

## **Curriculum Vitae**

**V.G. JULIE RAJAN**

Rutgers University

Department of Women's and Gender Studies

162 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Work Phone: (732) 932-9331

Email: [vgjulie@womenstudies.rutgers.edu](mailto:vgjulie@womenstudies.rutgers.edu) / [vgjrajan@gmail.com](mailto:vgjrajan@gmail.com)

### **EDUCATION**

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- Ph.D. Comparative Literature, Rutgers University, May 2005  
Dissertation: "Rewriting Nation: Post-Independence Narratives of Resistance Written by Women from India and Pakistan"  
Committee: M. Josephine Diamond, Drucilla Cornell, Abena Busia, Charlotte Bunch, and Sonali Perera
- M.A. Comparative Literature, Rutgers University, October 2003
- M.L.A. The University of Pennsylvania, May 2000  
Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies  
Summer Study Abroad, Oxford University, Summer 1998
- B.A. The Johns Hopkins University, June 1993

### **CURRENT EMPLOYMENT**

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- Director, Masters Program, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers University,  
August 2010-present
- Assistant Professor, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers University,  
September 2012-present

### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

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- Assistant Professor, Rutgers University, Department of Women's and Gender Studies,  
Rutgers University, 2013-present
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers University,  
September 2007-2012
- Co-Acting Undergraduate Advisor, Department of Women's and Gender Studies,  
Rutgers University, Fall 2008-Spring 2009

Lecturer, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers University,  
Fall 2005-Spring 2007

Lecturer, Department of American Studies, Rutgers University, Spring 2006, Fall 2007

## **AWARDS AND GRANTS**

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Visiting Scholar, GEMMA Erasmus Mundus Program, May 2017

Visiting Poland and Italy to explore rising Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism in both  
nations related to Islamic State global initiatives

Scholar, Institute for Research in Women, Rutgers University, 2009-2010

Award for Excellence in Teaching, School of Arts and Sciences,  
Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers University, March 2009

Teaching Assistantship, Program in Comparative Literature, Rutgers University, 2004-2005

Award for Excellence in Teaching, School of Arts and Sciences,  
Program in Comparative Literature, Rutgers University, March 2004

Teaching Assistantship, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers University,  
2003-2004

Teaching Assistantship, Program in Comparative Literature, Rutgers University, 2002-2003

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Monographs**

*Women, Violence, and the Islamic State: Resurrecting the Caliphate through Femicide*  
(Routledge, forthcoming 2017)

*Al Qaeda's Global Crisis: The Islamic State, Takfir, and the Genocide of Muslims*  
(Routledge, February 2015)

*Women Suicide Bombers: Narratives of Violence* (Routledge, May 2011)

### **Edited Book Collections**

Co-Editor, *The State of Human Rights in Postcolonial India, 1947-2014*  
(Routledge India, May 2016)

Co-Editor, *Violence and Gender in the Globalized World: The Intimate and the Extimate*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.  
(Ashgate, September 2015)

Co-Editor, *Myth and Violence in the Contemporary Female Text: New Cassandras*  
(Ashgate, June 2011)

Co-Editor, *From Word to Canvas: Appropriations of Myth in Women's Aesthetic Production*  
(Cambridge Scholars Publishers, 2009)

Co-Editor, *South Asia and Its Others: Reading the "Exotic"*  
(Cambridge Scholars Publishers, 2009)

Co-Editor, *Violence and Gender in the Globalized World: The Intimate and the Extimate*  
(Ashgate, 2008)

Co-Editor, *Home and the World: South Asia in Transition* (Cambridge Scholars Publishers,  
2006)

### **Edited Journal Special Issues**

Guest Co-Editor, *Special Issue: "The United States, Security, and Human Rights: Extra-Ordinary 'Justice' in the Post-9/11 Era," The Security Journal* (March 2015)

Guest Editor, Special Issue: "Women and Terrorism: Violence, Conflict, and the Nation-State,"  
*Journal of Post-Colonial Cultures and Societies* (November 2013)

Guest Editor, Special Issue: "Women Suicide Bombers: Negotiations of Violence,"  
*Journal of Post-Colonial Cultures and Societies* (May 2013)

Guest Co-Editor, "Collecting Identities," *The Comparatist, Journal of the Southern Comparative Literature Association* (Fall 2007)

