

DEBJANI BHATTACHARYYA

Chair for the History of the Anthropocene
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EMPLOYMENT:

- 2022- Professor and Chair of the History of the Anthropocene, University of Zurich
Director, Digital History Lab.
Co-Director, Cultural Analysis Program (2022-2024).
- 2020 - 2021 Associate Professor, Department of History, Drexel University, USA. Affiliate
Center for Science, Technology and Society (2020-21), Department of Global
Studies and Modern Languages, (2017-21) and Urban Strategy (2016-21).
- 2014 – 2020 Assistant Professor, Department of History, Drexel University, USA.

FELLOWSHIP APPOINTMENTS:

- 2028-2029 Fellow, Wissenschaftskolleg, Berlin.
- 2027 Koch History Center Lecturership, Oxford University.
- 2026-2027 Fellow, School of Historical Studies, Institute of Advanced Studies, Princeton.
- 2026 Visiting Professor, Australian National University, Canberra.
- 2019- 2025 Non-Resident Fellow, Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of
Pennsylvania, USA.
- 2021 (Summer) Fellow, Freiburg Institute of Advanced Studies, Freiburg University.
- 2020 (Summer) Visiting Professor, Institut für Asien- und Afrikawissenschaften, Humboldt
Universität zu Berlin (postponed due to COVID-19).
- 2019 – 2020 Visiting Research Scholar, Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies,
Princeton University, USA.
- 2016 – 2017 Research Fellow, International Institute of Asian Studies, Leiden University,
The Netherlands.
- 2014 – 2019 Visiting Associate Faculty, South Asia Center, University of Pennsylvania,
USA.

EDUCATION

- 2008 – 2014 Ph.D. Department of History, Emory University, USA.

“Fictions of Possession: Land, Property and Capital in Colonial Calcutta c. 1830 to c. 1930.”

Certificate Program in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Emory University, USA.

2001 – 2003 Master of Arts, Department of English, Jadavpur University, India.

1999 – 2001 Bachelor of Arts, Department of English, Jadavpur University, India.

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs:

2018

Empire and Ecology in the Bengal Delta: The Making of Calcutta. Studies in Environment and History Series (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018)
<https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108348867> (Indian edition February 2019; Paperback June 2019).

- Honorable Mention for the 2017-18 Best Book in Non-North American Urban History Award.
- *Biblio* Reviewer’s Choice Book for 2019.

Reviewed in:

Maya Jassanof *New York Review of Books*; Rohan D’Souza *H-Water*; Jeremy Schmidt *Environmental Values*; David Arnold *English Historical Review*; Renisa Mawani *Law, Humanities and Culture*; Tirthankar Roy *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*; Jenia Mukherjee *Journal of History*; Benjamin Siegel *Environmental History*; Gagan Preet Singh *H-Asia*; John Hutnyk *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*; Peter Robb *Environment and History*; Sanjukta Das Gupta *Conservation and Society*; Wilko Hardenberg, *H-Sci-Med-Tech*; Nabaparna Ghosh, *Journal of Asian Studies*; Sujit Sivasundaram, *American Historical Review*; Kaustubh Mani, *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*.

Select Interviews and Blog discussions:

[Lekh Podcast, Book Discussion](#)
[XQ’s Conversation no. XV, Chapati Mystery](#)
[Through the Rear View Mirror, Legal History Blog](#)
[Center for Advanced Studies in India Podcast](#)
[Public Seminar Book Talk](#)
[Appraising Risk Podcast](#)
[New Books Network, Indian Ocean World](#)

In progress *Climate Futures Past: Law, Finance and Weather Knowledge in the Indian Ocean World*.

Refereed Journal Articles:

n.d. co-editing two special sections with Meghna Chaudhuri, Finance and its Environments: New Approaches to the History of Capital, *Comparative Studies in Society and History* (planned publication April 2027).

- n.d. "Enclosing the Cyclone: Risk and Climate Science in the Indian Ocean World," (13,000 words) *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, revise and resubmit Oct. 2025.
- 2026 "Picturing the Storm: Actuarial Imagination and Weather Forecasting in the British Empire," *Art History*, Vol. 49, 4 (2026): 2-23. DOI: 10.1093/arthis/ulag041 (OA)
- 2021 "'A River is not a Pendulum': Sediments of Science in the World of Tides," in *Isis*, 112, no. 1 (March 2021): 141-149. Special Issues on "Knowing the Littorals." <https://doi.org/10.1086/713567> (OA)
- 2020 "Indian City and its 'Restive Publics': A Review Essay," *Modern Asian Studies* 53, no. 4 (2020), 1-31. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0026749X19000301>(invited)
- 2020 "Speculation: A Concept History," *Comparative Studies in South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* 40, no. 1 (2020), 51-56. Special Issue on "Concepts of the Urban". <https://doi.org/10.1215/1089201X-8186038>
- 2019 "Land Dispossession in South Asia," *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia for Asian Studies*. ed. David Ludden (New York: Oxford University Press, 2019). <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190277727.013.189>
- 2019 "Provincializing the History of Speculation from Colonial India," *History Compass*, 17: e12517 (2019). [doi:10.1111/hic3.12517](https://doi.org/10.1111/hic3.12517)
- 2018 "Fluid Histories: Swamps, Law and the Company-State in Colonial Bengal," *Journal of Economic and Social History of the Orient*. 61, no. 5-6 (2018): 1036-73. Special Issue on "Repossessing Property in South Asia: Land, Rights and Law across Modern/Early Modern Divide". [doi:10.1163/15685209-12341466](https://doi.org/10.1163/15685209-12341466)
- 2018 "Discipline and Drain: Settling the Moving Bengal Delta," *Global Environment* 11, (2018): 236-257. Special Issue on "Environment, Disaster and Property". [doi:10.3197/ge.2018.110203](https://doi.org/10.3197/ge.2018.110203)
- 2017 "Ethics/Reading/Sex: How do We Read?" *Feminist Formations* 29, no. 3 (2017): 193-7. [doi:10.1353/ff.2017.0041](https://doi.org/10.1353/ff.2017.0041)
- 2016 "Hoarding Land: Interwar Housing Speculation and Rent Profiteering in Colonial Calcutta," *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* 36, no. 3 (2016): 465-82. <https://doi.org/10.1215/1089201x-3699007>
- 2015 "The History of Eminent Domain in British Colonial Thought and Legal Practice in South Asia," *Economic and Political Weekly* 50, no. 50 (2015): 45-53.

Refereed Book Chapters:

- 2024 “Papering over Muddy Histories: Imperial Logics of Space in the Anthropocene,” in *Biocultural Empire: New Histories of Imperial Lifeworlds*, edited by Antoinette Burton, Renisa Mawani and Samantha Frost, 199–213. Bloomsbury Academic, 2024. OA <http://dx.doi.org/10.5040/9781350454231.ch-8>.
- 2022 “From Memories to Forecasting: Narrating Imperial Storm Science,” in Mary Morgan et. al eds. *Narrative Science: Reasoning, Representing and Knowing since 1800*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022), OA. ERC Grant # 694732.
- 2020 “Politics of Dwelling: Divergent Spaces in Calcutta,” Richardson Dilworth and Timothy Weaver eds. *Role of Ideas in Urban Political Development*, (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2020), 202-14.
- 2013 “Geography’s Myth: The Many Origins of Calcutta,” Gyanendra Pandey, ed., *Unarchived Histories: The Mad and the Trifling in the Colonial and Postcolonial World* (New York: Routledge, 2013), 144-58.
- 2008 “Nation-less Bodies and National Identity in Jyotirmoyee Devi’s *Epar Ganga Opar Ganga*,” Ansgar Nünning, Birgit Neumann and Bo Petersson, eds., *Narrative and Identity: Theoretical Approaches and Critical Analyses* (Trier: Wissenschaftler Verlag Trier, 2008), 127-40.
- 2008 “Of Shadows and Silences: Militant Nationalism in Amitav Ghosh’s *The Shadow Lines*,” Klaus Stierstorfer and Annette Kern-Stähler, eds., *Literary Encounters of Fundamentalism: A Case Book* (Heidelberg: Winter Verlag, 2008), 75-88.

