

## Gautami Shah

Department of Asian Studies

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### Education

**M.S.** Anthropology; Purdue University, IN.

1988

**Field work** Field work among the Munda people - an indigenous population of India; Ranchi  
1985 – 1986 and neighbouring villages, Bihar, India;  
(research advisor: Dr. Ram Dayal Munda, Linguist and Chair of the Department of Tribal and Regional Languages, Ranchi University).

**B.A.** Psychology, St. Xavier's College;

1985 University of Bombay, India.

*Non-Academic:* Bharatnatyam Indian classical dance.

### Interests

Language pedagogy (Hindi); contemporary South Asian literature with a focus on communal conflicts, gender issues, caste, religion and immigrant experiences; popular culture with a focus on Bollywood; curriculum development; innovative use of technology in language teaching; program development; less commonly taught languages

### Teaching Positions

Established and expanded Hindi programs at Rice University (new program, 2001), Yale University (new program, 1999) and Duke University (1991).

2011 – Senior Lecturer, University of Texas, Austin, TX.

Spring 2011 Research Fellow, University of Texas, Austin, TX.

Fall 2010 Visiting Senior Lecturer, Technische Universität Dortmund, Germany.

2003 – 2010 Senior Lecturer, Rice University, Houston, TX.

2001 – 2003 Lecturer, Rice University, Houston, TX.  
Responsible for starting and establishing a new program.

2000 – 2001 Senior Lecturer, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

1999 – 2000 Hindi Lecturer, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

Spring 1999 Hindi Lecturer, Yale University, New Haven, CT.  
Responsible for starting and establishing a new program.

1991 – 1998 Hindi Instructor, Asian and African Languages and Literature,  
Duke University, Durham, NC.

1990 – 1991 Substitute Teacher, Montessori School, West Lafayette, IN.

1986 – 1988 Teaching Assistant, Department of Anthropology, Purdue University, IN.

## Visits

March 2013 Department for Culture Studies and Oriental Languages, University of Oslo, Norway.

## Distinctions, Evaluations and Special Lectures

Morgenstjerne lecture, "Bollywood: A Shaker, Maker or Breaker of Society?", University of Oslo, Norway (March 2013).

Featured speaker, Gambrinus Forum, "Contemporary India, Traditions, Myths, Realities and Challenges", Technische Universität Dortmund, Germany (October 2010).

External review by Professor V. Gambhir, Univ. of Pennsylvania (Spring 2000).

Rated among the top 10 courses at Yale University by the Yale Course Critique ("best scores overall", "fascinating material").

Fellow, Silliman College, Yale University.

Nominated for the Duke University Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award.

## Courses Developed and Taught

Elementary Hindi *First semester:* Developed texts specifically for this course. Supplemented with extensive use of audio-visual material. Initiated use of an interactive computer package to enhance learning of the Devanagari script and sounds.

*Second semester:* Use of graded texts, songs, and film clips from parent culture. Extensive use of computing resources.

*Conversation:* Initiated and organized weekly small group conversation sections to supplement course. Supervised and directed proficiency teaching assistant.

Intermediate Hindi *First semester:* Integrated use of graded texts and Hindi films focusing on socio-cultural aspects of parent culture, with a view towards generating socially relevant and meaningful discussions in the target language.

*Second semester:* Use of graded textual and film material relevant to contemporary global issues aimed at fostering meaningful discussions and literary expressions about the same. Introduced selected Hindi literature.

Advanced Hindi Reading and discussion of Hindi literature by Premchand, Manto, Chughtai, Rakesh, and others. Screening and discussion of films relevant to literature.

Flagship Hindi IV Fourth semester course for the Hindi-Urdu Flagship Program. Hindi literature and poetry with thematically related films and other media, focusing on religion, caste, communal conflicts, the partition, gender issues, and the immigrant experience.

Practice in Spoken Hindi Conversational Hindi course for students taking 3rd semester Hindi or equivalent. Discussion of contemporary global issues with thematically related films, literature and news reports

Culture & Literature     *South Asian Poetry, Literature and Popular Culture*: historical trace of South Asian poetry, literature and popular culture (taught in Hindi).

*South Asian Literature in Translation*: (Independent Study). Focus varied each semester: comparative regional literature; religion, caste, communal conflicts; gender issues and South Asian women authors; immigrant literature.

*South Asian Drama*: (Independent Study). Student reading and production of South Asian Drama (in Hindi).

*Poetry, Literature and Popular Culture from India: Indian English or Lost in Translation*: Comparative regional literature and poetry with thematically related films and other media, focusing on religion, caste, communal conflicts, the partition, gender issues, and the immigrant experience.