### **Book Chapters, Journal Articles, and Other Contributions**

Paper concerning human rights abuses affected by nation-states but blamed on terrorist organizations, *The Transformative Power of Narrative in Violent Contexts: Through the Looking Glass, 2017 Special Issue of the Journal of Political Psychology*, Nicolas Lemay-Hébert and Josefin Graef, eds. (due March 2017)

"Women Terrorists in Postcolonial Conflicts Globally," In Carola Dietze and Claudia Verhoeven, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of the History of Terrorism* (Oxford, Fall/Winter 2016)

"Woman Suicide Bomber (LTTE Sri Lanka)" *Encyclopedia of Gender and Sexuality Studies* (Wiley-Blackwell, May 2016)

"Women, Violence, and the Islamic State: Iraq and Syria," In Sanja Bahun and V.G. Julie Rajan, eds., *Violence and Gender in the Globalized World: The Intimate and the Extimate*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (Ashgate, September 2015)

“Indian Writing in the West: Imperialism, Exoticism, and Visibility,” *In* Om Dwivedi and Lisa Lau, eds., *Indian Writing in English and the Global Literary Market* (Palgrave MacMillan, October 2014)

“Fragmented Psyches: Violence and Body Image among South Asian American Women,” *In* Shamita Das Dasgupta, ed. *Body Evidence: Intimate Violence against South Asian Women in America* (Rutgers, March 2007)

For Manavi with Vinita Jethwani, “Assessing the Procurement and Utilization of Funds: A Case Study of South Asian Women’s Organizations in the US” (2007)

“Re-Visiting the ‘Margin,’ Recovering a New Center: Feminism and Modernity in Rokeya Hossain’s *Sultana’s Dream*,” *In* Marinos Pourgoris and Sanja Bahun-Radunović, eds. *The Avant-garde and the Margin: New Territories of Modernism*. (Cambridge Scholars Publishers, September 2006)

“Renewed Hope and Possibility: Palestinian Female Suicide Bombers Re-Awaken Conflict in the Middle East,” *New School Publication: Special Journal Edition* (March 2004)

“Reassessing Identity: A Post 9/11 Detainee Offers a New Perspective on Rights,” *The Subcontinental* (Winter 2003).

"Transgressive Gender Identity as a Marker of Cultural Crisis in Tagore and Woolf," *The Atlantic Literary Review*. Reprint. (June/July 2003)

"Transgressive Gender Identity as a Marker of Cultural Crisis in Tagore and Woolf," *Exit 9: Rutgers Journal of Comparative Literature* (Fall 2002)

## EDITORIAL BOARDS

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Editorial Board, *Catamaran* (South Asian American literary journal), March 2005-Summer 2007

Associate Editor, *SAGAR* (South Asian graduate student journal), July 2004-May 2005

Associate Editor, *The Subcontinental: A Journal of South Asian American Political Identity*, February 2003-August 2005

Editorial Board, *Exit 9: Rutgers Journal of Comparative Literature*, September 2002-Fall 2004

Contributing Editor, *Monsoon Magazine* (South Asian literary e-journal), July 1999-August 2001

## INVITED GUEST LECTURES

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“The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria: *Takfir*, Genocide, and Femicide,” Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Columbia University, April 16, 2015

“Female Suicide Terrorists,” *Defense against Suicide Bombing Course*, NATO’s Centre of Excellence Defense against Terrorism (COE-DAT), Ankara, Turkey, March 2-7, 2015

“Narratives of Violence: The Phenomenon of Women Suicide Bombers,” *Research Briefing*, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, Rutgers University, February 2008

“Women Suicide Bombers,” *Building Communities Series*, Rutgers University, Fall 2005

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

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### Presentations

“Women, Violence, and the Islamic State: Resurrecting the Caliphate through Femicide in Iraq and Syria,” EGDES Conference, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy, June 26, 2015

“Narratives of Violence and Terror: How Performances of Terror Circulated Internationally Have Impacted Women’s Realization of Rights Locally,” Roundtable: *Culture of Rights*, Institute for Research on Women, Rutgers University, February 2009

“Modernity and Sacrifice: Femininity and Agency in Postcolonial India,” Panel: *Reading the “Exotic”: South Asia and Its Others*. Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 2006

