UC San Diego
South Asia Initiative

Check out our brand new website!

southasia.ucsd.edu

A warm welcome to our new affiliate faculty

MEERA MAHADEVAN, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Meera Mahadevan is an Assistant Professor at the School of Global Policy and Strategy. Her research examines how political and institutional barriers shape the provision of energy and resources, focusing on issues such as clean energy adoption, infrastructure quality, and the economic impacts of resource allocation. Through a blend of empirical and experimental approaches, her work seeks to inform policies that promote equitable and sustainable development. She is also affiliated with the Center for Effective Global Action (CEGA) and J-PAL's King Climate Action Initiative. Meera holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Michigan and has published in journals such as the American Economic Review and the Journal of Public Economics.

AMRITA DHAR, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH & COMPARITIVE LITERATURE

Amrita Dhar is an Assistant Professor of English and Comparative Literature, specializing in early modern studies, disability studies, and postcolonial studies. Her research spans topics like John Milton's blind poetics, premodern critical race studies, and mountaineering social histories, supported by grants from institutions such as the National Endowment for the Humanities. She is completing her first monograph, Milton's Blind Language and Disability Poetics, and directs the Shakespeare in the "Post"Colonies project, which includes a website, podcast, and two upcoming publications: an Arden Shakespeare volume and a journal special issue. An avid climber, she also writes on global mountaineering literatures.

NIYATI SHENOY, LECTURER, HUMANITIES (REVELLE COLLEGE)

Niyati Shenoy is a Lecturer in Humanities at Revelle College. She earned her PhD in Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies at Columbia University, where she researched rape and the politics of public space in early colonial north India. Her teaching and research interests include social and legal history, South Asia and the Indian Ocean, historical anthropology, transnational queer and feminist political theory, and caste studies.

NEW SOUTH ASIA STUDIES MINOR COURSES

WINTER 2025

CGS 136. GENDER, TECH AND DEVELOPMENT

TUE/THU: 11:00 A -12:20 P IN CENTR 208
with Professor Deepti Chatti

Can smart and innovative technologies fix global inequalities and solve contemporary social and environmental problems? Drawing on academic texts, news, popular media, and development literature, students will learn to critically analyze imaginations of technology as an apolitical solution to contemporary socio-environmental challenges and understand how the racialized and gendered targets of international development are produced and imagined.
Prerequisites: CGS 2A or 2B or at least one CGS upper-division course.

HISA 110
Winter 2025

Modern India and South Asia

Professor Aniket De
Department of History
T Th 3:30 - 4: 50 pm
PCYNH 120

An introduction to the modern history of
one of the most vibrant and important regions of the world

No pre-requisites | A "core" course for the South Asian Studies Minor

SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES MINOR WINTER 2025 COURSES

CORE CLASSES

ANSC 190: Yoga Practices
ETHN 167A: Decolonial Muslim Feminism
HISA 144: Topics in South Asian History
LTEN 181: Asian American Literature
LTWL 184: Film Studies & Lit Analysis - "Bollywood"
MUS 95W: World Music Ensemble
(needs to be taken 2x)

ELECTIVES

ANSC 148: Global Health and Cultural Diversity
ECON 116: Economic Development
ECON 138: Economics of Discrimination
ECON 185: Detecting Discrimination in Data
GLBH 100: Special Topics/Global Health
GLBH 113: Women's Health/Global Perspective
INTL 102: Religion & Conflict Econ, Politics, Int Change
INTL 190: Topics in International Studies Seminars
LTEN 189: 20th Century Postcolonial Literature
POLI 117: Bending the Curve: Climate Change Solutions
POLI 127: Politics of Development
SIO 116: Climate Change & Global Health
TDHT 101: Performance and Climate Change

ADDITIONAL COURSES CAN BE PETITIONED

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES MINOR, PLEASE EMAIL LYDIA RAMIREZ – LPRAMIREZ@UCSD.EDU
OR SAIBA VARMA – S2VARMA@UCSD.EDU

