

# Kalindi Vora

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## Current Position

**University of California President's Postdoctoral Fellow,**  
University of California Berkeley, Anthropology Department

## Education

**University of California Santa Cruz,** Santa Cruz, CA, 2002-2007

Ph.D., History of Consciousness (Feminist Studies), June 2007.

Committee: James Clifford (Co-Chair), Donna Haraway, Neferti Tadiar (Co-Chair).

Dissertation Title: *Life, Global Capital, and the Value of Indian Labor*

- Areas of Concentration: Postcolonial Theory, Critical Race and Gender Theory, Feminist Theory, South Asian Area and Diaspora Studies, Political Philosophy, Cultural Studies, Social Studies of Science and Technology/Medical Anthropology.

**University of Hawai'i at Manoa,** Honolulu, HI, Fall 2000-Summer 2002

MA in Cultural Anthropology

Committee: Sankaran Krishna, Geoffrey White, Christine Yano (Advisor).

- Thesis title: *Miss India USA 2001: Flexible Practices, Creative Consumption, and Transnationality in Indian America*
- Certificate in International Cultural Studies (East-West Center)
- East-West Center Degree Fellow

My degree includes training in the four sub-disciplines of anthropology, and specialization in two: cultural anthropology and anthropological linguistics. My coursework focused on ethnographic theory and practice and cultural studies.

**American Institute of Indian Studies,** Udaipur, India, Summer 2001

Certificate in Advanced Graduate Hindi Language.

**Wesleyan University,** Middletown, CT, Fall 1994-Spring 1998

BA in Religion; Music

- Graduated with High Honors
- *Phi Beta Kappa*

**Antioch College Buddhist Studies Program,** Bodh Gaya, India, Fall 1996.

## Grants and Fellowships

**University of California Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship,** 2007-2008.

**University of California Presidential Dissertation Fellowship,** 2006-2007.

**Junior Research Fellowship,** American Institute of Indian Studies, 2005-6.

**Teaching Assistant Sabbatical Fellowship**, UC Santa Cruz, 2005.

**Fellow in the Seminar in Experimental Critical Theory** “Present Tense Empires, Race, Biopolitics,” University of California Humanities Research Institute, 2005.

**Qualifying Exam Fellowship**, History of Consciousness Program, 2004.

**Degree Fellow**, East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawai‘i, 2001-2002.

**Advanced Hindi Language Program Fellowship**, American Institute of Indian Studies, Summer 2001.

**Watumull Fellowship for Study in India**, University of Hawai‘i Center for South Asian Studies, 2001.

**Merit-based Tuition Grants**, Anthropology Department, University of Hawai‘i, 2000-2001.

## **Teaching Experience**

**University of California Santa Cruz, History of Consciousness Program**, Teaching Fellow Spring 2006. Course: *Life, Death, and the Human*.

Developed and taught a lecture course based on my dissertation research for eighty students at all undergraduate levels. The course focused on different instances in which the people’s material conditions are related both to the way their humanity is perceived by others, as well as to their position within global structures of power and economics.

**Antioch College Buddhist Studies Program in India**, Instructor, Fall 2005.

Courses: *History of Early Buddhism in South Asia* (Upper Division Seminar), and *Beginning Hindi Language*. Advised and prepared eight students for Independent Study field projects conducted during their final month in India.

**University of California Santa Cruz**, Teaching Assistant, 2002-2005.

- Feminist Studies 145, “Racial and Gender Formations in the U.S.” Spring 2005, Spring 2003.
- History of Art and Visual Culture 80N, “Indian Art and Ideology.” Winter 2005.
- Feminist Studies/Politics 112, “Women and the Law.” Fall 2004.
- History of Consciousness 80K, “Travel and Tourism in the Modern World.” Spring 2004.
- Film 132A, “International Film from 1920-1960.” Fall 2003.
- Community Studies 134, “Youth Cultures and Identity.” Winter 2003.
- Film 20A, “The Film Experience.” Fall 2002.

**Lecturer in Hindi**, Department of Hawaiian and Indo-Pacific Languages, University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Honolulu, Hawai'i. 2001-2002. Courses: *Hindi 101*, *Hindi 102*.