Journal Articles (non-refereed):

- 2025 “Afterword: The Deep Conquest of Land by Property,” *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*. August 2025; 45 (2): 396-402. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1215/1089201X-11846246>
- 2024 “Afterword: Edges: Thinking Environments with Ports” *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* 1 May 2024; 44 (1): 164–166. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1215/1089201X-11141447>
- 2022 Giacomo Parrinello, Simone Neri Serner, Debjani Bhattacharyya, Ruth A. Morgan, Corey Ross, David Pietz, Matthew Evenden, “Rethinking the Entangled History of Water and Power,” on *Contemporanea, Rivista di storia dell'800 e del '900* 2/2022, pp. 319-344. <https://www.rivisteweb.it/doi/10.1409/103867>
- 2022 Acker, A., Warloutzet, L., Conversation with Bhattacharyya, D., Biasillo, R., Borowy, I., Leal, C., Mauch, C. et Quenet, G, “From the Globe to the Planet? New Challenges of Global and Environmental History,” *Monde(s)* N° 21(1), 21-46. <https://doi.org/10.3917/mond1.221.0021>
- 2018 “Discovery of India(s): Resisting the National Biography,” *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, 41:3, 601-604. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00856401.2018.1485621>

Book Reviews:

- 2023 India's New Water Works. *Current History* 1 April 2023; 122 (843): 158–160.
<https://doi.org/10.1525/curh.2023.122.843.158>
- 2022 Nurfadzilah Yahaya, H-Diplo Roundtable XXIII-26 on Yahaya. Fluid Jurisdictions: Colonial Law and Arabs in Southeast Asia. <https://hdiplo.org/to/RT23-26>
- 2020 Benjamin Siegel, *Hungry Nation: Food, Famine and the Making of Modern India* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018) *Environmental History* 25, no. 1 (2020).
<https://doi.org/10.1093/envhis/emz064>
- 2020 Craig Jeffrey, *Modern India: A Very Short Introduction* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018) *American Historical Review* 125, Issue 4, October 2020, Pages 1355-1357. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ahr/rhz1263>
- 2019 “Microhistory of a Forgotten Disaster,” Benjamin Kingsway, *An Imperial Disaster: The Bengal Cyclone of 1876* (New Delhi: Speaking Tiger, 2018) *Economic and Political Weekly*, 54, no. 36 (2019). <https://www.epw.in/journal/2019/36/book-reviews/micro-history-forgotten-disaster.html>
- 2019 Radhika Mongia, *Indian Migration and Empire: A Colonial Genealogy of the Modern State* (Raleigh: Duke University Press, 2018) H-Diplo. <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=53256>
- 2019 Renisa Mawani, *Across Oceans of Law: The Komagata Maru and Jurisdiction of the Time of Empire* (Raleigh: Duke University Press, 2017) *Law and History Review* 37, no. 2 (May 2019): 639-41. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0738248019000282>
- 2017 Amrita Pande, *Wombs in Labor: Transnational Commercial Surrogacy in India* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2014) *Enterprise and Society* 18, no. 2 (2017): 474-76.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/eso.2016.88>
- 2016 Andrew Fitzmaurice, *Sovereignty, Property and Empire 1500 - 2000* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014) *Political Theory* 45, no. 3 (2016): 416-19.
<https://10.1177/0090591716640460>
- 2015 Andrew Sartori, *Liberalism in Empire: An Alternative History* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2014) *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* 38, no. 2 (2015): 351-52. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00856401.2015.1020476>
- 2015 Sandeep Banerjee “Landscaping India: From Colony to Postcolony” (PhD Thesis: Syracuse University, 2013), *Dissertation Reviews*, February, 2015.
<http://dissertationreviews.org/archives/10573>
- 2012 Richard Hornsey, *The Spiv and the Architect: Unruly Life in Postwar London* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2010) *Gender, Place & Culture* 19, no.1 (2012): 121-23.

- 2011 Mariam Dossal, *Theatre of Conflict, City of Hope: Bombay/Mumbai, 1660 to Present Times* (Bombay: Oxford University Press, 2010) *Urban Studies* 48, no.11 (2011): 2429-31.
- 2006 (in German) Río-Álvaro, Constanza Del und Luis Miguel García-Mainar, eds. *Memory, Imagination and Desire in Contemporary Anglo-American Literature and* (Heidelberg: Winter Verlag, 2004) *KULT_online*, 11 August 2006. <http://kult-online.uni-giessen.de/archiv/2006/ausgabe-11>

Report Commissioned by the Government of West Bengal, India

- 2011 Co-authored with Paromita Chakravarti, *Imagined Homes: Homeless People Envision Shelters* (Kolkata: The Calcutta Samaritans, 2011).

Public Scholarship:

- 2025 “Macht der Monsoon,” *Le Monde Diplomatique*, April, 2025. https://monde-diplomatique.de/product_info.php?products_id=245529
- 2023 “Von den Anfängen des Anthropozäns. Was uns ins Zeitalter des Menschen geführt hat,” *Natur. Und Wir?* Stapferhaus Lenzburg: 38-52.
- 2023 “The human right to be cold,” Blog Schweizerisches Nationalmuseum. <https://blog.nationalmuseum.ch/en/2023/07/the-human-right-to-be-cold/>
- 2020 “Monsoon Planning: The Future of India's Sinking Cities,” *India in Transition*. Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania (2020). <https://casi.sas.upenn.edu/iit/debjanibhattacharyya>
- 2020 Co-authored with Megnaa Mehta, “More Than Rising Water: Living Tenuously in the Sundarbans. Part 1,” *The Diplomat*. <https://thedi diplomat.com/2020/08/more-than-rising-water-living-tenuously-in-the-sundarbans/> and “Is the Managed Retreat Plan for the Sundarbans Misguided? Part 2,” *The Diplomat*. <https://thedi diplomat.com/2020/09/is-the-managed-retreat-plan-for-the-sundarbans-misguided/>
- 2020 Co-authored with Megnaa Mehta, “Shifting Lives in the Mangrove: Is Concrete the Way Forward,” *The Telegraph*. <https://www.telegraphindia.com/opinion/is-concrete-the-way-forward-in-rebuilding-the-sunderbans/cid/1784882>
- 2020 Co-authored with Banu Subrahmaniam, “A Viral Education: Scientific Lessons from India's WhatsApp University,” *Somatosphere*. <http://somatosphere.net/2020/a-viral-education-scientific-lessons-from-indias-whatsapp-university.html/>
- 2020 Co-authored with Banu Subrahmaniam, “Technofascism in India,” *n+1*. <https://nplusonemag.com/online-only/online-only/technofascism-in-india/> (republished in Jessie Kindig, Mark Krotov and Marco Roth eds. *There is no Outside: Covid19 Dispatches* (New York: Verso 2020).
- 2020 “Almanac of a Tide Country,” *Items* SSRC (2020). <https://items.ssrc.org/ways-of-water/almanac-of-a-tide-country>

- 2018 Co-authored with Seth Denbo, “When a Journal is a Scam: Predatory Journals and Scholarship as Public Good,” *Perspectives in History*.
<https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/october-2018/when-a-journal-is-a-scam-how-some-publications-prey-on-scholarship-as-public-good>
- 2018 Introduction “Discovery of India(s): Resisting the National Biography,” special issue edited by Arvind Elangovan in *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* 41, no. 3 (2018): 601-604. [doi:10.1080/00856401.2018.1485621](https://doi.org/10.1080/00856401.2018.1485621)
- 2017 Co-authored with Adam Knowles, “Ideal Subject of Totalitarianism,” *Revue des femmes philosophes*, 127-138. <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002655/265538m.pdf>
- 2017 “Arbit” Special Issue on Everyday Keywords in South Asia, *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* 40, no. 2 (2017): 279-80.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00856401.2017.1292602>
- 2017 “Being River: The Law, the Person and the Unthinkable,” *World Legal History*, H-Law.
<https://networks.h-net.org/node/16794/blog/world-legal-history-blog/177310/being-river-law-person-and-unthinkable>
- 2017 “Soaking Ecologies: Rethinking Asian Urbanism,” *International Institute of Asian Studies Newsletter*, 76. <http://ias.asia/the-newsletter/article/soaking-ecologies-rethinking-asian-urbanism>
- 2016 “Manufactured Landscapes: Law and Hydraulics in the Bengal Delta,” *Technology Stories: Past and Present*, June 2016. <http://www.technologystories.org/manufactured-landscapes-law-and-hydraulics-in-the-bengal-delta/>
- 2012 (in Bengali) “Wall Street Theke,” *Anandabazar Patrika*, November 6, 2012.

