

Jap-Nanak Makkar  
Curriculum Vitae

Wilkes University  
84 West South Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

218 S. Franklin St.  
Apartment 2  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

japnanakmakkar.org  
japnanak.makkar@wilkes.edu

434-466-1327 (cell)  
570-408-4528 (office)

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2018            Assistant Professor of Postcolonial Literature and Digital Humanities,  
Department of English, Wilkes University

## EDUCATION

Ph.D.            University of Virginia, English Language and Literature, 2018  
Committee: Mrinalini Chakravorty (director), Rita Felski, Sandhya Shukla

M.A.            University of Toronto, English Literature, 2011

B.A.            University of Toronto, English Literature (Hons., with distinction), 2010

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

in production    “More on the Missing Half Second: A Review of Hayles and Hansen,”  
*boundary 2* (February 2020)

2019            “A Trademark on Irony: J.M. Coetzee’s Formalism, Digital Copyright,  
Literary Proprietorship,” *Contemporary Literature*, 59.2 (Summer 2018):  
204-231

### Encyclopedia Entries

- 2016            “Jean Genet” in *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism* (ed. Stephen Ross), <https://www.rem.routledge.com/articles/genet-jean-1910-1986>.
- 2018            “Nirala” in *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism* (ed. Stephen Ross), <https://www.rem.routledge.com/articles/tripathi-suryakant-c-1899-1961>
- forthcoming    “Mahmoud Darwish” *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism* (ed. Stephen Ross).

### In Progress

- 2019            “Black Boxes & Glass Curtains: Cybernetics in Literary History”
- 2019            *Uses of Autonomy: Literature and Theory after Cybernetics* (book manuscript)

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2018            Type II Research Award, Wilkes University
- 2017            Buckner W. Clay Award in the Humanities (won with Austin Hetrick) for “Irrationality & the Contemporary” Conference, Institute for the Humanities and Global Cultures
- 2016            HASTAC (Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory) Fellowship, 2016-2018, HASTAC
- 2016            UVA Department of English Summer Grant, UVA Department of English
- 2015            Graduate Student Research Grant, Center for Global Inquiry and Innovation, UVA
- 2014            Foreign Study Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, UVA
- 2014            UVA Department of English Research Grant, UVA Department of English
- 2013            Irish Seminar Scholarship, Keough Naughton Institute of Irish Studies, University of Notre Dame

- 2010 Viola Whitney Pratt Memorial OSOTF Scholarship in English, Viola Whitney Pratt Memorial Fund
- 2010 Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship—Master’s, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

### Panels Organized

- 2019 “‘Legacies’ of Modernism,” MSA Seminar, Organizer, October 17-20, 2019.
- 2018 “Automation,” ACLA Seminar, Organizer, March 29-April 1, 2018.
- 2017 “Technology, History and the Transnational Novel,” SLSA Panel, Organizer, November 9-12, 2017.
- 2016 “Literature’s Boundary Work: New Media and New Textualities,” ACLA Seminar, Co-Organizer, with Annie Galvin, Scott Kushner, and Jonathan Abel, March 17-20, 2016.

### Presentations

- 2020 “*Aporia* & Archive: Djebbar, Spivak and Information Theory.” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA). Seminar organized by Timothy Brennan, Geordie Miller and Christian Gerzso. Chicago, IL, March 19-22. (Provisionally Accepted)
- 2020 Invited: “Interactivity: Feedback Loops in Fiction and Digital Media.” Modern Language Association (MLA). Seattle, WA, January 9-12, 2020. (Accepted)
- 2019 Invited: “Doubt in Conrad and Cliff.” Modernist Studies Association (MSA). Toronto, Ontario, CA, October 17-20, 2019.
- 2019 “Self-Reference in Cybernetics and the Novels of Michelle Cliff.” The Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present (ASAP). University of Maryland, College Park. College Park, MD, October 10-12, 2019.

- 2019 "Little Doubt: Conrad, Wiener, Cliff." Institute on Culture and Society (ICS), Marxist Literary Group at the University of Illinois Chicago. Chicago, IL, June 22-26, 2019.
- 2018 "Ishiguro's Characters: From Reason to Rationality in *Never Let Me Go*." Society for Literature, Science & the Arts (SLSA). Toronto, Ontario, CA, November 15-18, 2018.
- 2018 "Novels after Cybernetics: Realism, Agency, Automation" American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA). Los Angeles, CA, March 29-April 1, 2018.
- 2017 "Novel Arrangements in Electronic Modernity." Society for Literature, Science & the Arts (SLSA). Tempe, AZ, November 9-12, 2017.
- 2017 "Ozeki's Realism: On Textual and Visual Media after 1945." International Society for the Study of Narrative (ISSN). Lexington, KY, March 23-26, 2017.
- 2017 "The Technological Conditions of Postcolonial Literature, and Indra Sinha's *Animal's People*." Modern Language Association (MLA). Philadelphia, PA, January 5-8, 2017.
- 2016 "Libet's Missing ½ Second, Digital Technology, and Political Critique." Interdisciplinary Humanities Center (IHC), UC Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara, CA, May 12-13, 2016.
- 2016 "Coetzee Against the Disc: Literary Ownership and Our Fear of New Media." American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA). Cambridge, MA, March 17-20, 2016.
- 2015 "American Racism in a Global Field: An Investigation of Multiple Media Forms." SAMLA 87. Durham, NC, November 13-15, 2015.
- 2015 "Life Style: Neoliberal Biopower and the Contemporary American Novel." UCD Clinton Institute for American Studies. Dublin, Ireland, February 20, 2015.
- 2013 "Dialectic: Modernity's Method and Postmodernity's Response." University of Chicago, Society of Fellows. Chicago, IL, May 5, 2013.