Upcoming winter quarter events

1. CELEBRATING THE BOOK 'DECOLONIZE DRAG' WITH KAREEM KHUBCHANDANI (ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF THEATRE, DANCE & PERFORMANCE STUDIES AT TUFTS) IN CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSOR JADE POWER SOTOMAYOR (THEATRE & DANCE) AND MYRTA LESLIE SANTANA (MUSIC)
DATE: FEBRUARY 13TH, 2025
TIME: 12:30PM TO 2PM
LOCATION: TBA

2. LESSONS IN DRAG WITH LAWHORE VAGISTAN
DATE: FEBRUARY 13TH, 2025
TIME: 7PM
LOCATION: DANCE STUDIO 3, THEATRE & DANCE DEPARTMENT

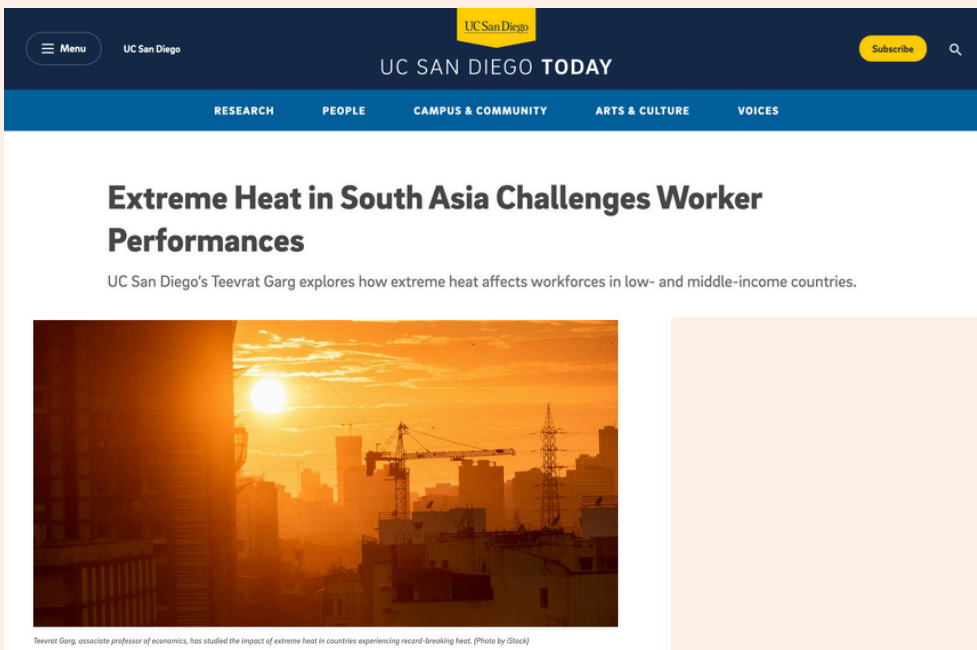3. 'COMMUNICATION AND DISCRIMINATION' WITH DUNCAN WEBB (POST DOC @ PRINCETON)
DATE: MARCH 6TH, 2025
TIME: 3:30 PM TO 4:50PM
LOCATION: WLH 2005

SAI FACULTY IN THE NEWS
PROFESSOR TEEVRAT GARG EXPLORES HOW EXTREME HEAT IMPACTS WORKER PRODUCTIVITY IN SOUTH ASIA

Teevrat Garg (Photo courtesy of Teevrat Garg)

Professor Teevrat Garg, examines the profound effects of extreme heat on worker performance in South Asia in his latest study. Highlighting how rising global temperatures are disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations, his research uncovers the economic and social challenges faced by workers in high-heat environments. The findings emphasize the urgent need for adaptive strategies to safeguard worker well-being and productivity in the face of climate change.