Media Engagements:

- Klima und CO2: Eine Geschichte des Anthropozäns, Exhibition Launch, FocusTerra, Zurich, August 2025. <https://focusterra.ethz.ch/sonderausstellungen/aktuell/bilder-der-eroeffnung.html>
- Lightning Talk, Indien unter Modi, Tazlab, Berlin.
<https://taz.de/programm/2025/tazlab2025/de/events/1609.html> (April 2025)
- Interview: “Wahlen in Indien: ‘Langfristig habe ich viel Hoffnung’”, Swissinfo
<https://www.swissinfo.ch/ger/demokratie/wahlen-in-indien-langfristig-habe-ich-viel-hoffnung/74272174> (March 2024).
- Interview: “Streit um Denkmäler und Inschriften: ‘Eure Vergangenheit ist genauso kolonial wie meine’”, Neue Zürcher Zeitung <https://www.nzz.ch/zuerich/zuerich-und-kolonialismus-debjani-bhattacharyya-will-neue-debatte-ld.1730413> (March 2023).
- Interview: “Die Politik sickerte wie durch Osmose in mich ein”, Wochenzeitung
<https://www.woz.ch/2308/debjani-bhattacharyya/die-politik-sickerte-wie-durch-osmose-in-mich-ein/18JHPX6FHGMD4> (February 2023).

- Podcast: «Book Review Roundtable: Art & Climate Change», Urban Political Podcast <https://urbanpolitical.online/episode-57-book-review-roundtable-art-climate-change/> (November 2022).
- Interview: “Archives of Economic Lives”, Cambridge University <https://www.histecon.magd.cam.ac.uk/archives-asia/interviews/bhattacharyya.html> (2022).
- Podcast: “Climate History” <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/climate-history-podcast/id1022409974> (May 2021).
- Movie Research and Appearance, “Morris and Indigo: Drexel’s Collection” <https://drexel.edu/drexelcollection/exhibitions-events/exhibitions/Gateway/>
- Podcast: “Technofascism in India” Tech Won’t Save Us. <https://podcasts.apple.com/podcast/technofascism-in-india-banu-subramaniam-debjani-bhattacharyya/id1507621076?i=1000479574285> (June 2020).
- Podcast: “The Science of Planning: Notes from Indian Economic History” at the HPPE Seminar, London School of Economics, Episode 5 Ceteris non Paribus, The History of Economic Thought Podcast <https://ceterisnonparibus.net/debjani-bhattacharyya-on-the-science-of-planning-notes-from-indian-economic-history-at-the-hppe-seminar-episode-5/>
- Podcast: “A Naturally-Forming Harbor: Silt, Geological Testimony and the Bengal Delta,” Centre for South Asian Study Seminar, Cambridge University <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/centre-of-south-asian-studies-seminars/id1112589084?mt=2>

COLLABORATIONS WITH MUSEUMS AND THEATRES

- Scientific Advisor, FocusTerra ETH exhibition, Keep it CO₂OL: Rettet uns High-Tech. 2025.
- Panel Member, The Time for Denial is Over: Decolonial Ecology with Group 50:50 at Theatre Vidy, Lausanne, Nov. 26, 2024. <https://vidy.ch/fr/evenement/rencontre-et-debat-the-time-for-denial-is-over/>
- History Talk with Shalini Randeria and Henri-Michel Yéré, Swiss National Museum “Colonial Heritage and its Significance Today,” November 5, 2024. <https://www.landesmuseum.ch/de/veranstaltung/colonial-heritage-and-its-significance-today-28681>
- Expert Input, Colonial: Switzerland’s Global Entanglements (Kolonial: Globale Verflechtung der Schweiz) Swiss National Museum, 2024. <https://www.landesmuseum.ch/kolonial-experteninterviews>
- Working Group Member, Climate and Colonialism, Paul Mellon Center, Yale University, 2023-2027. <https://www.paul-mellon-centre.ac.uk/research/the-climate-colonialism-working-group>
- Public Discussion, Lessons in Darkness with performer Betty Tchomanga, Gessneralle, May 2023. https://2020.gessnerallee.ch/en/event/1262/betty_tchomanga
- Expert Advisor, *Nature and Us? (Natur und Wir?)* October 2022 -June 2024, Stapferhaus Museum, Lenzburg CH. <https://stapferhaus.ch/en/collection/natur>
- Opening Plenary, “Monsoon: Histories and Futures,” National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian (Washington D.C.) December 2022.

GRANTS

- PI, Fair Weather Finance: Historical Antecedents to Climate Risk Management (2026-2030), € 2 million. ERC Consolidator Grant, <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101231057>

- PI, Climate Risk Management: A Historical Perspective, (2026-2029), CHF 999,128, (<https://data.snf.ch/grants/person/813258>) declined.
- Co-PI, “River Landscapes – A New Glossary” Pro Helvetia Synergies Grant, CHF 109,000, 2024-2025.
- PI, Scientific Exchange SNSF, CHF 9500, 2024 (<https://data.snf.ch/grants/person/813258>).
- PI, Hochschulstiftung, CHF 5000, 2024.
- PI, Universitäre Lehrförderung, Micro-Innovation Teaching Fund, CHF 4000, 2024.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

- Visiting Fellowship, Research School of Social Sciences Scheme, Australia National University, scheduled for summer 2026.
- Senior Research Fellow, IfK, International Research Center for Cultural Studies, Vienna, Fall 2024, (declined).
- Senior Research Fellowship, American Institute of Indian Studies, 2021-2022, (declined).
- Balzan Fellowship in Global History, Freiburg Institute of Advanced Studies, 2021.
- Shelby Cullom Davis Center Fellow, Princeton University, 2019-2020.
- Faculty Summer Research Award, Drexel University, 2019.
- CoAS Summer Humanities Fellowship, Drexel University, 2017.
- Research Fellowship, International Institute of Asian Studies, University of Leiden, Netherlands, 2016-2017.
- Young Scholar’s Award, Institute for New Economic Thinking to organize a year-long workshop (2016-17) on “Philadelphia Seminar on the History and Sociology of Emerging Markets” (with Alden Young and Jacob Feygin).
- South Asian Regional Faculty Grant, University of Pennsylvania, 2016 and 2017.
- Office of International Program, Drexel University, International Experience Grant, 2016, 2017.
- AIIS New Research Subvention, Association for Asian Studies, Chicago, 2015.
- The History Project Research Grant supported by the Institute of New Economic Thinking, and the Joint Center for History and Economics, Harvard University, Summer 2014.
- Cornell University, Institute of Social Sciences Grant for Summer Institute on Contested Landscape, May 2013.
- Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Grant to present at the Inter-Asian Workshop III at Hong Kong University, May 2012.
- Junior Research Fellowship (eleven-month fellowship for archive research) from the American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS, Chicago), 2011-2012.
- Emory University’s Professional Development Fund, 2009 and 2010.
- Graduate Fellowship, Emory University Graduate School, 2008-2014.
- Outstanding Student Summer Fellowship from Institute for Critical International Studies, Emory University, 2009.