“Reading Female Suicide in the Postcolonial State,” Panel: *Anomalous Identities and Collective Agency in South Asia*. New York Conference on Asian Studies, St. Lawrence University, October 2006

“Surveillance and Hybridity in Vikram Seth’s *From Heaven Lake*,” Panel: *Language, Mysticism, and Iconography: Exploring the Cultural Interface between East and South Asia*. American Comparative Literature Association, Princeton University, March 2006

“Recreating the Native Female: Diasporic Appropriations of Female South Asian Writers and Their Texts,” Panel: *Is There Nowhere Else That We Can Meet?: Overlap and Distinctiveness within the Emerging South Asian Literary Canon*. Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 2005

“Female Gender Violence as a Tool for Forging Male Identity: Females of Kashmir at the Intersection of National, Ethnic, Religious, and Socio-Economic Consciousness, Fifty Years After Partition,” Panel: *Women and Nationalism*. National Women’s Studies Association, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 2004

“Regulating Imperial Power Via the Appropriation of Opium,” Panel: *Cross-Cultural and Gendered Collecting*. American Comparative Literature Association, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, April 2004

"Subverting Colonial Inscriptions of Race and Gender," Panel: *Resisting Tradition in Women's Literature*. Conference on South Asia, University of California, Berkeley, February 2004

### **Organization/Coordination**

Founder and Coordinator, *Rutgers University's Human Rights Panel Series*. Rutgers University, Spring 2007

Organizer and Co-Chair, *Being and Becoming: Perspectives on Global South Asia*. Conference on South Asia, Rutgers University, November 2006

Organizer and Co-Chair, *Reading the "Exotic": South Asia and Its Others*. Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 2006

Organizer and Co-Chair, *Language, Mysticism, and Iconography: Exploring the Cultural Interface between East and South Asia*. American Comparative Literature Association, Princeton University, March 2006

Organizer and Co-Chair, *Home and the World: South Asia in Transition*. Conference on South Asia, Rutgers University, March 2005

Founder and Coordinator, *Human Rights Speaker Series*. Rutgers University, Fall 2005 and 2006

Committee, *Tanika Sarkar at Rutgers University*. Rutgers University, October 2005

Organizer and Co-Chair, *Cross-Cultural and Gendered Collecting*. American Comparative Literature Association, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, April 2004

Organizer and Co-Chair, *In Ink: A Celebration of South Asian Writing*. Project-IMPACT, The University of Pennsylvania, October 2004

Committee, *Jhumpa Lahiri at Rutgers University*, Writers at Rutgers Series. Department of English, Rutgers University, March 2003

Moderator, Panel: *Comparative Literature in the Age of Globalization*, Fiftieth Anniversary of Rutgers University's Graduate School. Rutgers University, October 2003

Committee, *Fiftieth Anniversary, Rutgers University's Graduate School*, Comparative Literature.  
Rutgers University, October 2003

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES**

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Liaison for the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers University, *GEMMA*,  
*Erasmus Mundus Masters Degree in Women's and Gender Studies in Europe*, supported  
by the European Commission, Fall 2011-present

Assistant Coordinator, *Rutgers University's Global Initiative*, Rutgers University,  
May 2005-May 2007

Liaison, *FACE Human Rights Project*, with Dr. Michael Shafer, Department of Political Science,  
Rutgers University, September 2006-December 2006

Graduate Representative, Executive Board, *South Asian Studies Program*, Rutgers University,  
September 2004-June 2005

Research Assistant, Dr. Jasbir Puar, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers  
University, September 2004-May 2005

Volunteer, *2002 Women's Global Leadership Institute*, Center for Women's Global Leadership,  
New Brunswick, NJ, January 2002-December 2002

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **Rutgers University, Department of Women's and Gender Studies**

*Shaping a Life*, Douglass College, Fall 2001

*Women, Culture, and Society* (101), Fall 2004; Spring 2005 and 2015

*Introduction to Gender, Race, and Sexuality* (101 course renamed), Spring 2016

*Feminist Practices* (201), Fall 2010 and 2015

*Gender, Culture, and Representation* (202), Spring 2007, 2010-2014, 2016; Fall 2010, 2015

*Dynamics of Race, Class, and Sex* (235), Spring 2008; Fall 2010

*Comparative Feminism* (303), Spring 2006, 2009, 2017; Fall 2008

*South Asian Feminism* (310), Spring 2008 and 2009; Summer 2004

*Race, Gender, Nation* (329), Fall 2009 and 2011-2013, 2015-2016; Spring 2010 and 2012

*Memoir and Autobiography* (330), Spring 2007

*Social Justice Capstone Seminar* (904:402), spring 2017

*Gender and Human Rights* (405, with Charlotte Bunch), Fall 2003-2005, and 2009;  
Spring 2007-2015, 2017

*Gender and Human Rights* (405, taught solo), Spring 2014

*Internship Course* (425), Spring 2011, 2013-2014

*Honors Course* (479), Fall 2008; Spring 2009

*Social Justice Capstone*

*Ethics and Leadership: Global Human Rights* (480), Fall 2005-2007, 2012; Spring 2010,

**Initiated for Rutgers University**

**Department of American Studies, Rutgers University**

*Stereotypes in Popular Culture* (281), Winter 2007

*Ethnic America* (331), Spring 2006

**Program in Comparative Literature, Rutgers University**

*World Mythology* (150), Fall 2002 and 2005; Spring 2002 and 2003; Summer 2003

*Literature across Borders* (201), Spring 2005

*Introduction to the Literatures of India* (243), Summer 2002; Fall 2004

*Modern Literatures of India* (249), Spring 2003 and 2004, **Initiated for Rutgers University**

**Developed for the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures,  
Rutgers University**

*The British Raj and the Politics of Identity*, Fall 2004

**Program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, The University of Pennsylvania**

*Violence against Women in Conflict: Sexuality, Terrorism, and Human Rights*,  
Spring 2014 and 2015

Critical Debates in Global Human Rights, spring 2017

**Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Columbia University**

*Political Violence and Women's Rights*, Summer 2015

**UNDERGRADUATE COMMITTEES AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY**

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**Independent Study, Department of Women's and Gender Studies**

Director, Kaajal Kheny, "Women and Violence during Times of Partition in Bangladesh's 1971 War," Spring 2015

Director, Keith Sikora, "A Memory of Colonialism: Anti-Homonationalism in Iran and Sri Lanka," Fall 2014/Spring 2015

Director, Aliza Levinson, "Patriarchy, Prison, and Sexual Violence against Women in Prison: Resistance through Narratives," Spring 2012

Director, Kelly Bensal, "Black Men in Dresses: The Black Matriarch and Other Successful Stereotypes," Spring 2012

Director, Katherine Blouin, "Predictions of Recidivism: Influences of Negative Societal Attributions," Fall 2011



### **Independent Study, Department of Political Science**

Director, Carolyn Foley, focus on asylum and detention in the United States, Spring 2006

### **McNair Scholarship**

Co-Director, Mark Ray Lockwood, “Jr. Brother to Brother: The Politics of Black Masculinity in Black Greek Letter Fraternities,” Spring 2014

### **Honors, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies**

Director, Glenis Peres, “Consuming the Ideal Body: Desires and Happiness through Diet and Exercise Commercials,” Fall 2011-Spring 2012

Director, Komal Patel, “Immediate Reactions of Mainstream Media to Terrorist Attacks,” Fall 2010-Spring 2011

Director, Jolie Gralick, “War Paint: Lipstick & World War II,” Fall 2010-Spring 2011

Committee Member, Vidhi Patel, “Analyzing *Our Bodies, Ourselves*: The Past, Present, and Future of Women’s Health,” Fall 2010-Spring 2011

### **Honors, Interdisciplinary and University-Wide**

Committee Member, Prachi Baodhankar, “Unveiling the Issue and Empowering Victims Domestic Violence in the South Asian Immigrant Community in the United States,” Fall 2011-Spring 2012

Committee Member, Avi Smolen, focus on China’s and India’s relation to and status in the United Nations’ Human Rights Council, Fall 2008-Spring 2009

## **GRADUATE PROJECTS AND COMMITTEES**

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### **Independent Study at the Masters Level, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, Rutgers University**

