

Namita Vijay Dharia

Academic Appointments

- 2016- Present Department of History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences. **Rhode Island School of Design**, Providence, RI. Assistant Professor of Political Economy
- 2015—2016 Department of Anthropology, **Harvard University**. Cambridge, MA. Lecturer
- 2007 Rachna Sansad, **Academy of Architecture, Art and Applied Art**, Mumbai, India. Lecturer

Education

- Ph.D. 2015 **Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA
Department of Anthropology
Dissertation: Scaffolding Sentiment: Money, Labor, and Love in India's Real Estate and Construction Industry.
- AM 2010 **Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA.
Department of Anthropology
- M.ARCH 2008 **Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY
College of Architecture, Art, and Planning
- B.ARCH 2003 **Sir J. J. College of Architecture**, Mumbai

Research Interests: Political Economy and Ecology; Ruro-Urban Planning and Development; Anthropology of Labor, Industries, and Work; Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship; Aesthetics and Materiality Studies; South Asia

Publications

Peer Reviewed Articles

2014. The Artifacts and Artifices of the Global: Practices of US Architects in India's National Capital Region. *The Global South: The Global South and/in The Global North*.

General Publications

2015. The Season of Migration to the City. In *The City and South Asia*. Harvard University Press

Work in Progress

Book Manuscript

(In Process) Iron Cage Dreams: Creative Destruction and the Growth of India's Real Estate and Construction Industry.

Articles

(In Process) The Political Economy of Love: Construction Work and Domesticity in India.

(In Process) The Mirages of Exception: Planning, Urban Informality, and a Theory of Connective Urbanism.

External Fellowships and Awards

- 2016 Finalist, Sardar Patel Award for best dissertation on modern India 2015
- 2015 Postdoctoral Fellowship in Asian Urbanism, Hamilton College (Declined)
- 2014 Cora Du Bois Fellowship
- 2012 Wenner Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Fellowship
- 2010-11 Foundation of Urban and Regional Studies Studentship (funded by the International Journal of Urban and Regional Research)
- 2004 Partners for Urban Knowledge, Action, and Research (PUKAR) Research Fellowship

Academic Awards and Grants

- 2014 Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Studies Graduate Fellowship
2014, 2010 South Asia Institute Summer Travel Award
2011 South Asia Institute Graduate Student Fellow
2009 Harvard India Fellowship.
2008 Harvard University Graduate Fellowship
2005 Cornell University Helen Fagan Tyler Graduate Fellowship

Invited Talks and Invited Seminar/ Colloquia Presentations

- 2016 Franz Boas Lecture in Anthropology, Columbia University
2016 South Asian Studies Workshop, Cornell University
2016 Yale-NUS College, Department of Urban Studies
2016 School of History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences, Rhode Island School of Design
2015 Hamilton College. Department of Asian Studies

Conference Presentations

- 2016 *The Artifacts and Artifices of the Global in the Practices of US Architects in India's National Capital Region.* Conference on *Sociology of Indian Elites.* Jawaharlal University.
- 2015 *Sick Cities: Illness, humors, and the medicalization of urban development politics in India's National Capital Region.* Panel on *The Work of Healing: Situated Practices, Ideological Discourse* at the American Anthropological Association Meeting in Denver.
- 2015 *Black Money, Mysticism, and the Rituals of Finance in India's Real Estate and Construction Industry.* Panel on *In God We Trust: Rituals of money and the changing political economies of India across centuries* at the Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison
- 2015 *The Roads in and Out of Urbanism: Road Technologies and a Transforming Gurgaon.* Princeton South Asia Conference. Princeton University.
- 2014 *The Roads in and Out of Urbanism.* Panel on *Ex-City Urbanism: Producing New Urban Ethnographies* at the American Anthropological Association Meeting in Washington. D.C.
- 2014 *Machines, Men, and the Politics of Speed in India's Construction Industry.* Panel on *Building South Asia* (organizer) at the Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison
- 2013 *Uneasy Lies the Expert on a New Ground: the politics of foreign architects building in India.* Panel on *Space and Insurgency* at the Harvard Political Anthropology Working Group Conference in Cambridge.
- 2013 *Constructing Homes, Selves, and an Emerging India.* Panel on *Home and the World* (co-organized with Krupa Shandilya) at the Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison.
- 2011 *What Lies Between: bridging the gap between the skyscraper and slum.* Panel on *Roti, Kapda, Aur Makaan: the political economy of housing* (co-organized with Sai Balakrishnan) at the Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison.
- 2010 *At Home on the Road: rethinking domestic space through the mobility and work of migrant laborers in India.* Panel on *Domesticated and Domesticating Urban Space* (co-organized with Robin Smith) at the American Anthropological Association Meeting in New Orleans.
- 2009 *Re-cognizing and Re-inhabiting Professional Praxis: A Conversation on Anthropology, Architecture, and Medicine.* (With Jose Vicente Macario Cosigua and Shom Dasgupta) In *The Fecundity of Recognition: The Self/Other in Politics, Sociality, Ethics, and Critique* Graduate Student Conference at the University of Toronto.

Language Skills

Hindi (Native)
Marathi (Native)
English (Native)
Bengali (Elementary)

Technical Skills

Adobe Illustrator, InDesign,
ArcGIS

Fieldwork Experience

2012-13 *New Delhi, India.* Fifteen months of dissertation fieldwork on building construction industry. Interviews and observations with individuals on construction sites, interviews and site visits with planners, architects, engineers, bankers, and contractors

2012 *Kumbh Mela, Allahabad, India.* Eight research trips over the course of a year to study the construction of the temporary festival city of Kumbh. Interviews with bureaucrats, festival organizers, religious men, labourers, engineers, and historians

2011 *New Delhi, Lucknow, Indore, India.* Four weeks of fieldwork on North Indian construction practices. Interviews with contractors, planners, architects and laborers

2010 *Guwahati, Gangtok, Shillong, India.* Four weeks of fieldwork on urban development in North-East India. Interviews with planners, bureaucrats, journalists, and architects

2006 *Mumbai, India.* Eight weeks of fieldwork on women and public space. Interviews with local residents, business owners, and users around select public spaces

2002 *Mumbai, India.* Fieldwork on informal market spaces in Mumbai conducted over a year.

Professional Experience

December 2011 *whichlight*, public art project in collaboration with goodgood, Boston

October 2007 to May 2008 Indian Architect & Builder, Jasubhai Media, Mumbai, India. Writer

August 2003 to July 2005 Serie Architecture: Architecture and Urban Design, Mumbai, India. Architect, Member of Design Team and Project Co-ordinator

January 2003 to June 2003 Christopher Charles Benninger and Associates, Pune, India. Architectural Intern

Professional Affiliations

American Anthropological Association
Council of Architecture, India

Teaching

Rhode Island School of Design, Department of History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences

Instructor: Undergraduate Seminars

Cities of the Global South Fall 2016
An Anthropology of Innovation Fall 2016

Harvard University, Department of Anthropology

Instructor: Undergraduate Seminars

Cities of the Global South Spring 2016
An Anthropology of Innovation Fall 2015

Instructor: Writing and Tutorials

Departmental Writing Instructor Spring 2016, Fall 2015, Spring 2014, Fall 2013
Junior Tutorial in Anthropology Spring 2014, Fall 2013

Teaching Fellow

Namita Dharia- Curriculum Vitae

Sophomore Tutorial on Social Theory	Spring 2013, Spring 2010
Ethnography as Practice and Genre	Fall 2011
Housing and Heritage	Spring 2010
Memory Politics	Fall 2010
Language and Culture	Fall 2010

Rachna Sansad, Academy of Architecture, Art and Applied Art, Mumbai, India

Instructor

History of Urbanism	Fall 2007
Architecture as a Cultural System	Fall 2007

Cornell University, Department of Architecture, Ithaca, U.S.A.

Teaching Assistant

History of Architecture and Urbanism	Spring 2007 and Fall 2006
Architectural Analysis I and II	Spring 2006 and Fall 2005

Academic Service and Extra-Departmental Activities

- 2016 Faculty Advisor, Anthrowrites Colloquia. Harvard University (secured \$10,000 award from Dean's office)
- 2016 Nominee, Starr Family Awards for Excellence in Advising, Harvard University
- 2013 Teaching Consultant. Harvard University, Bok Centre for Teaching and Learning.
- 2013 Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (Fall 2015, Fall 2013, Spring 2012, Fall 2011)
- 2011 Field researcher for Harvard South Asia Institute "Mapping the Kumbh Mela Project"
- 2010 Co-Coordinator: Political Ecology Working Group. Department of Anthropology, Harvard University (two years).
- 2007 Alpha Rho Chi Medal for leadership and service, AA&P, Cornell University.