AWARDS AND HONORS:

- Scientific Advisor, “Accounting for Nature: Agriculture and Mitigation in the Era of Global Climate Change,” (PI, Shaila Sheisha Galvin, SNSF), 2021-2025.
- Scientific Advisor, “A Future for whose Past?” ETH, Zurich (ICOMOS Suisse, PI Silke Langenberg), 2023-2025.

- Scientific Advisor, “Colombo: Layered Histories in the Global South City,” PI-Sujit Sivasundaram, ERC advanced grant, 2024-2029.
- Scientific Advisor, “Retooling the Hydrofrontier: Devices for Water Extraction in the 21st Century,” NSF 2025-2029.
- Faculty, Summer School, Reimagining Global Justice within and through the University, Central European University, Budapest, 2023.
- Board of Trustee, Linda Hall Library, USA, 2022-.
- Advisory Board, CETRAS, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, 2022-.
- 2020 Provost Award for Outstanding Early-Career Scholarly Productivity, Drexel University.
- American Society for Legal History Project Funding with Laurie Wood, 2018-19.
- Selected for Drexel’s limited-submission for NEH Summer Research Fellowship, 2019.
- International Collaborator on Narrative Science Project European Union’s Horizon 2020 (ERC grant agreement No. 694732).
- College of Arts and Sciences Teaching Excellence Award, Drexel University, 2018.
- Career Development Award Fellowship, Drexel University, 2017 – 2018.
- Seminar Leader and Convener, “Delta Cities: Rethinking Urbanism,” IIAS Graduate School in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, December 2018.
- Invited Researcher SSRC Scholarly Borderland Project Bodies of Water, 2018-2019.
- Invited Researcher SSRC Climate Change and the Indian Ocean Research Group, 2018-2019.
- Member “Geographies of Injustice Working Group,” Center for the Study of Social Difference at Columbia University, 2018 – present.
- Seminar Leader, Anthropocene Campus, Philadelphia, 2017.
- Visiting Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin, Summer 2016.
- Workshop Grant, “Building Indian Cities,” Center for Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania, November 2015.
- Summer Academy Fellow on Legal History, Max-Planck Institut für Rechtsgeschichte, Frankfurt am Main, July 2015.
- McLean Prize for the Most Distinguished Student, Department of History, Emory University, 2009.
- National Scholarship Award, West Bengal, India, 1998.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks and Keynote:

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| 2026 | <p>Enclosing the Cyclone: Notes from the Indian Ocean, World History Seminar, Cambridge University, May 2026</p> <p>Loss and Damage: Enclosing Cyclones in the Indian Ocean, Australia National University, August 2026; Humanities Colloquium, ETH, September 2026.</p> |
| 2025 | <p>Keynote, Capitalist Dynamics, Historical Sociology Conference, Basel, December, 2025.</p> <p>Keynote, Landed Futures/Muddy Waters: Drawing like a Lawyer in Colonial South Asia, 5th Asian Legal History Conference, August 2025.</p> |

The Double Commodification of Monsoon: Risk and Cyclone Science, MPIWG, Berlin October 2025

“Monsoon-Risk”: Notes on the commodification of weather risks, Séminaire Eau & Environnement, École Nationale du Génie de l'Eau et de l'Environnement de Strasbourg, May 2025 and University of Sussex, June 2025.

Panelist, Interdisciplinary Thinking in the Age of Anthropocene, Le Centre d'histoire internationale et d'études politiques de la mondialisation (CRHIM), University of Lausanne, April 2025.

“Law and Political Economy in South Asia,” University of California (Berkeley), March, 2025.

Keynote: Microhistory and the new Planetary Turn, at the “The Micro-Historical Foundations of Capitalism” University of Geneva, February 2025.

The Double Commodification of Monsoon: Risk and Cyclone Science, Columbia University and Yale University, February 2025.

Climate Ledgers: Risk, Cyclone Science and the Commodification of Monsoon, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, February 2025.

2024 Governing the Ocean: From Imperial Commerce to Blue Economies, Universität Bremen, September 2024.

Climate Futures' Past. Law and Meteorology in the Indian Ocean World, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, June 2024

Response to Deborah Coen, Sessions On Territory: Climate Anxiety and Mobilising in Crisis Climate, ETH Zürich, May 2024.

Mining the Atmosphere. Climate and Capital in a Changing World, Werkstattgespräch Entresol, Zürich, May 2024.

Keynote: Colonialism, Coloniality and Climate Science, University of Reading, May 2024.

Atmospheric Politics and the Indian Ocean, Séminaire romand d'histoire des sciences et des techniques, EPFL Lausanne, Université de Genève, April 2024.

Keynote and Discussion: Aktuelle Kontroverse der Anthropozän-Abstimmung, Fliege mit Pacha, ins Aerozän, Filmvorführung und Diskussion, Planetarische Erzählungen #2, CineLöwenbraukunst, Zürich, April 2024.

Climate Futures' Past. Law and Meteorology in the Indian Ocean World, New Directions in Cultural Inquiry, Universität Konstanz, April 2024.

Climate Futures' Past: Law and Insurance in the Indian Ocean World, 1770-1850, University of Pennsylvania School of Arts & Sciences, March 2024.

Scales of Climate: Underwriting Cyclones in the Indian Ocean, Methodologies of Extractivism Series, University College Dublin, March 2024.

2023 Chair at Conference: Capitalism and the Environment from Stockholm to COP28. New historical research on the role of business and labor, University of Lausanne, November 2023.

“Atmospheric Politics in the Indian Ocean”, Network for Environmental Humanities, Utrecht University, November 2023.

Keynote: Climate Futures’ Past: Law and Insurance in the Indian Ocean World. Reflections on the Past, Perspectives for the Future. The Role of Historians in Times of Societal Change, Universität Basel, November 2023.

Climate Futures Past: Atmospheric Politics in the Indian Ocean, Universität Bern, November 2023.

Atmospheric Politics in the Indian Ocean, University of Copenhagen, September 2023.

Keynote: Climate Imaginaries: The Humanities and the Art-Science Discussion, at Trans-cultural/Disciplinary Practices: Arts and Science in a Changing World, Löwenbräukunst, Zurich, September 2023.

Discussant: Partitions and Race-Making. Partition Machine: The 1923 Treaty of Lausanne 100 Years Later, The British Academy Conferences, The British Academy, August 2023.

Climate Ledgers: Atmospheric Politics, Risk and Liability in the Indian Ocean, 1770-1850, Futures Lecture Series, University of California, May 2023.

Atmospheric Politics in the Indian Ocean, Guest Lectures, Kunstuniversität Linz in Wien, April 2023.

History of Swamps or How to Built Sinking Cities, Ashoka University, April 2023

Atmospheric Politics in the Indian Ocean, International EST Colloquia: A series of seminars with colleagues and students of the new master program “Epistemologies of Science and Technology”, Universität Wien, April 2023.

Workshop, Lecture and Discussion: Climate Ledgers: Underwriting Cyclones in the Indian Ocean, 1770 – 1850, Université de Fribourg, March 2023.

Workshop: Thinking Futures from Elsewhere, Universität Zürich, March 2023.

Cities and Climate Change Workshop, Center for the Advanced Study of India and Oxford India Center for Sustainable Development, India Habitat Center, New Delhi, March 2023.

“Logistics of Turbulence”: Climate Histories from the Indian Ocean World, University of Lucerne, February 2023.

Whose University is it Anyways?, Decolonization Conference, ETH, Zurich, February 2023.

2022 Keynote: Living with Monsoon, Smithsonian Museum of Asian Art, Washington D.C. December 2022.

“Logics of Turbulence”: Climate History from the Indian Ocean, Universität Innsbruck, December 2022.

Climate Ledgers: Atmospheric Politics, Risk and Liabilities in the Indian Ocean World, Science Po, November, 2022.

Climate Ledgers: Atmospheric Politics, Risk and Liability in the Indian Ocean, 1770-1850, ETH Zürich, October 2022.