Read more: Extreme Heat in South Asia Challenges Worker Performances

Fellowships and scholarships from the American Institute of Indian Studies

AIIS DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS

The American Institute of Indian Studies is pleased to invite proposals for its Digital India Learning (DIL) initiative that demonstrate a sustained use of digital methodology and resources in the exploration of a research topic focused on India.

AIIS welcomes projects at all stages of development, including pilots at a preliminary stage of conception that: foster the digital production and dissemination of knowledge about India; promote the creation and use of digital resources and media for the study of India; promote digital collaboration across disciplines including, and especially, between the humanities, social sciences, and STEM fields.

The application should include:
a) a proposal
b) a budget
c) a coversheet
d) a two-page CV for each principal investigator

Submit applications as a single pdf by email to aiis@uchicago.edu.

Deadline January 31, 2025

Evaluation of the proposal will be based on potential impact on specific fields of research, on technical innovation and feasibility, on sustainability and data management plans, and plans for open access of deliverables in the spirit of digital/public scholarship.

Decisions will be made by March 1, 2025. Those selected will be able to carry out their projects on a schedule of their choosing from May 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026.

More Information and application instructions
indiastudies.org/aiis-digital-scholarship-grants

Language Study Oppurtunities American Institute of Indian Studies

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF INDIAN STUDIES

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-26 LANGUAGE STUDY IN INDIA

LANGUAGES OFFERED

BENGALI (Kolkata) **HINDI** (Jaipur) **KANNADA** (Mysore) **MALAYALAM** (Thiruvananthapuram) **MARATHI** (Pune) **PUNJABI** (Chandigarh) **SANSKRIT** (Pune) **TAMIL** (Madurai) **TELUGU** (Hyderabad) **URDU** (Lucknow) *other languages upon request*

LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Participants will spend four hours a day in the classroom increasing proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. In the afternoons and on weekends, students have individual tutorials with regular out-of-class assignments requiring interaction with community members. Attendance is mandatory for all program activities.

AIIS language programs emphasize interaction with the local community and self-management of learning. Participants identify and prioritize their language learning needs and keep track of their language development. Students are encouraged to stay with host families to enhance their language learning.

ELIGIBILITY

- Graduate and junior- and senior-level under-graduate students at U.S. colleges and universities
- Teachers in area studies
- Others who can demonstrate how intensive language study will further their professional goals

Note: this is an intensive immersive language program that will not permit the conducting of research. Others not enrolled in the program may not accompany students.

FEES AND FINANCIAL AID

- Program fee: $8,000 plus airfare
- AIIS offers a number of fellowships, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, to be awarded on a competitive basis (NOT available for Sanskrit).
- These fellowships include all program fees, round-trip airfare to India and a maintenance allowance to cover living expenses.
- Those eligible for fellowships include U.S. citizens and permanent residents with two years prior language study; other students would need to fund their own participation.

The American Institute of Indian Studies is a cooperative, non-profit organization, whose members are American colleges and universities whose faculty have a special interest in Indian studies.

APPLICATION DEADLINE
January 31, 2025

LEARN MORE
www.indiastudies.org/language-programs/

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF INDIAN STUDIES

SUMMER 2025
LANGUAGE STUDY
IN INDIA

LANGUAGES OFFERED

BENGALI (Kolkata) **HINDI** (Jaipur)
KANNADA (Mysore) **MALAYALAM**
(Thiruvananthapuram) **MARATHI**
(Pune) **PUNJABI** (Chandigarh)
SANSKRIT (Pune) **TAMIL** (Madurai)
TELUGU (Hyderabad) **URDU** (Lucknow)
other languages upon request

LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Participants will spend four hours a day in the classroom increasing proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. In the afternoons and on weekends, students have individual tutorials with regular out-of-class assignments requiring interaction with community members. Attendance is mandatory for all program activities.

AIIS language programs emphasize interaction with the local community and self-management of learning. Participants identify and prioritize their language learning needs and keep track of their language development. Students are encouraged to stay with host families to enhance their language learning.

ELIGIBILITY

• Graduate and undergraduate students at U.S. colleges and universities
• Others who can demonstrate how intensive language study will further their professional goals

PREREQUISITE LANGUAGE TRAINING

• Hindi: one year
• Urdu: one year of Urdu or Hindi
• Mughal Persian: one year of Persian or Urdu
• All other languages: none required

The American Institute of Indian Studies is a cooperative, non-profit organization, whose members are American colleges and universities whose faculty have a special interest in Indian studies.

Note: this is an intensive immersive language program that will not permit the conducting of research. Others not enrolled in the program may not accompany students.

FEES AND FINANCIAL AID

Apply to your home institution for Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships or other support to pay for travel, maintenance and the $3,000 program fee. AIIS can support a limited number of admitted students who cannot obtain other funding. Masters level students can apply for funding for a capstone project to take place upon completion of the program.

CRITICAL LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP

Students interested in Hindi or Urdu should also apply to the U.S. State Department's Critical Language Scholarship program (www.clscholarship.org), also operated by AIIS.

APPLICATION DEADLINE
January 31, 2025

LEARN MORE
www.indiastudies.org/language-programs/

Postdoctoral Fellowship in South Asian Studies at Yale University

POSTDOC FELLOWSHIPS

2025-26

YALE UNIVERSITY

he South Asian Studies Council at the MacMillan Center invites applications for a Postdoctoral Associate position at Yale University for the 2025-2026 academic year. Candidates must have research and teaching experience relevant to modern and contemporary South Asia, in the humanities or social sciences.

During the two semesters of this appointment, the Postdoctoral Associate will teach one course related to their interests per semester, pursue their own research, and participate in the activities of the South Asian Studies Council. Selected Postdoctoral Associates are expected to be in residence in New Haven, Connecticut for the full duration of the appointment to take an active part in the intellectual exchange with other members of the Program and the MacMillan Center.

The salary for this position is commensurate with experience and complies with the Yale Office of Postdoctoral Affairs compensation policy and includes a benefits package.

Qualifications

All applicants must have completed their PhD by the time of appointment. Graduate students who are working on their PhDs may apply but must present proof of having completed and filed their dissertations, even if awaiting formal conferral of the PhD degree. Fluency in English is required, as is in-depth knowledge of at least one South Asian language.

Application Instructions

Applicants should submit a cover letter; a one-page description of research plans; a draft of a course syllabus and a title and brief summary of a second course; and a CV. Letters of reference are not required at this initial stage but will be requested later.

We will accept applications immediately with review beginning on February 15, 2025 and continuing until the selections are final.

All information from the applicant should be submitted electronically through Interfolio: https://apply.interfolio.com/159902

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL: SOUTH.ASIA@YALE.EDU

SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES @ UC BERKELEY

SASLI 2025
South Asia Summer Language Institute
sasli.wisc.edu

2025 SUMMER SASLI APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN!

VISIT SASLI.WISC.EDU TO LEARN MORE & APPLY!

PROGRAM DATES:
JUNE 16 - AUGUST 8, 2025

PRIORITY DEADLINE:
MARCH 15, 2025

AVAILABLE LANGUAGES:
- BENGALI
- DARI
- GUJARATI
- HINDI
- MARATHI
- NEPALI
- PASHTO
- PUNJABI
- SANSKRIT
- SINHALA
- TAMIL
- TIBETAN
- URDU

SCAN QR CODE TO APPLY NOW!

▶▶▶▶▶ QUESTIONS? SASLI@LPO.WISC.EDU ◀◀◀◀◀

SAI's 2024-2025 Steering Committee members are:
Shermin de Silva (EBE)
Teevrat Garg (GPS)
Gaurav Khanna (GPS)
Aftab Jassal (Anthropology)
Rishika Mehrishi (Theatre & Dance)
Silpa Mukherjee (Literature)
Gareth Nellis (Political Science)
Saiba Varma (Anthropology)

For more information, email us: southasiaucsd@gmail. com
and follow us on Instagram @southasiaucsd