## **Research Experience**

### **Graduate Student Researcher**

- UCSC Faculty Senate Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity
- UCSC Feminist Studies
- UCSC History of Consciousness
- U. Michigan Middle East Awards for Population and Social Science Arab Families Working Group

## **Fieldwork**

**Independent Postdoctoral Research**, Center for the Study of Culture and Society, Bangalore India

**Doctoral Research**, Center for the Study of Culture and Society, Bangalore India

**Master's Research**, Rahway, New Jersey

## **Presentations**

### **"Feminized Labor and Value: Affective Labor in India's Call Centers."**

University of California Santa Barbara: "Interdisciplinary Conference on Intimate Labors." October 5-6, 2007.

**"Affect, Biocapital and India's Customer Service Industry."** University of California, Santa Cruz, Science Studies Graduate Student Conference: "Bio[X]: New Iterations of Lively Bodies," February 23, 2007.

### **"Affective Labor in South Asia's Domestic and Customer Service Industries"**

University of California Los Angeles Center for the Study of Women: "Thinking Gender." Feb. 2, 2007.

**"Globalization and Displacement: Women, Work, and Immigration."** Invited lecture for Mill's College's 'Introduction to Women's Studies' course. November 1, 2006.

### **"The Limits of Capital: Other's Organs as the Last Commodity."**

University of Hawai'i Manoa, Center for South Asian Studies "Neoliberalism in South Asia: Labor, Culture, Gender." April 15-17, 2004.

### **"Miss India USA 2001: Flexible Practices, Creative Consumption and Transnationality in Indian America."**

Journal of South Asian Popular Culture Inaugural Conference: "Voices From A Globalized South Asia: Social Justice & Cultural Hybridity," August 22-23, 2003.

### **"Miss India USA 2001: Flexible Practices, Creative Consumption and Transnationality in Indian America."**

Association of Asian American Studies Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, April 2003.

### **"London, Bombay, and Miss India USA: Emergent Indian-ness on a**

**Transnational Stage.”**

31<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin Madison, October 11-13, 2002.

**“The Transnationalization of Indian Identity: Miss India USA 2001.”**

East-West Center Association Meeting: “The Impact of Globalization On Building an Asia-Pacific Community.” Kuala Lumpur, July 1-4, 2002.

**“Pageantry and Indian Identity: Miss India USA, 2001.”**

East-West Center International Graduate Student Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii, February 22-24, 2002.

**Professional Memberships and Activities**

**American Association of Anthropology (AAA)**  
**Association of Asian American Studies (AAAS)**  
**Society for the Study of Science in Society (SSSS)**

**Student Representative**, History of Consciousness Faculty Search Committee, 2005 (by invitation).

**Organizer**, Panel discussion (speakers by invitation): “On Geopolitics, Feminisms, and Global War,” sponsored by the UCSC Center for Cultural Studies, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

**Founder**, UCSC Center for Cultural Studies Research Cluster for Critical Race Studies, 2004-2005.

**Curatorial Committee Member**, 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Women of Color Film Festival 2005, organized by the UCSC Center for Cultural Studies’ Research Cluster for the Study of Women of Color in Collaboration and Conflict.

**Articles Under Review for Publication**

“Re-Evaluating Bodies: The Limits of Capital and Others’ Organs.”

“Miss India USA 2001: Flexible Practices, Creative Consumption, and Transnationality in Indian America.”

**Languages**

Hindi, German

**Volunteer Work**

**Distinguished Service Award**, for work with the Education Program at the East West Center, Honolulu, Hawai’i.

**Education and Development Instructor (Volunteer)**, Jamyang Choling Women’s Institute, Dharamsala, India. Fall 1998.

Jamyang Choling serves as a college-level educational institution for Tibetan nuns from India, Tibet, Bhutan, Nepal, and Mongolia. My work included developing a course curriculum for three levels of English classes and teaching these courses through a combination of Hindi and English instruction.

## References

### **James Clifford**

Professor of History of Consciousness  
University of California  
1156 High Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 94610

### **Donna Haraway**

History of Consciousness  
University of California  
1156 High Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 94610

### **Neferti Tadiar**

Associate Professor of Women's Studies  
Barnard College, Columbia University  
3009 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027-6598

### **Gina Dent**

Assoc. Professor of Feminist Studies  
University of California  
1156 High Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 94610

### **Aihwa Ong**

Professor of Anthropology  
University of California Berkeley  
232 Kroeber Hall  
Santa Cruz, CA 94720-3710