

*Sangeeta Ray*

*Curriculum Vitae*

*English Department  
University of Maryland  
College Park MD 20742  
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*8001 Travis Lane  
College Park MD 20740  
(301) 326-4573  
RAYS@UMD.EDU*

*Education:*

*Ph.D. in English, University of Washington, 1991.  
M.A. in English, Miami University, 1987.  
M.A. in English, University of Calcutta, 1983.  
B.A. in English, Lady Brabourne College (University of  
Calcutta), 1980.*

*Publications, Books:*

*Gayatri Spivak : An Introduction (Blackwell, forthcoming 2008) (the  
title of this book may be changed to reflect the less than introductory  
nature of the book)*

*More than an introduction, this book takes on the challenge of reading  
Gayatri Spivak's body of work in terms of her contributions to the analysis*

of literary texts, her contributions to a critically modulated transnational feminism and finally her more recent work on planetary ethics.

*En-Gendering India: Woman and Nation in Colonial and Post-Colonial Narratives.* Durham NC: Duke University Press, 2000. 198 pp.

#### **Publications, Book (Co-Edited):**

*A Companion to Postcolonial Studies.* Edited by Henry Schwarz and Sangeeta Ray. Oxford: Blackwell, 2000. 598 pp. Paperback edition, 2004.

#### **Books under contract or in progress:**

*An Ethics of Postcolonial Reading* (negotiating with Minnesota, Duke and Oxford UP)

In this book I take John Guillory's distinction between "lay" and "professional" reading as a point of departure to propose an ethics of reading postcoloniality. The book asserts the primacy of the self reflexive practice of reading as tied to the field of the ethical. The juxtaposition of ethics and "professional" reading is then deployed to undertake an investigation of the production of the postcolonial in the areas of feminist theory, south asian discourses of communalism and postcolonial environmental studies.

#### **Publications, Articles:**

“Postcolonialism in Question: Rage, Riots and Revivalism,” *Boundary 2* (Forthcoming; this is a solicited essay and the editorial board is in the process of reading it)

“Reading Alterity in Spivak,” *PMLA* ( Forum on Spivak, forthcoming 2008)

“Crash, Or How White Men Save the Day Again” *College English* 69.4 (2007)350-354

“Postscript: Postcolonial Futures” *A Companion to Postcolonial Studies* Blackwell UP, 2004 (paperback edition)

“Through the Looking Glass: Realism and Cosmopolitanism in Amitava Ghosh’s Novels, in *(In)fusion Approach: Theory, Contestation, and Limits. Horizonizing Indian English Novels 1980-2000* ed. Ranjan Ghosh, University Press of America, 2006

“A Non-Academic Meditation on Diasporic South Asian Writing by a Confirmed Diasporic Academic” *Seminar* June 2004 (online: [www.india-seminar.org](http://www.india-seminar.org)) 5000 words.

“Against Earnestness: The Place of Performance in Feminist Theory,” *Studies in Practical Philosophy* 3.1 (2003) 68-79.

“Ethical Encounters: Spivak, Alexander, and Kincaid,” *Cultural Studies* 17(2003) 42-55.

Essay Review of *Critique of Postcolonial Reason* by Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak, *Politics and Culture* 3 (2000) 9 pp [online].

"The Postcolonial Critic: Shifting Subjects, Changing Paradigms." In *Language and Liberation: Feminism, Philosophy, and Language* edited by Christina Hendricks and Kelly Oliver. New York: SUNY Press (1999) 207-40.

"The Nation in Performance: Bhabha, Mukherjee and Kureishi," *Hybridity and Postcolonialism: Twentieth Century Indian Literature*. ed. Monika Fludernik. Tübingen: Stauffenburg, 1998. 219-238. (Revised reprint of "Rethinking Migrancy.")

"Nationalism in Drag: The Woman Warrior in Bankimchandra's *Anandamath*." *Contributions to Bengal Studies*(1998) 435-51.