Asia's Cities Under Slow-Moving Threats, Urban Resilience, Asia Society Switzerland and Swiss Re Next, September 2022.

Keynote: Speculation and Homelessness: Notes from South Asia, Istanbul Research Institute, July 2022.

Keynote: “Historical Modelling of Biodiversity Loss: Reassessing European Imperial History” Heidelberger Akademie, June 2022.

“Logistics of Turbulence”: Climate History from the Indian Ocean, Freie Universität Berlin, June 2022.

Keynote: IOWC Conference, Adaption and Resilience to climatic and environmental changes in the Indian Ocean World, past to present, McGill University, May 2022.

Underwriting and Cyclones in the Indian Ocean, Thursday Lecture Series, Belongings, The Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities University of Columbia, May 2022.

Between Opacity and Precision: Underwriting Weather in the British Empire, University of Cambridge, Harvard University, and Sciences-Po, March 2022.

Oceanic Settlements: Law and Climate in the Indian Ocean World, Concordia University, March 2022.

Book Talk: Nullius: The Anthropology of Ownership, Sovereignty, and the Law in India, King's College London, February 2022.

Oceanic Settlements: Law and Weather Knowledge in the Indian Ocean World, Vanderbilt History Seminar, February 2022.

2021 Oceanic Settlements: Underwriting Cyclones in the Bay of Bengal, Center for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi, December 2021

Climate Ledgers: Law and Imperial Finance in the Indian Ocean World, Watson Institute, Brown University, December 2021.

Unreal Estates: The Fluid Histories of Property in Calcutta, University of California, Berkeley, November 2021.

Oceanic Settlements: Law, Climate and Finance in the Bay of Bengal, Rothermund Memorial Lecture, Heidelberg University, November 2021.

Climate Futures' Past: Insurance, Cyclones and Weather Knowledge in the Indian Ocean World, Weatherhead Initiative in Global History, Harvard University, November 2021.

Plenary, Global Urban History, Urban History Association, October 2021.

Insuring Weather: Climate Futures Past in the Indian Ocean World, Science and Technology in Asia, Harvard University, October 2021.

Muddy Waters: Conjuring Land in Indian Rivers, Oslo Metropolitan University, October 2021.

Flotsam and Jetsam: Archiving the Ocean, Indian Oceanology, Penn State University, June 2021.

Human Error or Natural Calamity? Wrecks in Legal History in the Indian Ocean World, Historisches Seminar, Freiburg University, June 2021.

Insuring Winds: The Financial History of Climate Science, HUMMS Lecture, FRIAS, May 2021.

Land and Sea: Writing Legal Lives, Center for History and Economic, Harvard University, April 2021.

Securitizing Cyclones: Empire, Climate Science and Indenture in the Indian Ocean, London School of Economics, Social Life of Climate Change, March 2021.

A City of Swamps: Drainage, Environment and Urbanization in Colonial Calcutta, South Asia Conversation, Dartmouth College, February 2021.

Climate Futures Past: Law, Finance and Weather Science in the Indian Ocean World, Glasgow Environmental Humanities Speaker Series, February, 2021.

Biocultural Empires, University of Illinois, Urbana Champagne, January 2021.

Sketching to Own: East India Company's Encounter with Amphibious Spaces, "Paper Empires Workshop," Center for Imperial and Global History, Exeter University, January 2021.

2020 Humanitarian Crisis and the Geopolitics of Silt, Decolonization Panel, Boston University, December 2020.

Panelist: Waves Across the South: Revolutionary Thought in the Age of Empire, University College London, Anthropocene Center, December 2020.

Prophetic Science: The Government of Wind in the Bay of Bengal, Global Studies Lecture, University of Delaware, October 2020.

Climate Crisis Center for South Asian Studies, Cambridge University, September 2020.

"Urbanism at Water's Edge: Fluid Histories of Property in South Asia, Center of Advanced Studies of India, University of Pennsylvania, May 2020, and Center for Policy Research and Center for Social Science and Humanities, New Delhi, August 2020.

Cyclone Amphan: Living through Climate Crisis, The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities, Oxford University, July 2020.

Messy Studio: Frozen reserves, brown clouds, and dissolving wet deltas—Ecosystems in transformation along the Indian Ocean Gyre, Oceans in Transformation Exhibition for the Thyssen-Bornemisza Art Foundation 21, July 2020.

2019 Law and Climate Science in South Asia, Davis Center Colloquium, Princeton University, November 2019.

Ordering Cyclones: The Courtroom in the Making of Meteorological Sciences in Colonial India, Colonialism and Imperialism Workshop, Princeton University, October 2019.

Keynote: Sundarbans: The Disappearing Legacies of Recent History, Re-Scape Colloquium, Delft University, October 2019.

A History of Swamps, or How We Built Sinking Cities, South Asia Seminar, The British Library, June 2019.

Ordering Cyclones: The Courtroom in the Making of Meteorological Sciences in Colonial India, Scientific Polyphony Workshop, London School of Economics, June 2019.

“Building on Bottomless Alluvion”: Calcutta’s Marshy Origins, Port Cities Colloquium, New York University, May 2019.

Reading Against the Grain: Science Beyond the West, History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, April 2019.

Keynote: New Directions in South Asian Environmental Studies, Jesus and Mary College, New Delhi, March 2019.

Land Reclamation as Urbanization: Legal Struggles with Silt in Colonial Calcutta, Indian Institute of Technology (Delhi), February 2019.

2018 Almanac of a Tidal Basin: How Not to See Water-Land Relations, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, November 2018.

“Laws of Men and the Science of Nature: Credit, Climate and Calamity in the Bay of Bengal,” New York University, Global Asia Colloquium, November 2018.

Closing Plenary, Symposium “Land Question: Agrarian and Material South Asia,” 47th Annual South Asian Conference, Madison, October 2018.

“Sea of Storms: Narrating Science in Colonial Courts in British Empire,” University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, September 2018.

“Fluid Histories: Swamp, Law and the Company-State in Colonial Bengal,” Stanford University, June 2018.

“Living in Liquid Landscapes: Notes from Calcutta,” Rising Waters Workshop, University of Pennsylvania, April 2018.

“Fluid Histories: Law and Geology in the Bengal Delta,” South Asia Colloquium Yale University, February 2018.

2017 “A Naturally Forming Harbor”: Silt, Geological Testimony and Law in the Bengal Delta,” Cambridge University, November 2017.

“The Science of Planning: Notes from Indian Economic History,” Historical and Philosophical Perspectives on Economics, Michaelmas Term Seminar, London School of Economics, November 2017.

“Imagination and the Classroom,” Cogut Humanities Center, Brown University, October 2017.

Closing Plenary, “Vernacular Worlds and the Anthropocene Moment in Global History,” Anthropocene Campus, Drexel University, October 2017

“Water, Swamp and Insurance: Making of the Bengal Delta,” Estimated Truths workshop, Max-Planck-Institute of History of Science, Berlin, August 2017.

“Rethinking Urbanization in an Era of Rapid Climate Change,” School of Design, University of Pennsylvania, May 2017.

“Studying the Indian Ocean through Risk, Geography and Law,” Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania, May 2017.

“Soaking Ecologies: Swamps, Law and the East India Company in Bengal,” Queen’s University, Canada, April 2017.

“Company Engineers: Water Infrastructures and the Making of a Colonial Profession,” EHESS Paris, March 2017.

Keynote: “Soaking Ecologies: Future Directions in Urban Land and Landscapes,” Land Seminar, Erasmus University, Rotterdam, February 2017.

“Benjamin Lacam’s New Harbor: Geography, Law and Empire,” Berlin-Brandenburg Colloquium on Environmental History, Berlin, February 2017.

“Soaking Ecologies: Swamps, Law and the East India Company in Bengal,” International Institute of Asian Studies, Leiden, January 2017.

2016 “The Calculus of Planning: Politicizing the Economic Question in India, 1930 to 1951,” Department of History, Copenhagen Business School, December 2016 and Department of History, University of Pennsylvania, April 2017.

“Speculative Imaginaries of the Urban,” Heyman Center for Humanities, Columbia University, September 2016.

“Benjamin Lacam’s New Harbor: Geography, Law and Empire,” Presidency University, Kolkata, August 2016.

“Notarizing Possession in Calcutta,” Max-Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin, July 2016.

“Archeology of Silence: Tracing the new masculinities in post-Partition Bengal,” Humanities Symposium, Albright College, April 2016.

“RTFCLAAR: Necessity, Emergency and Eminent Domain in South Asia Drexel Law and Society Group, April 2016.

2015 “Tracing the History of Eminent Domain in Colonial Thought and Legal Practice in British India, “Colonial/Postcolonial New Research Workshop,” Institute of Historical Research, London, October 2015.

“From Marshy Wetlands to Property: How Economy and Ecology Shaped Colonial Calcutta,” Dean’s Seminar, Drexel University, February 2015.

“Repacking Spaces: Cultures of Consuming Urban Riverfronts,” Consumer Culture Study Group, Drexel University, January 2015.

2014 Panelist, Author Meets Critic session on Lynne Huffer’s *Are the Lips a Grave?: A Queer Feminist on the Ethics of Sex*, National Women’s Studies Association 2014, San Juan, November 2014.

“Land-Profiteering or Speculation: Fixing the Fiscal Geography of Calcutta,” at the School for Cultural Texts and Records, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, July 2014.

2013 Panelist for book talk: Gyanendra Pandey, *History of Prejudice: Race, Caste and Difference in India and United States*, Emory University, March 2013.

2012 “The Fantastic Archive of Urban History: The Stories We Tell about our Cities” at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT-Bombay, March 2012.

Conferences (organizer/presenter/discussant)

2025 Cyclonic Turbulence as a Commodity Frontier, Siebte Schweizerische Geschichtstage, Universität Luzern, July 2025.

Climate and Form Workshop, Oxford University, July 2025.

Climate of Empire: Environmental Historians and Climate Change, Sussex University, June 2025

2024 Organizer: Climate Crisis and the Humanities, with Nayanika Mathur, Collegium Helveticum Zurich, April 2024.

Organizer: Finance and Its Environments: New Approaches to Capital, Universität Zürich, May 2024.

2022 Securing the River and the Ocean: Marine Insurance in Eighteenth-Century Indian Ocean, World Economic History Conference, July 2022

“Same planet, different worlds: environmental histories imagining anew.”, European Society for Environmental History Conference, University of Bristol, July 2022

Panelist: Appraising Weather: Ecological Limits, Extraction and Empire Building in Asia, The Climate of History: from Theory to Actions, Sechste Schweizerische Geschichtstage, Université de Genève, July 2022.

Book Discussant: “Klima und Gesellschaft in Europa (2021)” by Christian Pfister and Heinz Wanner, Sechste Schweizerische Geschichtstage, Université de Genève, June 2022.

2021 Panelist: “Muddy Waters,” European Society for Environmental History, July 2021.

Co-Organizer with Megnaa Mehtta, Ecological Challenges and Indian Cities, CASI, University of Pennsylvania, April 2021.

2019 Organizer, Ordering the Anthropocene: Law and Environment in the Indian Ocean World, a graduate symposium funded by ASLH, Drexel University, October 2019

Organizer, Grounding Water: Rethinking Urbanism in Monsoon Landscapes, 3 part panel at RC21, In and Beyond the City: Emerging Ontologies, Persistent Challenges and Hopeful Futures, Delhi, September 2019.

Book Talk Presenter, New Scholarship on South Asian Legal History, *Law and Society Association*, May 2019 (book panelists are invitation only).

2018 “Geographies of Caste: Rethinking Technologies of Land Reclamation,” *Society for the History of Technology*, St. Louis, October 2018.

Organizer/Presenter, “Watery Spaces and Law,” *Legal History of the British Empire*, University of West Indies, Barbados, July 2018.

Organizer, “Spaces of Law in the Bay of Bengal,” Drexel University, April 2018.

Organizer/Presenter, “Amphibious Spaces: Colonial Legal Entanglements in Watery Spaces,” *American Historical Association*, January 2018.

2016 Organizer/Presenter “The Business of Planning: The Stories We Tell About India’s Decolonization,” 45th *Annual South Asia Conference*, Madison, October 2016.

“Manufactured Landscape: Law and Infrastructure in the Bengal Delta,” Cornell University, September 2016.

“Manufactured Landscapes: Law and Hydraulics in the Bengal Delta,” Princeton University, April 2016.

- “Teaching Global Environmental History,” Roundtable, *American Society for Environmental History*, March 2016.
- “Counting for the Future: The Changing Political Economy of Development in India” *American Historical Association*, January 2016.
- 2015 “Drying the Bengal Delta: colonial property laws and the creation of an unstable ecological terrain,” *Disaster, Environment and Property: historical approaches, 19th-20th centuries*, School for Advanced Studies in Social Sciences, Paris, December 2015.
- “Living with Water”: The Fluvial Landscape and Property Market in Colonial Calcutta,” *Water History Conference*, Delft, July 2015.
- “Colonial Property Law in an Unstable Ecological Terrain,” *Law and Society Association*, Seattle, May 2015.
- “Legal Heterotopia: Unstable Ecologies and Property Law in Colonial India,” 18th Annual Meeting, *Association for the Study of Law, Culture and Humanities*, Georgetown University, March 2015.
- “‘Native Mendacity’ versus ‘Colonial Economicity’: Twentieth Century Housing Speculation in Calcutta,’ for the panel on AIIS Showcase on New Research: Corruption, State Violence, and Ethics in India at the *Annual Asian Studies*, Chicago, March 2015.
- “The Influence of German Town Planning in British India: Tracing the Heritage of Lex Adikes,” *MIDA Project* at Humboldt University, Berlin, January 2015.
- 2014 “Speculation and Land-Profiteering: What is Economic about the Economy?” Workshop on *Institutions, Credit and the State*, Yale University, October 2014.
- “Marsh as Political Modernity: Charting the New Regimes of Value in Colonial South Asia,” *Nineteenth-Century Workshop on Circulation*, Rutgers University, October 2014.
- “Fabricating Symbols of Possession: Translating Calcutta’s Riverbank,” *History and Space*, Birkbeck University, London, June 2014.
- 2013 Organizer/Presenter “Speculation and Land-Profiteering: Fixing the Fiscal Geography of Calcutta,” *42nd South Asia Conference*, Madison, October 2013.
- “Speculation or Economic Disobedience: Land, Capital and Property in Colonial Calcutta,” *Land Institute*, Institute of Social Science, Cornell University, May 2013.
- “*Hujuk* and Lies: The World of Satires in Nineteenth Century Bengal,” 10th Annual South Asia Graduate Student Conference, *The Place of Literature*, University of Chicago, April 2013.

“Translating *ghat* into River Bank: Genealogy of Property Relations in Colonial Calcutta,” *Critical Geography, Spatial Theory and Everyday Life*, Georgia State University, March 2013.

- 2012 Organizer/ Presenter “Open Spaces: A Logistical Tool for Disciplining Colonial Calcutta,” *Urban History Conference*, New York, October 2012.

Organizer/Presenter “Terrains of the Maidan: Governmentality, Spectrality and Every day in Colonial Calcutta,” *41st Annual South Asia Conference*, Madison, October 2012.

“Geography’s Myth: Place-making, Archive and Historiography,” *Unarchived Histories Workshop*, Department of History, Emory University, September 2012.

“From the Maidan to the Wetlands of Kolkata: Reappraising the Aesthetics of Nature and Ideologies of Urban Environmental Sustainability,” *SSRC Conference on Interasian Connections III*, Hong Kong, June 2012.

- 2011 “‘The Fish Follows the River and the Fisherman Follows the Fish:’ Fantasy and the Land-Question in Urban Calcutta,” *Frames of Reference*, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, December 2011.