### **Conferences and Workshops**

- 2013: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) 16th Annual Conference. "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly of Expanding Opportunities for LCTL Learning at All Levels of Instruction", April 2013, Chicago, IL.
- 2013: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) 16th Annual Conference, Delegate Assembly Meeting, Past President, April 2013, Chicago, IL.
- 2013: SALTA (South Asian Language Teachers Association) 4th SALTA Mini-Conference, President and Conference Organizer, April 2013, Chicago, IL.
- 2012: ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) 2012 Conference, November 2012, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2012: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) 15th Annual Conference, "A panel on the Flagship Programs", invited panelist on a plenary session, April 2012, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2012: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) 15th Annual Conference, "The non-standard nature of assessment", invited panelist, April 2012, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2012: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) 15th Annual Conference, "Reinforcing the 5Cs through Storytelling", invited panelist, April 2012, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2012: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) 15th Annual Conference. Delegate Assembly Meeting, Past President and Scientific Committee, April 2012, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2012: SALTA (South Asian Language Teachers Association) 3rd SALTA Mini-Conference, President and Conference Organizer, April 2012, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2011: ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) 2011 Conference, "Reinforcing the 5Cs through Storytelling: Collaborative Language Teaching and Learning", invited panelist, November 2011, Denver, CO.

- 2011: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) 14th Annual Conference. Delegate Assembly Member, Past President and Scientific Committee, April 2011, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2011: SALTA (South Asian Language Teachers Association) 2nd SALTA Mini-Conference, President and Conference Organizer, April 2011, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2010: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Thirteenth Annual Conference, “Four Critical LCTL Fields: Infrastructure Building and Development”, invited panelist. Delegate Assembly Member, Immediate Past President and Conference Organizer, April 2010, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2010: SALTA (South Asian Language Teachers Association) 1st SALTA Mini-Conference, “Challenges and Effective Strategies in South Asian Language Pedagogy”, President and Conference Organizer, April 2010, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2009: ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) 2009 Conference, “Field and Fluctuations in the LCTLs: Lessons for the Future”, invited panelist, November 2009, San Diego, CA.
- 2009: “LCTL Pedagogy/Assessment workshop” invited participant, New York University, September 2009, New York, NY.
- 2009: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Twelfth Annual Conference, Delegate Assembly Member, Immediate Past President and Conference Organizer, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2008: CALICO/IALLT (Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium/International Association of Language Learning Technology), “A Technologically Enhanced Approach for Teaching Languages through Songs,” contributed talk, San Francisco, CA.
- 2008: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Eleventh Annual Conference, President, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2008: ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) 2008 Conference, Orlando, FL.
- 2007: Rice Language Resource Center Technology Luncheon, “Building a Community: The Use of BLOGS in Hindi,” Rice University, Houston, TX.
- 2007: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Tenth Annual Conference, President, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2007: ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) 2007 Conference, “Recent developments in technology for the LCTLs - Pedagogical & curricular models”, Session chair, November 2007, San Antonio, TX.
- 2007: “Strategies to Raise Hindi Proficiency Levels in Undergraduate Programs ” invited participant, Hindi Urdu LEARN workshop, Hindi Urdu Flagship, University of Texas, November 2007, Austin, TX.
- 2007: SOCALLT (South Central Association of Language Learning Technology) 2007 Conference, “Technologically Enhanced Approach to Teaching Languages through Songs” contributed talk (joint with Meng Yeh, Rice University), Cypress, TX.