"Rethinking Migrancy: Nationalism, Ethnicity and Identity in *Jasmine and The Buddha of Suburbia*." *Reading the Shape of the World: Towards an International Cultural Studies* Eds. Henry Schwarz and Richard Dienst. Boulder: Westview Press, 1996. 183-201.

"Postcolonial Discourse: The Raw and the Cooked" (co-authored with Henry Schwarz). *Ariel: A Review of International English Literature* 25 (1995): 35-50.

Gender and the Discourse of Nationalism in Anita Desai's *Clear Light of Day*." *Genders* 26 (1994): 50-75.

"Crossing Thresholds: Imaginary Geographies in Agnes Sam." *South Asian Review* 15 (1994) 1-14.

"Memory, Identity, Patriarchy: Projecting a Past in the Memoirs of Ondaatje and Suleri." *Modern Fiction Studies* 39 (1993): 37-58.

"Shifting Subjects Shifting Ground: The Names and Spaces of the Post-Colonial." *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy* 7 (1992): 188-201.

"The Discourse of Silence: Narrative Interruption and Female Speech in Woolf's *Between the Acts*." *Works and Days: Essays in the Socio-Historical Dimensions of Literature and the Arts*. 15 (1990): 35-48.

#### Other Publications:

Entries on "Black Feminist Criticism (other than African American)"; "Colonialism"; "Colonization." *Encyclopedia of Feminist Literary Theory*, edited by Beth Kowaleski-Wallace. New York: Garland, 1997.

Review essay: [Three Collections by Women Writers from India] *The Inner Courtyard: Stories by Indian Women, Inner Spaces: New Writing by Women from Kerala and Incantations and Other Stories* by Anjana Appachana. *Committee on South Asian Women Bulletin* 9 (1993): 33-35.

Review of *Exotic Memories: Literature, Colonialism and the Fin de Siecle* by Chris Bonjie. *Studies in the Novel* 25 (1993): 105-07.

*Conference Presentations:*

*“Reading Postcoloniality, Reading Environmentality,”* MLA, Chicago, Dec. 2007 (this is the opening session to inaugurate the Postcolonial Division)

*“Realism and the Postcolonial Novel,”* MMLA, Cleveland, Nov. 2007 Plenary session)

*“Reading Alterity in Spivak,”* MLA, Philadelphia, Dec. 2006

*“Reading the Ethnic Imaginary,”* MLA, Philadelphia, Dec. 2006

*“Ethics and Civil Society,”* Chair and Respondent, CSA Conference, George Mason, April 2006

*“Terrorism in Question,”* Chair and Respondent. Cultural Studies Association Conference, Arizona April 2005

*“A Postcolonial Ethics of Reading” (Plenary Speaker),* South Asian Literary Association, Washington DC December 2005

*“Transnationalism and Ethnic Studies” (plenary panel),* Cultural Studies Assn, Boston, May 2004.

*“Postcolonialism in the Age of Globalization,”* MLA, San Diego, December 2003.

Respondent and Chair, "Postcolonial and East Asian Studies" Cultural Studies Assn, Pittsburgh, May 2003

"Jamaica Kincaid and Postcolonial Modernism," New Modernisms Conference, Madison WI, October 2002.

"Postcolonial Borders" MLA, New Orleans, December 2001.

"'Ethics' in Spivak's A Critique of Postcolonial Reason," MLA Conference, Washington D. C., December 2000

"From Work to Performance: Postcolonial Feminist Futures," SPEP Conference (Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Invited Participant), Penn State, October 2000.

Panelist for Roundtable Discussion on Satyajit Ray's *Charulata*, Virginia Woolf Conference, UMBC, June 2000.

"Trauma, Assimilation and Citizenship in Asian American and Chicano/a Texts," AASA Conference, Scottsdale, May 2000

"Body and Citizenship," ASA Conference, Montreal, October 1999.

"Dunkin Donuts, David Letterman, and South Asian Women Workers in America," ASA Conference, Seattle, November 1998.

"Feminism in Late Twentieth-Century India," ASA Conference, Washington D.C., November 1997.

"The Postcolonial in (Post)Ethnic America," MLA Conference, Toronto, December 1997.

"Gender and the Call to the Eth(n)ic: Narrating a Feminist Ethic of the Other," MLA Conference, Washington D.C., December 1996.

"Bankimchandra Chatterjee's Woman Warriors," Bengal Studies Conference, Georgetown University, May 1996.

"Between Fiction and History: Cultural Nationalism and Ethnic Identity in Writings from the Indian Diaspora," American Ethnological Society, Puerto Rico, April 1996.

"The Split Nation: Gender Trouble and Communalism in Tagore's *Home and the World*" Psychoanalysis and Postcolonialism, George Washington University, October 1995.

"Crossing the Threshold: Ethnicity and Postcoloniality in Writings by South Asian Women," MLA Conference, San Diego, 1994.

"Sexuality and the Dis-eased Body." MMLA Conference, Minnesota, November 1993.

"Imaginary Homelands: Redefining Nations in The Gunny Sack, Buddha of Suburbia, and Butterfly in the Wind." MLA Conference, New York, December 1992.

"Gender, Nationalism, and Third World Literature: A Reading of Anita Desai's Clear Light of Day." MMLA Conference, Division Sponsored by the Society for Critical Exchange, St. Louis, Missouri, November 1992.

"Race, Class, Gender: What Do These Coordinates Entail for Multiculturalism Today?" SAMLMA Conference, Forum for Teaching, Knoxville, Tennessee, November 1992.

"Memory, Identity, Patriarchy: Reconstructing Genealogies in Running in the Family and Meatless Days." Narrative: An International Conference, Nashville, Tennessee, April 1992

"The Articulation of Post-Colonial Social Selves: Identity and Place in the Texts of Bharati Mukherjee and Agnes Sam." International Conference on Narrative, Nice, June 1991.

"Indo-English Writers: The Politics of Resistance and Recuperation." MLA Conference, Washington D.C. December 1989.

"Harriet Martineau: Victorian Feminist and Orthodox Orientalist." Gender Studies Conference, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, April 1989.

"The Appropriation of Discursive Power: Shaw's Pygmalion and the Victorian Cinderella Plays." Philological Association of the Pacific Coast Conference, Portland State University, November 1988.

"The Discourse of Silence: Narrative Interruption and Female Speech in Woolf's Between the Acts." Discourses of Power Conference, Arizona State University, October 1988.

**Conference Panels Organized:**

"Ethics and Aesthetics," CSA Conference, Portland, April 2007

"Ethics and Civil Society," CSA Conference, George Mason, April 2006

"Terrorism in Question," Cultural Studies Association Conference, Arizona April 2005

"Public Feelings," CSA, Pittsburgh, May 2003

"Ethics and Postcoloniality/Postcolonialism," MLA, 2000

"Postcolonialism in the Age of Multiculturalism," MLA, 1997.

"Gender, Religion and the State," MMLA 1994.

"Taking Shape: The Institutionalization of a Minority  
Literary Canon," MLA, 1992.

**Association Division Officer:**

Chair, Asian Literature Section, Philological Association of the Pacific Coast, 1988-1989

President, Postcolonial Discussion Group, MLA 1997

*Secretary, Postcolonial Discussion group, MLA 1998-2000*

*President, Postcolonial Discussion Group, MLA 2000*

*MLA Delegate: Division of English Literatures Other Than British and  
American, 2000-05*

*Co-Founder: Cultural Studies Association, 2003- Vice*

*President, Cultural Studies Association, 2003-2006*

*President, Cultural Studies Association, 2007--*

***Invited Lectures:***

*“Reading Ethics, Reading the Environment in Postcolonial Fiction,”  
UCLA, April 2007*

*“Reading Ethics, Reading the Environment in Postcolonial Fiction,”  
University of Oregon, April 2007*

*“South Asian Feminism in a Transnational Context,” University of  
Nebraska, February 2007*

*“Reading the Environment in Amitava Ghosh’s Hungry Tide,” Cornell  
University, April 2006*

*Rethinking Postcolonial Feminism,” Women’s Studies Conference  
(Plenary Speaker), University of Maryland, May 2006*

*“The Status of Postcolonial Studies Today,” University of Pittsburgh,  
October 2005*

*"Postcolonialism in Question: Rage, Riots and Revivalism," South Asia Studies Center, University of Hawaii, January 2005*

*"Travelling Home(s): An Ethics of Be-longing in Anglophone South Asian Narratives," Society of Oriental and African Studies, London, June 2004.*

*"Reading Ethics in Minority Discourse," (Presidential forum) USACLALS Conference, Santa Clara, April 2002*

*"The Status of Third World Feminism in the Age of Globalization," Globalization and Democratic Futures Conference, University of Maryland, April 2002 (Plenary Session)*

*"Staging the "I": Feminism, Cosmopolitanism and Ethics," (Plenary Speaker) Globalization and Feminism Conference, SUNY, March 2002*

*"Belated Modernity: Women and Political reflection in the Films of Satyajit Ray," (Plenary Speaker) Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah Georgia, February 2001*

*"Postcolonial Literature: The South Asian Experience," South Asian Literary Festival, Crystal City Virginia, November 2000.*

*"The Status of Postcolonial Studies Today," University of Miami, February 2000.*

*"Mining the Gaps: Exploring the Fissures of Asian American Identity," University of Connecticut, Storrs, April 1999.*

*"Contesting Thresholds: Postcolonial Feminism in the New Millenium,"*  
SUNY Stony Brook, March 1999.

*"Postcolonial Theory in the New Millenium,"* Old Dominion University,  
November 1998.

*"Beyond Postcolonial Theory? The Contested Terrain,"* CCLS, Harvard  
University, November 1998

*"Postcolonial Theory and Pedagogy,"* University of Delaware, March  
1998.

*"Minority Discourse and South Asian Feminism,"* University of  
Delaware, November 1997.

*"Migrancy, Nationalism, and Hybridity in Texts of the Indian  
Diaspora,"* Jadavpur University, West Bengal, January 1997.

*"Nationalism(s): Definitions, Explanations, Alternatives,"* Society for  
Critical Exchange, Case Western University, Cleveland Ohio, March  
1994.

*"Postcolonial Thought after the Fall of the Berlin Wall,"*  
Georgetown University, Washington D.C., April 1994.

*"Postcolonial Theory and Its Intersections with Marxism and  
Feminism." Faculty Development Project, Coppin State College,  
Baltimore Maryland, March 1994*

"Postcolonial Feminist Theory," Polyseminar on "Crossing Boundaries: Women and Gender in the Era of Global Change," Women's Studies Department, University of Maryland, March 1994.

"Curious (?) Silences: The Absence of Any Discourse on Sati in Martineau's British Rule in India." Women in Literature Discipline Group, University of Maryland, Feb. 1992

"Questions of the 'Other' for a Post-Colonial Feminist Critic." Lilly Teaching Fellows, University of Maryland, April 1991

"The Intersections of Nationalism and Feminism in Tagore's Home and the World." Women's Studies Program, University of Florida, April 1990

#### **Radio and Television Interviews:**

"Reading Arundhati Roy's The God of Small Things"; *The Diane Rehm Show*, National Public Radio, October 1999.

"Political and Feminist Thought in Sri Lanka and India," The Global Village (series), University of Maryland Flagship Television Channel, November 1996.

#### **Employment:**

Associate Professor, English Dept., University of Maryland, 1997-

*Co-Director, American Cultures, College Park Scholars Program, 2003-04.*

*Director, American Cultures, College Park Scholars Program, 2004-.*

*Chair, Theory Certificate Program, University of Maryland, 2001-04*

*Chair, Asian American Studies Program, University of Maryland, 1998-2000*

*Coordinator, Asian American Studies Project, University of Maryland, 1997-98*

*Assistant Professor, English Dept., University of Maryland, 1990-1997*

*Teaching Workshops: I have conducted a number of workshops and given many lectures on multicultural pedagogy for the CAST program at the University of Maryland at various high schools in Maryland.*

***Courses Taught:***

*Undergraduate: African Literature; Critical Theory; Indian, African, and Caribbean Literature; Literature by Women of Color; Global Literature and Film, Victorian Fiction; Feminist Theory; Introduction to Asian American Studies; Introduction to the Novel; Introduction to Literature; Linguistics; Freshman Composition.*

*Graduate: "Ethics and Postcolonial Literature"; "The Institutionalization of Post-Colonial Literature;" "Race, Gender, and Empire in British Fiction;" Introduction to Critical Theory; Feminist Theory; Post-Colonial Theory and South Asian Fiction; Post-Coloniality and Ethnicity, Cosmopolitanism and Ethics.*

*Instructor, Graduate Student Independent Study projects:  
The Politics of Postcolonial Studies.*

**Director, Ph.D Dissertation:**

*Brown (African Literature)*

*Parikh (Asian American Literature)*

*Deloughrey (Caribbean and Maori Women's Writing)*

*Shemak (Caribbean Literature)*

*Saksena (Postcolonial Literature)*

*Bushnell (Music and Postcolonial Literature)*

*Moscaliuc (American Immigrant Literature)*

*Comorau (Postcolonial Literature)*

*Philips (Postcolonial Literature)*

*McGovern (Irish literature)*

**Member, Ph.D Committees:**

*Carr (African American and Caribbean Literature).*

*Peterson (Victorian Novel).*

*Grayhill (The Grotesque)*

*Bell (Comparative Lit., Literature of the Americas)*

*Li (Comparative Literature; International Realism)*

*Hill (Victorian Literature)*

Wichard (*Rhetoric and Composition*)  
 Kariafolis (*American Literature*)  
 McCormick (*Poetry by Women of Color*)  
 Lovelace (*American Literature*)  
 Garafolo (*Romanticism and Empire*)  
 Lazo (*19th C American Literature*)  
 K. Brown (*African American Literature*)  
 Doggett (*Irish Literature*)  
 Pearson (*Joyce and Nationalism*)  
 Hasagawa (*Asian American Literature*)  
 Chung (*Asian American Literature*)  
 Wanko (*African American Literature*)  
 Brown (*American Literature*)  
 James (*African American Literature*)  
 Moscaliuc (*American Literature*)  
 Berlatsky (*Postmodern Literature*)  
 Gibbons (*Comparative Literature*)  
 Fishman (*American Studies*)  
 Eudaily (*Government and Politics, Dean's Representative*)  
 Dix (*Comparative Literature*)  
 Brown (*African literature*)  
 Smiles (*African American Literature*)  
 Phillips (*Romanticism*)  
 Chandrani Biswaa (*Jadavpur University, India*)  
 Dokko (*Asian American Studies*)  
 McGovern (*Irish Literature*)

Director M.A. Thesis:

Vandenhuele (*Postcolonial Literature*)  
 Shah (*Postcolonial Literature*)  
 Mack (*Postcolonial Literature*)  
 Jackson (*African American Literature*)  
 Shemak (*Postcolonial Literature*)  
 Dokko (*Asian American Art*)  
 Berioz (*Postcolonial Literature*)

**Member, M.A. Thesis:**

Pilaro, (*Cultural Studies*)  
 Meringolo (*African American Literature*)  
 Lazo (*Seventeenth Century British Poetry*)  
 Vandenhavel (*American Literature*)  
 Bushnell (*Postcolonial Literature*)  
 Phillips (*Romantic Literature*)\_

**Director, Undergraduate Honors Thesis:**

Probir Chakravorty, "Representations of Women in Tagore's  
 Fiction."  
 Amit Sen, "The Influence of the Mahabharata and the Character of  
 Draupadi in Contemporary Indian Fiction."  
 Christine Bailey: "The Politics of Rape in Contemporary Women's  
 Texts."  
 Jody Polleck, "Women of Color and Literary Activism."  
 Jasmine Sawhney, "The Politics of Language in Rushdie's Fiction"  
 Sarah Johnson, "V. S. Naipaul's Travel Writings"

**Member, Undergraduate Honors Thesis:**

Lisa Furst, "Childbirth Metaphors in Sylvia Plath's Poetry."  
 Harleen Davis, on Anita Desai [Sweet Briar College]  
 Heather Gilligan: "A Room of One's Own, Feminist Theory, and  
 Critiques by Women of Color."