“The Ghost in the Name: Probing the Myths Around the Naming of Calcutta,” *40th Annual South Asia Conference*, Madison, October 2011.

“Languages of the Body in Bengali Folk Songs,” *Annual All India Women’s Studies Conference*, Wardha University, January 2011.

- 2009 Organizer/Presenter “Deviant Dwelling: Tiljala Slums and the Limits of the Urban,” *38th Annual South Asia Conference*, Madison, October 2009.

- 2007 “Changing Cityscapes and the Partition of India,” *Modern Language Association*, Chicago, December 2007.

- 2006 “Of Shadows and Silences: Militant Nationalism in Amitav Ghosh’s *The Shadow Lines*,” *Fundamentalism and Literature: Global /Local*, University of Münster, November 2006.

“Un-Forging National Territories in *The Shadow Lines* by Amitav Ghosh,” *European Summer School in Cultural Studies* (Climate and Territories in Human Environment in Literature and Arts) at University of Oslo, August 2006.

BA Thesis

1. Max Huber, TBC, (ongoing)
2. Monique Thalmann, Ambedkar vs. Gandhi: Caste, Gender and the Politics of Reform (2025).
3. Jaro Sahin Kerschbaum, The Menzis in Kerala: A Global Microhistory of Indo-Swiss Cooperation in the 1970s (2025).* Awarded Best Thesis in College of Arts, UZH.
4. Sobika Ahmed, “Peasant Insurgency and the Indo-Pakistan Partition,” (2025).

5. Simon Pflugshaupt, *Der Kanderdurchstich 1711-1714: Ein Umweltgeschichtliche Fallstudie zum Wasserbau in der Republik Bern* (2025).
6. Lorenz Schwartz, "Winterthur eine Stadt geprägt vom Baumwollhandel." (2024)
7. Alicia Kim Schneider, "Jane Fonda as an Actor of Biopolitical Security Dispositive." (2024)
8. Jonah Schenkel, "Constructing White Gender(s). Discourses on Racialised Gender Constructions in Zurich Human Exhibitions during the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries." (2023)
9. Jelle Van Schlegel, "Enclosure Movements, the Theory of Property and Colonial Dispossession." (2023)
10. Nathalie van Reidmanten, "Longing for Wilderness in a Petro World. US politics and their reaction to environmental threats from the 60s until 1990." (2023)
11. Tina Zollinger, "Die Schweiz im kolonialen Indien. Eine Betrachtung des Schweizer Sekundärkolonialismus im Spannungsfeld des kolonialen Indiens von 1848-1949" (2022)
12. Christina Tuggener, "Zwischen Atlantis und Apokalypse: Das Manifest der Ökomodernisten in Verbindung mit der Ideengeschichte des Climate Engineering." (2022)
13. Alexis Carlsson, *Hidden Hydrologies of Philadelphia*, 2017 Summer Humanities Fellow, Drexel University (2017).
14. Tarita Roychoudhuri, Global Engagement Fellow, Drexel University (2017).

MA Thesis

1. Edina Bajraktari, TBC, (ongoing)
2. Agatha McTighe, *Naming the Enemy: British Colonial Emergency Law, and the Making of 'Islamic Extremism' as a Security Category from India to Egypt, 1928–1954*, (ongoing)
3. Hildegaard Merkel, TBC, (ongoing)
4. Jonathan Sparh Benedikt, "Governing a Wetland: Statistics, Liberalism and the Idea of Internal Colonisation of the Magadino Plain," (2026).
5. Julia Grell, «Wo man uns braucht»: Die Menzinger Schwestern als Krankenpflegerinnen in Südindien zwischen Religion, Konversion und Kolonialismus.» (2025)
6. Jelle van Schlegel, «Framing Flora: Exploration to Exploitation and beyond." (2025)
7. Yasmin Sarah Akman, *Missionare in Internierungslagern: Die weibliche Perspektive durch die Tagebücher Maria Müller-Karpffs auf die Internierung in britisch-Indien zu Beginn des Ersten Weltkrieges* (2025)
8. Marius Hofmann, *Schweizer in Niederländisch Indien* (2025)
9. Lazar Kablinovic, «Care-Migration in der Schweiz seit den 1960er Jahren – Strukturen, politische Veränderungen und Handlungsspielräume der Care-ArbeiterInnen» (2025).
10. Iwan Betschart, «Wie prägte das Bewusstsein für Weltraumschrott im Kontext des Kalten Krieges die internationale Wahrnehmung und Regulierung des erdnahen Weltraums als schutzbedürftige Ressource?» (2025)
11. Christina Tuggener, *Das Wissen im Erdfall: Politische Geologie*, (co-supervision with Monika Wulz, ETH), (2025).
12. Sascha Deboni, "A Multinational Food Company Expanding in Post-Colonial India: A Transnational Social, Cultural, and Protest History of Nestlé in India." (2024)
13. Naomi Denzer, "Die Tieferlegung des Lungerersees." (2024)
14. Julian Fischer, "Fakethrough: How the breakthrough narrative and social structures enable scientific misconduct." (2024)

15. *Moir Pinkus, "Carbon Commodity, Carbon Company, Carbon Colony: The Voluntary Offset Market and its Participants: Buyers, Sellers and Stakeholders since the early 1990s." (2024) (Awarded Best Thesis in College of Arts, UZH)
16. Tarita Roychoudhuri (Masters in Urban Strategy, Drexel University), "Climate Change and Food Security in Kolkata". (2019)

PH.D SUPERVISION:

1. Camille Schneider, "Creatures of the Anthropocene: A Bioconstitutional History of Switzerland," University of Zurich, (ongoing).
2. Moira Pinkus, "Co2 : A Cultural History," University of Zurich, (ongoing).
3. Nikhil Dharan, "Colonial Alchemies: Chemical Knowledge and Industrialization in South India, 1890-1940," History and Sociology of Science, University of Pennsylvania, (2025) co-supervisor.
4. Tatiana Carbonella, "Climate Historiographies for a Pastoral Rhône Valley: Engineers, Scientists, and Travelers' Reports on Nineteenth Century Environmental Knowledge," ETH, (ongoing), co-supervisor.
5. Kiah Lian Rutz, "Material Ambiguities of Obsolescence," University of Zurich, (ongoing), co-supervisor.
6. Henrik Jochum, "Labore für One Health in Anthropozän," University of Zürich, (2025), co-supervisor.
7. Akshar Gajjar, "The Making of a Brick: Ecologies and Economies of its Production," EPFL, Lausanne, (ongoing), co-supervisor.
8. Naomi Denzer, Organised Business and Environmental Governance in Western Europe, 1945-1995, University of Zurich, (ongoing), co-supervisor.

PH. D. COMMITTEE MEMBER

1. Katherine Sinclair, "'Regimes of High Fantasy': Experiments in Sovereignty on the French Sub-Antarctic Islands since 1893" (Rutgers University, New Brunswick, 2024).
2. Meghna Chaudhuri, "A Measure of Value: Life, Land, and Agrarian Finance in South Asia, 1830-1950," (New York University, 2020).
3. Sritama Chatterjee, "Ordinary Environments and Aesthetics in Contemporary Indian Ocean Archipelagic Writings" University of Pittsburg. (2026)

EXAMINER (PH.D. DISSERTATION)

1. Mark Jones, "Custom, Law and John Company in Kumaon: The Meeting of Local Custom with the Emergent Formal Governmental Practices of the British East India Company in the Himalayan Nation of Kumaon, 1815-1843" (Australian National University, 2018).
2. Anwesha Ghosh, "Municipal Calcutta: Urban Governance in a Colonial City" (University of Toronto, 2020).
3. Tamara Fernando, "Pearling Labour and Environments across the Indian Ocean 1880-1925" (Cambridge University, 2021).
4. Tara Suri, "Selling Simians: Decolonization, Science and 'The Human' in South Asia, 1925-1984" (Princeton University, 2022).
5. Sohini Chattopadhyay, "Dead Labor: Urban Technologies of Mass Death in Colonial Bombay and Calcutta, 1880s-1950s" (Columbia University, 2023).
6. Lucas Becker, "The Legacy of Oil: The Oil City and the Social Struggle for Energy in Latin America," (University of Geneva, 2026)
7. Bradley Steele, "Should we Consider the Settlerocene?" (Swinburne University, 2026)