N’Bsrat Gebreegziabher, Premised on *Gender and Human Rights* (405), Spring 2016

Carolyn Washington, Premised on *Gender and Human Rights* (405), Spring 2016

Jasleen Singh, “Liminal Spaces: Theorising Gender and Subjectivity in Sikh Feminist Practice,” Spring 2015

Intima al-Sdudi, Masters Candidate, “Israeli Apartheid,” Spring 2015-Fall 2015

**Committees for Graduation in the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies at Rutgers University**

***Masters Thesis***

Co-Director with Melinda Mangin, Kelle Carbone, dealing with trans-identity challenges,  
Fall 2016-present

Co-Director with Jasbir Puar, (Sikh) Feminist Practice: Navigating Race and Representation in  
the West,” Fall 2016-present

Committee Member, Natosha Yingling, “A Study of Disability, Criminality, and the  
‘Post-‘Human,’” Summer-Fall 2016

Director, Bo Jia, “Gender, Women’s Liberation, and the Nation-State: A Study of the Chinese  
Opera ‘The White-Haired Girl,’” Spring 2013-Spring 2015

Committee Member, Michelle St. George, “Positive Body Image Interventions for Adolescent  
Girls,” Spring 2013-October 2015

Committee Member, Lauren Rankin, “Shame and Blame Campaign: Shaming Teen Girls  
through American Teen Pregnancy Prevention Campaigns,” Spring 2013-Spring 2014

Committee Member, Sarah Weirich, “Blogging the Gendered Citizen: The Case of Egypt,”  
Spring 2011-Fall 2013

***Masters Practicum***

Co-Director with Andrea Hetling, Emily Michaelis, Spring 2016-present

Committee Member, Manira Alva, concerning Practicum with CWGL, Spring 2016-present

Director, Karuna Sristava, “Intersectionality in Action: How Cognizance of Multiple Identities  
Shapes the Work of Sakhi for South Asian Women,” Fall 2016

Director, N’Bsrat Gebreegziabher, “Horror at Home: Affordable and Permanent Housing for  
Women Survivors of Domestic Violence at Dina’s Dwellings,” Spring 2016-Fall 2016

Co-Director, Pat Hurley, concerning LGBTQ education in secondary schools in New Jersey  
with GLSEN, Fall 2015-present

Director, Erika Reed, “Essentializing Motherhood and the Negation of Maternal Grief  
Without Guilt,” Summer 2015-present

Committee Member, Chelsea Hill, “Gender across Party Lines: The Women of Congress and the Category of Woman,” November 2015-present

Director, Intima al-Sdudi, “Sexual Violence against Syrian Refugees in Jordan,” Spring 2013-Present

Committee Member, Jeremy LaMaster, “Community Leadership, Action & Service Program (CLASP) Exploring Pedagogy in Community Service-Learning,” Spring 2013-October 2014

Committee Member, Stephanie Hernandez, “The Sisters Connection,” Spring 2013-October 2014

Committee Member, Roya Amirniroumand, “Personal Narratives: Finding Universality in Our Lived Experiences,” regarding the Tyler Clementi Center at Rutgers, Spring 2013-October 2014

Committee Member, Kate Slider, “Women’s Leadership: An Opportunity to Rebuild Equal and Democratic Nations,” Fall 2011-Fall 2012

Committee Member, Lucy Lobo, “Realization of Women’s and Girls Agency in Pokot, Kenya, through a Human Rights Framework [FGM],” Fall 2011-Spring 2012

Committee Member, Aimee Maple, “The Doula Project: Doulas, Comprehensive Reproductive Justice and the Complexities of Abortion Experiences,” Spring 2011-Spring 2012

Committee Member, Rebecca Brafman, “Tackling Adversity: The Transformative Power of Rugby on the Lives of Teenage Girls,” Fall 2010

Committee Member, Rebecca Richman, “Unfinished Revolutions and Interdisciplinary Challenges in Feminist Knowledge Production,” Fall 2010

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

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Women’s human rights and human rights

Women and political violence

Human security, national security, and terrorism

Colonial and postcolonial theory, including historic and modern iterations of colonialism, anti-colonialism, and nationalist movements

Feminist and gender theory

South Asian native and diasporic culture, literature, and theory

## **LANGUAGES**

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English (native)  
French (conversation and basic reading/writing)  
Tamil (basic conversation proficiency)  
Spanish (basic reading)  
Latin (basic reading)