- 2006: ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) 2006 Conference,  
(1). “Creative Ways of Teaching and Learning Languages through Songs,” contributed talk  
(joint with Thuy-Kim Le, Arizona State University and Meng Yeh, Rice University).  
(2). “Online Tools to Assess Pronunciation and Speaking,” contributed talk (joint with Claire  
Bartlett, Jose Narbona, Chao Mei Shen and Hiroko Sato, Rice University), Nashville, TN.
- 2006: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Ninth Annual Confer-  
ence, “Expanding the LCTL Capacities in the United States: The Web,” contributed talk,  
University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2006: Hindi Sangoshthii: Hindi teaching workshop, “ Integrating Songs and Grammar in the First  
Year Hindi Syllabus,” invited speaker, University of Texas, Austin, TX.
- 2005: ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) 2005 Conference, “Hindi  
through Songs,” poster, Baltimore, MD.
- 2005: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Eight Annual Confer-  
ence, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2004: ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) 2004 Conference, “What  
Makes the Teaching and Learning of LCTLs Different (and what to do about it),” invited  
panel speaker, Chicago, IL.
- 2004: NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Seventh Annual Confer-  
ence, “Diversifying the LCTL Student Population: Views from the Other Side,” contributed  
talk, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2003: South Asian Language Analysis Roundtable XXIII (SALA), University of Texas, Austin, TX.
- 2003: NCOLCTL (National Council of Organizations of Less Commonly Taught Languages), Sixth  
Annual National Conference, “Learner Oriented Curriculum: Structure and Result,” con-  
tributed talk, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2003: Hindi-Urdu Workshop, invited participant, University of Texas, Austin, TX.
- 2002: NCOLCTL (National Council of Organizations of Less Commonly Taught Languages), Fifth  
Annual National Conference, Arlington, CA.
- 2001: NCOLCTL (National Council of Organizations of Less Commonly Taught Languages), Fourth  
Annual Conference, “Rethinking the LCTL Curriculum: Positioning LCTLs in the Under-  
graduate Intellectual Experience,” contributed talk, Washington, DC.
- 2000: 29th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI.
- 2000: Annual South Asian Language Teacher’s Association meeting, Madison, WI.
- 2000: NCOLCTL, Third Annual Conference, Washington, DC.
- 1998: SALA XIX (South Asian Languages Analysis) Roundtable, York, U.K.
- 1997: NCOLCTL Conference on Less Commonly Taught Languages, invited discussion leader,  
University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 1996: LCTL (Less Commonly Taught Languages) summit meeting, University of Minnesota, Min-  
neapolis, MN.

## **Professional Development Workshops Attended**

- 2011: "Teaching Reading: Interpersonal and Interpretive Modes", workshop by June K. Phillips, New York University, New York, NY.
- 2010: "The Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Familiarization Workshop", by Maureen Weissenrieder, 2010 ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Conference, Boston, MA.
- 2010: "Action Research: What, Why and How?", workshop by Bob Fischer, Center for the Study for Languages (CSL) Faculty Development Workshop, Rice University, Houston, TX.
- 2010: "Unpacking the Standards with Backward Design: Performance, Assessment and Transfer", workshop by Jennifer Eddy, 13th NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2009: "Assessing your Students for Language Development" workshop by Paul Sandrock, 2009 ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Conference, San Diego, CA.
- 2009: "Assessment: Resources, Practical Consideration and Impact" workshop by Maria Carreira, Ahmed Ferhadi, Dan Davidson, Herman Van Olphen and Krystal Sundstrom, New York University, New York, NY.
- 2009: "Task-based Language Teaching and Performance Assessment", workshop by Hong Gang Jin, 12th NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2008: "Lessons Learned in the World of Conducting and Publishing Research: Ten Little Questions and their Important Answers", workshop by Audrey Heining-Boynton and Ray Clifford, 11th annual NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2007: "The Role of Standards in LCTLs", workshop by Christine L. Brown, 10th annual NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2006: "Assessment in Less-Commonly Taught Languages", workshop by Margaret Malone, 9th. annual NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2006: "Hindi Sangoshthii" workshop on methodology and assessment in Hindi pedagogy, chaired by Herman Van Olphen, University of Texas, Austin, TX.
- 2005: "Establishing a Realistic and Effective LCT Language Program for Higher Education", workshop by Masakazu Watabe, 8th annual NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.
- 2004: "Multiple Approaches to Language Assessment", workshop by Andrew Cohen, 7th annual NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages) Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI. XXIII (SALA, Association) Organizing Meeting,
- 2003: Hindi-Urdu Workshop on methodology, University of Texas, Austin, TX.

## **University Service and Activities**

### *University Governance:*

- 2009: Faculty Senate task force on teaching evaluations, Rice University.
- 2006–2010: Chair, Faculty Senate task force on policies for non tenure-track faculty, Rice University.
- 2005 – 2010: Faculty Senate, Rice University.
- 2005 – 2010: Executive Committee, Faculty Senate, Rice University.
- 2005: By-laws Committee, Faculty Senate, Rice University.
- 2005 – 2010: Faculty Senate task force on policies for non tenure-track faculty, Rice University.

### *Faculty-Student Interaction:*

- 2004 – 2010: Faculty advisor, 5H Club, Rice University.
- 2004 – 2010: Faculty advisor, Indian Students at Rice, Rice University.
- 2001 – 2010: Faculty advisor, South Asian Students' Association, Rice University.
- 1999 – 2001: Weekly Hindi table at Silliman College, Yale University.
- 1993 – 1998: Faculty in residence in a theme dorm at Duke University.
- 1997 – 1998: Faculty Associate (program fostering faculty-student interaction at Duke).
- 1994 – 1998: Faculty advisor of “Diya” (South Asian American student organization) and “McKids” (student group, Ronald McDonald house).