8. Arithri Chakrabarty, “Labouring Animals and the British Empire in Eastern India, c. 1850 - 1920,” (Ashoka University, 2026)

EDITORSHIPS

- Editorial Board Member, *Anthropocene History*, (2025-)
- Editorial Board Member, *Environmental History*, (2025-2029).
- Series Editor with Daud Ali, *Nature, Culture and Colonialism in South Asia*, Primus Books (2024-)
- Editorial Advisory Council, *InterConnections: The Global 20th Century* (Book Series), University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (2024-2027)
- Editorial Board Member, *Environmental History Review*, (2024-)
- Editor in Chief, *History Compass* (2022 – 2023)
- South Asia Editor, *History Compass* (2019-2021)
- Contributing Editor, *Comparative Studies in South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* (2020-2025)
- Editorial Board Member, *Environment and History* (2020-2023)
- Board Member, Global Urban History Project (2020-2024)
- Advisory Board Member, *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* (2021-)

GRANT & REVIEW COMMITTEES

- Panel Member SH6, ERC Advanced Grant
- External Expert, Search Committee for the History of the Anthropocene, University of Vienna, 2024.
- Evaluation Panel Member, DFG Cluster Review, 2024-25.
- Reviewer, National Science Foundation (NSF), USA, 2024.
- Reviewer, European Research Council Advanced Grant, 2023
- Evaluation Panel Member, SNF Ambizione (SSH) 2024-2026.
- Reviewer SNF Ambizione, 2022-2023.
- Programme Committee (2023), American Historical Association
- Chair, St. Andrews Best Article in Environmental History Prize, 2022.
- BASAS Best Book in South Asian History, 2022.
- SNF Ambizione Fellowship 2022, 2023.
- Review Committee for Canada Research Chair, 2021.
- Review Committee for A. H. Heineken Prize for History 2022, Netherlands.
- Review Committee for Netherlands Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), (2021-2023)
- Reviewer, Fulbright-Nehru Teaching Fellowship 2021.
- External Evaluation, Sanders Professorship, Department of History, DePaul University, 2020.
- Prize Committee Member, Hal Rothman Dissertation Prize, American Society for Environmental History, 2019-2022.
- Selection Committee “Early Career Fellowship for STEM in South Asia,” University of Pennsylvania, 2016 (Selected Dr. Senthil Babu).
- Reviewer “Water Urbanism Studio,” Graduate School of Architecture and Planning, Columbia University, New York, 2017.

TENURE REVIEW

University of California, (Berkeley), Babson College, Sciences Po, University of Zurich, Indian Institute of Management (Calcutta), Yale University (third-year review).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Vice-President, *European Society for Environmental History* (2025-2027)
- Manuscript Workshop (first book): NJIT (Rutgers), University of California (Berkeley)
- COVID-19 Mentorship for International Students, Global Urban History Project 2020-2021.
- Discussant, Liquid Legalities, *Law and Society Association*, May 2019.
- Chair and Discussant, River Cities Summit, Surabaya, Indonesia, December 2017.
- Resource Person, Inaugural Urban Summit 2017, Lindy Institute, Drexel University.
- Organized two Professional Development Panels for the *American Historical Association* 2017 (Transitioning to the Professoriate and Digital Ecologies and the Historian).
- Discussant and Chair, History of Law, Public Policy and Economics in Crisis, *American Historical Association*, 2017.
- Discussant and Chair, Ocean of Law, Leiden University, December 2016.
- Discussant, Panel on Relocating Subalternity, Utrecht University, December 2016.
- Moderator, Abhay Khumar's *Placebo* Screening, Studium Generale, Leiden University, November 2016.
- Elected Councilor (Professional Division), *American Historical Association* 2016-2019.
- Discussant "Science Beyond West," Consortium for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, Philadelphia, Spring 2016.
- Discussant, Economic History Forum, University of Pennsylvania, Spring 2016.
- Co-organized the 2015 Indian Urban Studies Workshop, CASI, University of Pennsylvania.
- Discussant, "Debt and Colonial Rule," MESAAS Graduate Student Conference, Columbia University, March 2015.
- Chair and Discussant, "Colonialism and its Subjects," 18th Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of Law, Culture and Humanities, University of Georgetown, March 2015.

SERVICE FOR UZH

- Career Commission, 2024-
- Gender Commission, 2024 -
- Program Committee MA in Economic History, 2024-
- Member UZH Commission on Sustainability, 2024-
- Search Committee, Ancient Indian Studies, 2025
- Search Committee, History of Africa, 2025
- Search Committee, Gender Studies, 2025
- Co-Director, MA Program in Cultural Analysis, 2023-2025.
- Tenure Committee, Geography Department UZH, 2023, 2025
- Program Committee MA in Contemporary History, 2022-
- Director, Digital History Lab, 2022 –

SERVICE FOR DREXEL UNIVERSITY

University level Committees

- University-wide Search Committee for the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, 2018-19.
- Advisor, Global Engagement Scholar Program, 2016-17.
- Judge, University Research Day, 2015.
- Social Science Research Committee, 2018-2023.

College Level

- Strategic Planning Committee, 2020-21.
- Curricular Innovation Award Committee, 2020-2021.
- Search Committee, Head Search for the Department of Sociology, 2020.
- Program Committee Asian Studies Minor, Department of Global Studies and Modern Languages, 2019.
- Syllabus Committee (History Component) for Masters in Urban Strategy, 2017.
- Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Prize Committee, 2016, 2017, 2018.
- Program Committee, Mid-Atlantic Regional Association for Asian Studies (MARAAS), 2017.

Departmental Committees:

- Chair, Curriculum Committee, 2018-2021.
- Search Committee for Visiting Assistant Professor on History of Global Capitalism, 2020.
- Search Committee for Visiting Assistant Professor on Disaster History, 2019.
- Internal Search Committee for the Chair of the History Department, 2018.
- Promotion Committee for Lloyd Ackert, Associate Teaching Professor, 2018.
- Advisor, Phi Alpha Theta, 2015-17.
- Chair, Co-Curricular Committee, 2016-18.
- Member of Transnational History Masters Ad-hoc Committee, 2016.
- Search Committee to hire an Assistant Professor in Transnational Environmental History, 2015.
- Teaching Committee, 2015-2016.
- Lorantas and History Politics Essay Prize Selection Team, 2014-2015.
- Ad-hoc committee on Global History Curriculum, Drexel University, Department of History & Politics, 2014-2015.
- Ad-hoc Syllabus Committee, Drexel University, Department of History & Politics, 2014.

SERVICE FOR EMORY UNIVERSITY

- Graduate Student Speaker for “Conducting Research in International Archives,” Emory University, April 2014.
- Co-organized the “South Asia Research Group,” Emory University, Spring 2013.
- Co-organized the first graduate student conference for Colonial/Postcolonial Seminar Series at Emory University entitled *Thinking the Enemy*, October 2009.

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER

Stanford University Press, Chicago University Press; Princeton University Press, Cambridge University Press; Washington University Press; University of Pittsburg Press; Routledge; Bloomsbury.

American Historical Review; Environmental History; Journal for the History of Meteorology, Harvard Data Science, Review, Urban History; South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies; Modern Asian Studies; Postcolonial Studies; South Asian Studies; Gender, Place, Culture; Comparative Studies in History and Society; Agrarian History; Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East; Global Environment; philoSOPHIA: A Journal of Continental Feminism; Past Tense; Engineering Studies.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Native speaker: English, Bengali

Fluent (reading, writing and speaking): German, Hindi

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Historical Association

Global Urban History Project

American Society for Environmental History

European Society for Environmental History

Asian Studies Association

Law and Society Association