**Roundtable Talks, Position Papers or Other Conference Activity**

- 2019 “What Are You Reading?” presentation on James Purdon’s *Modernist Informatics: Literature, Information and the State*. Modernist Studies Association (MSA). Toronto, Ontario, CA, October 17-20, 2019.
- 2019 Paper presentation in Seminar, “Indigenous, African, and Asian (Diasporic) Cultural Production 1900-1950: New Frameworks, New Archives, New Histories.” Modernist Studies Association (MSA). Toronto, Ontario, CA, October 17-20, 2019.

### **INVITED TALKS (ON CAMPUS)**

- 2019 “Civic Responsibility” Spring Lecturer, Sigma Tau Delta Honor Society, Wilkes University.
- 2017 “Public Debate and the Commercial Internet,” Panel Participant, Forum on “Media, Technology and Citizenship” at the Institute of Humanities and Global Cultures (IHGC), University of Virginia, March 1, 2017.

### **ORGANIZATION OF MAJOR CONFERENCES**

- 2018 Conference Co-organizer, “Irrationality & The Contemporary,” Institute for Humanities and Global Cultures (IHGC), University of Virginia, May 4, 2018, Keynoted by Wendy H. K. Chun.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **Teaching Interests**

Global and Postcolonial Literature; Modern and Contemporary British Literature; Diasporic South Asian Literature and Media; Modernism and Postmodernism; Digital Humanities; Literature and Technology; Women’s literature and Digital Media; Race and Digital Media; Literary Theory; Topics in Literary Theory (Structuralism and Poststructuralism); Marxism

#### **Courses Taught**

Wilkes University, Sole Instructor

Studies in Postcolonial Literature (1 section, fall 2019)

Survey of British Literature: Romanticism to Present (1 section, spring 2019)

Introduction to Digital Humanities (1 section, fall 2018)

Introduction to Literature and Culture (4 sections, spring 2019, fall 2019, spring 2020)

Composition (6 sections, fall 2018, spring 2019, fall 2019, spring 2020)

University of Virginia, Sole Instructor

Digital Peripheries (themed composition, 2 sections, spring 2017)

Gender Across New Media (themed composition, 2 sections, fall 2016)

The Globalized World (second-year literature course, fall 2014)

On Agitators and Activists (themed composition, fall 2013 and spring 2014)

University of Virginia, Teaching Assistant

Academic and Professional Writing (spring 2013)

History of Literature in English III, 1900 to present (fall 2012)

### **Supervision of Capstone Projects**

2019      Mackenzie Egan

### **Advising**

2019      Sydney Kraynack

### **ACADEMIC SEMINARS AND INSTITUTES**

2016      Participant in “Seeing Madness: Insanity, Media, and Visual Culture,” seminar offered by School of Criticism and Theory (SCT), led by W. J. T. Mitchell, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

- 2016 Participant in “Feminist Digital Humanities: Theoretical, Social, and Material Engagements,” seminar offered by Digital Humanities Summer Institute (DHSI), led by E. Losh and J. Wernimont, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, June 2016.
- 2013 Participant in The Irish Seminar on Contemporary Irish Poetry, Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies, Notre Dame, and Centre Cultural Irlandais, Paris, France.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2007-10 Research Assistant under Simon Dickie, Associate Professor, University of Toronto. Assisted Simon Dickie in the research, editing and revision of his book, *Cruelty & Laughter* (Chicago UP, 2011).

## **SERVICE**

### **University, Wilkes University**

First-Year Foundations Committee, 2019-2021 (secretary)

### **Department, Wilkes English**

Sigma Tau Delta Advisor, 2019-2020  
English Major Entrance Survey, 2018-2020

### **Professional Associations**

SLSA Graduate Student Liaison, 2017-2018

### **Department, UVA English**

Technology and Media Studies Reading Group, Organizer (2016-2018)  
World Literature Reading Group, Organizer (2015-2018)  
UVA GESA, Theory Area Student Representative (2013-2014)  
Theory Reading Group, Co-Organizer (2013-2014)  
UVA GESA Conference, Volunteer Coordinator (Spring 2013)  
UVA GESA Conference, Abstracts Committee Member (Spring 2013)

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Modern Language Association (MLA)  
Marxist Literary Group (MLG)  
Modernist Studies Association (MSA)  
Society for Literature, Science & the Arts (SLSA)  
Society for Novel Studies (SNS)  
American Comparative Literature Association / International Comparative Literature  
Association (ACLA/ICLA)

## **LANGUAGES**

English: native  
French: reading proficiency  
Hindi: reading and conversational proficiency  
Punjabi: listening and conversational proficiency  
HTML, CSS: beginner  
XML/TEI: beginner

## **REFERENCES**

Mrinalini Chakravorty  
Associate Professor  
University of Virginia  
Bryan Hall 219, P.O. Box 400121  
Charlottesville, VA, 22904-4121  
434-924-6666  
mchakravorty@virginia.edu

Rita Felski  
William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor  
University of Virginia  
Bryan Hall 219, P.O. Box 400121  
Charlottesville, VA, 22904-4121  
434-924-6622  
felski@virginia.edu

Sandhya Shukla  
Associate Professor  
University of Virginia  
Bryan Hall 219, P.O. Box 400121  
Charlottesville, VA, 22904-4121



434-924-6616  
srshukla@virginia.edu

Victor Luftig (teaching)  
Professor  
University of Virginia  
Bryan Hall 219, P.O. Box 400121  
Charlottesville, VA, 22904-4121  
434-982-5205  
luftig@virginia.edu

W.J.T. Mitchell  
Gaylord Donnelley Distinguished Service Professor  
University of Chicago  
1115 E. 58th St.  
Chicago, IL 60637  
773-702-8536  
wjtm@uchicago.edu

*Updated 10/28/2019*