### *Other University Service:*

- 2001: Less Commonly Taught Languages' Fair, Yale University.
- 2000 – 2001: Freshman advisor, Silliman College, Yale University.
- 1999 – 2001: South Asian Studies Committee, YCIAS, Yale University.
- 1996 – 1998: Pre-major advisor.
- 1996 – 1997: Center for International Studies, Duke University, advisory committee.
- 1995 – 1998: Collaboration with the Humanities Computing Facility (Hindi).

## **Service within Department and Discipline**

- 2013: JNCL-NCLIS (Joint National Committee for Languages National Council for Languages and International Studies) Legislative Day and Delegate Assembly Meeting, Washington, DC, May 2013, visits with Senators and House Representatives from Texas.
- 2012: STARTALK NFLC (National Foreign Language Center), site visitor (1 site visits)
- 2011 – current: President, SALTA (South Asian Language Teachers Association)
- 2011: STARTALK NFLC (National Foreign Language Center), site visitor (2 site visits)
- 2011: Scientific committee for NCOLCTL 2012 meeting
- 2010: Scientific committee for NCOLCTL 2011 meeting
- 2009 – 2011: President, SALTA (South Asian Language Teachers Association).

2009: Scientific committee for NCOLCTL 2010 meeting

2006 – 2008: President, NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages).

2008: Scientific committee for NCOLCTL 2009 meeting

2007: Steiner Award Committee, ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

2007: Reviewer, ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) 2007 Conference Proposals.

2007: Scientific committee for NCOLCTL 2008 meeting

2006 – current : National task force on “National Standards for Teaching Hindi”.

2006: Scientific committee for NCOLCTL 2007 meeting

2004 – 2006: Vice–President (President Elect), NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages).

2006: Steering Committee, SALTA (South Asian Language Teachers’ Association)

2005: Scientific committee for NCOLCTL 2006 meeting

2004 – 2006: Editor, NCOLCTL Bulletin.

2004: Scientific committee for NCOLCTL 2005 meeting

2004: Hindi *Samaroh*; Organized and coordinated annual Hindi Festival.

2003: SALTA (South Asian Language Teachers Association) Organizing Meeting (joint with SALA XXIII), Austin, TX.

2003: Hindi *Samaroh*; Organized and coordinated annual Hindi Festival.

2003: Chair, International Film Festival, Center for the Study of Languages, Rice University.

2003: Scientific committee for NCOLCTL 2004 meeting

2002 – current : Member of the Executive Board of the National Council of Organizations of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL).

2002: Scientific committee for NCOLCTL 2003 meeting

2002: Chair, International Film Festival, Center for the Study of Languages, Rice University.

1999: Founding Lecturer of Hindi program at Yale University.

1994 – 1998: Built the first and second year Hindi program at Duke to triple enrollment.

1996 – 1997: Departmental seminar coordinator.

1996 – 1998: Hindi *Samaroh*; Organized and coordinated annual Hindi Festival.

1995 – 1998: Hindi Film series; Initiated and coordinated biweekly screening of Hindi films.

1995 – 1997: Language pedagogy committee.

## Grants

*e-Hindi and e-Urdu: Popular Songs and Related Materials for Web-intensive Hindi and Urdu*, Faculty Initiatives Fund, Rice University, PI, in collaboration with S. Hassan (University of Texas), S.A. Hyder (University of Texas), S. Khurana (Yale University) and M. Natavar (Princeton University), submitted October 2006. Not funded.



*Teaching LCTLs through Songs*, LCTL Material Development Minigrant, Center for Advanced Research for Language Acquisition (CARLA), PI, in collaboration with M. Yeh (Rice University) and T.K.P Le (University of Arizona), awarded 2006.

## **Projects**

*Teachers' Stories*: Web-based materials introducing meaningful narratives at the first-year level, project leader.

*Hindi in America*: developing video clips for the first and second year level, collaborator (project leader, Rupert Snell).

*e-Hindi for Elementary Hindi*: Materials for web-intensive first-year Hindi including a web-based Hindi grammar reader, project leader.

*Hindi through Songs*: Web-based materials using songs to supplement the teaching of Hindi, project leader.

## **Membership in Professional Organizations**

SALTA (South Asian Language Teachers Association), president 2009-2013, executive director 2013-current.

NCOLCTL (National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages), president 2006 – 2008, delegate assembly member, current.

ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages), delegate assembly member, 2004-2009.

IALLT, International Association of Language Learning Technology.

CALICO, Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium.