.” Featured speaker at the Center for Advanced Feminist Studies colloquium, University of Minnesota, February 2000.

“Race and Feminism.” The Young Feminist Summit, St. Paul (MN), October 1997.

“Women, Work, and Global Feminism.” National Organization for Women (NOW), St. Paul (MN), May 1997.

“A Thousand-and-One Locations: Territories in Anita Desai’s *Fire on the Mountain*.” Minnesota Consortium for South Asian Studies, University of Minnesota, March 1996.

“Otherness: The Myths, the Mysteries, the Mistakes.” Caxton Club of Knox College, Illinois, March 1995.

Selected Conferences/Panels Organized

The First Ever Whiteness Seminar, Modernist Studies Association Conference, Toronto (Canada), October 2019.

Italian Studies, American Association of Italian Studies, Ohio State University, April 2017.

International Relations Business Meetings, Modernist Studies Association Conventions 7, 8, 9, Chicago (November 2005), Tulsa (October 2006), and Long Beach (November 2007).

“Identities, Arguments, Economies.” Modernist Studies Association Convention 7, Chicago, USA, November 2005.

“Liberation/Liberty: Feminist Hegemonies.” Feminist Research Working Group,

University of Saint-Denis, Paris, France, June 2005.

“Genders and Races, Empires and Nations: Views from Elsewhere.” Modernist Studies Association Convention 6, Vancouver, Canada, October 2004.

International Task Force at the National Women’s Studies Association Convention, June 1999 (Albuquerque), 2000 (Boston), 2001 (Minneapolis), 2002 (Las Vegas), 2003 (New Orleans), and 2004 (Milwaukee), as convenor of the Task Force.

“Feminist and Queer Ethnicities,” “Ethnic(ized) Women’s Writing as New National Literatures,” and “Women’s Studies and Ethnic Studies as Structural and Methodological Units.” Panels at the Modern Language Association’s Division of Women’s Studies in Language and Literature, as chair of the Executive Committee, December 2003.

“Sustainable Feminisms: A Cross-Border Conference.” Ford Foundation Grant, Macalester College, October 2003.

“The Ethics and Politics of Comparison.” Mellon Carleton-Macalester Consortium Seminar, April 2002.

“Postcolonialism: Terminologies and Teaching.” Ford Foundation Diversity Grant for an Associated Colleges of the Midwest Conference, at Grinnell College, September 1996.

Selected Papers Presented

“Two Sardinians in the World: Grazia Deledda and Antonio Gramsci.” Italian Institute of Culture/University of London, July 2017 and New York University, Department of Italian Studies, October 2017.

“Speaking from the Heart of Darkness.” Italian Studies Association at the Modern Language Association Convention, Austin, Texas, January 2016.

“Dalit Literature in the Era of Neoliberal Globalization.” East-West Intercultural Exchange, Delhi, India, December 2014.

“Grazia Deledda and Antonio Gramsci: Native and Subaltern in the Italian Nation-State.” Women’s Studies Caucus panel, American Association of Italian Studies, Zurich, May 2014.

“Across the Color Spectrum.” Modernist Studies Association, Las Vegas, October 2012.

“Virginia Woolf and Cornelia Sorabji: Mobilizing East and West.” International Society for Ethics and Values, New Delhi, India, December 2011.

“Grazia Deledda and Antonio Gramsci as Planetary Subalterns.” International Gramsci Conference, Sardinia, May 2007.

“Have Socialist and Capitalist Feminisms produced Organic Intellectuals?” Re-thinking Marxism, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, October 2006.

“Transnational Modernisms.” Open Forum on International Relations, Modernist Studies Association, October 2006.

“Liberation/Liberty: Feminist Hegemonies.” Feminist Research Working Group, University of Saint-Denis, Paris, France, June 2005.

“Virginia Woolf and Fascist Modernity.” International Virginia Woolf Society conference, London (England), June 2004.

“Cornelia Sorabji and the Cultural/Ethnic Home.” School of Oriental and African Studies conference, London (England), June 2004.

“The Ethics and Politics of Multiculturalism.” New Directions in the Humanities, Rhodes, Greece, July 2003.

“Marking Times and Territories: Gender and Globalization.” International Cultural Studies conference, Tampere, Finland, June-July 2002.

“The Metatexts of Comparison: South Asian Literature and Its Others.” South Asian Literary Association, Modern Language Association, New Orleans, December 2001.

“Virginia Woolf and the Possibility of a Postcolonial Modernism.” Plenary speech at the 10th Annual Virginia Woolf conference, University of Maryland, June 2000.

“Inter-national or Transnational? Women’s Studies and Activism.” Women’s Studies Quarterly Roundtable. National Women’s Studies Association, Boston, June 2000.

“Siting Englishness in Virginia Woolf’s *The London Scene*.” The International Virginia Woolf Society Meeting, Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 1999.

Teaching Experience

Professor of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Macalester College	Current
Distinguished Scholar in Residence, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester MA	Fall 2018
Associate Professor of WGSS, Macalester College	2001-2006
Assistant Professor of WGS, Macalester College	1995-2001
Assistant Professor, English Department, Knox College	1994-1995
Visiting Assistant Professor, English Department, Lewis and Clark College	1993-1994
Teaching Fellow, English, UCLA	1991-1993
Teaching Associate, English, UCLA	1989-1991
Lecturer, Dept. of English, Loreto College, Calcutta, India	1988
Lecturer, Dept. of English, Rabindra Bharati University, Calcutta	1987-1988

Lecturer, English Language, Ramakrishna Mission Institute, India

1987

Courses Taught

Introductory

Introduction to WGSS: Transnational Perspectives on Gender, Race, Class, and Sexuality
India There and Here: 20th century Women Writers in India and the Diaspora

Intermediate

Introduction to Feminist/Queer Theories and Methodologies
Gendered, Feminist, Womanist Writings
Hegemonies/Resistances: Feminist Studies
Exile in Women's Literature and Film
20th C. Feminist Utopias, Masculinity, and Race
Gender, Fascism, Modernism
Feminist Reconstructions: Subaltern
Whiteness and Postcolonialisms

Advanced

Democracies, Feminisms, Capitalisms
Advanced Feminist/Queer Theories and Methodologies: Feminist Postcolonialisms and
Postmodernisms
Linking Theory and Practice (WGSS Senior Seminar)

Administrative Experience

Member and Chair, Educational Policy and Governance Committee, Macalester College	2010-2013
Chair of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Macalester College	2000-2006, 2008-2009
Member, WGSS Steering Committee, Macalester College	Current
Member, Advisory Committee, Center for Scholarship and Teaching Macalester College	Current
Member, Multiculturalism Advisory Board, Macalester College	Current
Member and Contributor, Critical Theory Concentration	Current
Co-ordinator for Postcolonial Studies Focus Group in the Humanities and Cultural Studies Program, Macalester College	Current
Member, Leadership Seminar	2004-2005
Member, Search Committee, Dean for the Study of Race and Ethnicity	2004-2005
Member, Asian Studies Steering Committee, Macalester College	2003-2005
Macalester Multiculturalism Steering Committee	Spring 2002
Hewlett Policy Studies and Community Based Research group	Spring 2002
Macalester Representative, ACM Committee on Women's Concerns	1997-2000
Philosophy Department Review Coordinator, Macalester College	Spring 2000
Phi Beta Kappa Selection Committee, Macalester College	Spring 2000
Classics Department Search Committee, Macalester College	1999-2000
Bush Grant on Race and Diversity Planning Committee	Fall 1997

Professional Memberships and Administrative Experience

Modernist Studies Association, Chair of International Relations (2004-2009)

Modern Language Association, Chair/Member of Division of Women's Studies (2002-2005)
National Women's Studies Association, Chair of International Task Force (1999-2004)
External Reviewer, Women's Studies (Pomona College, Beloit College, Lake Forest College,
Colorado College, Smith College, Kenyon College)
Affiliated Scholar, Center for Advanced Feminist Studies, University of Minnesota
International Virginia Woolf Society
International Gramsci Society
American Association of Italian Studies
Phi Beta Kappa

Community Memberships

Humanists of Minnesota Association
Zorongo Dance Theatre, member of the Board of Directors, 2008-2009
KFAI (Fresh Air) Radio 90.3 FM, St. Paul, member of the Board of Directors and
Community Advisory Board reporting officer, 2005-2007

Languages

Bengali: fluent in speaking, reading and writing
Hindi: fluent in speaking, reading and writing
French: fluent in speaking, reading, and writing
Italian: fairly fluent in speaking, reading, and writing
Spanish: fairly fluent in reading
Learning Portuguese