#### **Grants:**

General Research Board Semester Grant, University of Maryland, Fall  
 2002

Curriculum Transformation Grant, University of Maryland, Summer  
 1996

NEH Summer Grant for participation in a two week seminar on  
 "Desire and the Marketplace," Brown University, June/July 1994

Lily Teaching Fellowship, University of Maryland, College Park  
 1994-1995

Recipient, General Research Board Summer Grant.  
 University of Maryland, College Park, 1991, 1998

#### **Academic Honors:**

Woman of Color of the Year, University of Maryland, 1997-98

Watumull Foundation Award for Academic Achievement by an East  
 Indian Student, October 1988.

*Robertson Scholarship, English Department, University of Washington, for Academic Achievement, 1987-88.*

*Carolyn Hutchens Sinclair Award for Outstanding First Year Master's Student, Miami University, 1985-86.*

*Phi Theta Kappa 1987.*

**Teaching Honors:**

*Recipient, award for teaching excellence, University of Maryland, 1992.*

**Research and Teaching Interests:**

*Post-Colonial Literature  
Victorian Literature  
Feminist Studies  
Critical Theory*

*Commonwealth Literature  
Contemporary Women  
Writers  
U.S. Ethnic Literature*

**Professional Memberships:**

*Modern Language Association  
Society for Critical Exchange*

*Cultural Studies Assn*

**Service:**

**Department Committees:**

*Coordinating Committee  
Salary Committee*

*Undergraduate Curriculum*

*Personnel Committee*

*Graduate Committee*

*PhD Screening Committee*

*Hiring Committees (Victorian; U.S Ethnic, American, African American, Victorian)*

*Comparative Literature Committee*

***University Committees:***

*President's Commission on Ethnic and Minority Affairs*

*Asian American Studies Task Force*

*Core Curriculum Diversity Committee*

*University Honors and Prizes Committee*

*OMSE, Board of Advisors*

*Diversity Web Site Committee*

*Graduate Committee (Comparative Literature)*

*Steering Committee (Women's Studies)*

*Asian American Studies Project*

*Chair Review Committee (English Department)*

*Graduate Council*

*University Senate*

***University Service:***

*Lecture on Asian American History to School of Journalism (1995)*

*Lecture to Indian Student Union (1995)*

***Professional Service:***

***Executive Member: Postcolonial Discussion Group, 1997-2000***

*MLA Delegate: Division of English Literature other than  
British and American, 2001-2005*  
*Vice President: Cultural Studies Association-2003--*

*Editorial Consultant: Feminist Studies*

*Referee (Journals): PMLA, Mosaic, Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature,  
Genders, NWSA Journal, Signs, LIT: Literature, Interpretation, Theory,  
Cultural Critique, Cultural Studies, Interventions.*

*Reader (Book Manuscripts): University of California Press, Duke  
University Press, Harvard University Press, Ohio University Press,  
University of Minnesota Press, Routledge, New York University Press,  
SUNY Press, Verso*

*Outside Evaluator: Assistant Professor Third Year Review,  
University of Utah.*

*Promotion and Tenure, Rutgers University*

*Promotion and Tenure, University of South Carolina*

*Promotion and Tenure, Indiana University*

*Promotion and Tenure, University of Missouri, Columbia*

*Promotion and Tenure, Tulane University*

*Promotion to Full Professor, UCLA*

*Promotion and Tenure: Rutgers University*

*Promotion and Tenure: Indiana University*

*Promotion and Tenure: Illinois State University*

*Promotion and Tenure: Duke University*

*Promotion and Tenure: Columbia University*

*Promotion and Tenure: University of Michigan*

*Promotion and Tenure: George Washington University*

*Promotion and Tenure: University of Iowa*

***Community Service:***

*Active Member of Coalition for Communal Harmony*

*Press Briefing on Lahiri's *Interpreter of Maladies* at D.C. Public Libraries for its annually selected literary work*