

# SHIV SUBRAMANIAM

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies  
Columbia University in the City of New York  
785-550-1934 | sks2184@columbia.edu

### AREAS OF RESEARCH

Classical Sanskrit literature; Sanskrit poetics and rhetoric; Śrīvaiṣṇavism (its theology and scriptural hermeneutics); genre theory and the lyric; the theory of literary criticism; intersections between literature and philosophy; premodern Tamil literature and culture.

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2022- Assistant Professor in Religion, Emory University  
2020-22 Lecturer in Sanskrit and Tamil Language, Columbia University  
2020 Spring Lecturer in the Discipline of South Asian Studies, Columbia University  
2019 Fall Lecturer in Sanskrit, Columbia University

### EDUCATION

2019 Ph.D.  
Columbia University  
Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies (MESAAS)  
Institute of Comparative Literature and Society (ICLS)

2015 M.Phil  
Columbia University  
MESAAS and ICLS

2014 M.A.  
Columbia University  
MESAAS

2011 B.A. with general honors  
The University of Chicago  
Comparative Literature (Hons.)  
Mathematics

## PUBLICATIONS

### Articles

2021 “How a Philosopher Reads Kālidāsa: Vedāntadeśika’s Art of Devotion.”  
*Journal of Indian Philosophy.*

Under review. “On Mortality: A Reading of the *Meghadūta*.” *Journal of Indian Philosophy.*

In preparation. “‘Seeing the Past Before One’s Eyes’: Lyric Temporality in the Sanskrit Tradition.”

In preparation. “Realist Panic: Why Rāmānuja Is Afraid of Skepticism.”

### Special Section

Under review. “The Lyric in South Asia.” *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, and Africa.*

### Translations

Forthcoming. Kampan. *Ramayana Volume 1: Youth*. Cambridge: Murty Classical Library of India and Harvard University Press (from Tamil to English).

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Instructor of record, Columbia University

2021 Intermediate Tamil I  
2020-2021 Elementary Sanskrit I and II  
Elementary Tamil I and II  
Intermediate Sanskrit I and II  
2020 Spring India before Colonialism (graduate seminar)  
Erotics and Ascetics: Readings in Sanskrit Literature (undergraduate seminar)  
Advanced Sanskrit  
2019 Fall Advanced Sanskrit  
2019 Spring Literature Humanities II  
2018 Fall Literature Humanities I (required undergraduate humanities sequence)  
2016 Spring Intermediate Sanskrit

## PRESENTATIONS

### Panels organized

2018 Vedānta and Literature  
Annual Conference on South Asia (Madison)  
2017 Senses of the Lyric in South Asia  
Annual Conference on South Asia (Madison)

### Conference papers

- 2020 “Learning to Read Earnestly”  
American Academy of Religions Conference
- 2019 “Realist Panic: Rāmānuja and the Threat of Skepticism”  
Annual Conference on South Asia (Madison)
- 2018 “Vedāntadeśika’s Poetry of Sensation”  
Annual Conference on South Asia (Madison)
- 2018 “On Irresponsibility: Nonhumans in Kālidāsa’s Poetry”  
South Asia Graduate Student Conference (The University of Chicago, Chicago)
- 2017 “Seeing Clouds: Lyric Perception in Kālidāsa’s *Meghadūta*”  
Annual Conference on South Asia (Madison)
- 2017 “Aurobindo’s Kālidāsa: A Guide to Revolutionary Politics”  
South & Central Asia Annual Fulbright Conference (Kolkata, India)
- 2015 “‘Between the Shining Hemispheres’: Sri Aurobindo’s Early Reading of Kālidāsa”  
Annual Conference on South Asia (Madison)
- 2014 Musics Major and Minor: Blurring the Line between Classical and Popular  
(panel discussion, “Vernacular Traditions” conference at Barnard College, New York)
- 2013 “How to Read a Stotra? A Close Reading of Vedāntadeśika’s *Godāstuti*”  
South Asia Graduate Student Conference (The University of Chicago, Chicago)

### Guest lectures and workshops

- 2017 “What Is Translating Poetry For?” and “Lyric Poetry; or ‘Why Not Tell a Story?’”  
Anuvad Arts Festival (Silchar, India)  
(Workshops for local humanities students in Assam)
- 2016 “Hinduism”  
Union Theological Seminary (New York)  
(Guest lecture for “Religions in the City” course)
- 2016 “Srivaishnavism and the Alṅvārs”  
Barnard College (New York; also 2014 and 2015)  
(Guest lecture for “Hinduism” course)

### AWARDS AND HONORS

#### External

- 2015 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship

#### Internal (graduate student funding)

- 2015 Dissertation Fellowship  
2013-2015 Teaching Fellowship  
2012 Dean’s Fellowship

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

- 2021            Hiring committee member  
                  South Asian Summer Language Institute  
                  University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2013-2014    Event coordinator  
                  South Asia Graduate Students Forum  
                  Columbia University  
                  (Forum for graduate students working on South Asia across disciplines to present  
                  their work)

## **LANGUAGES**

- Sanskrit (superior proficiency in reading)  
Tamil (native proficiency in speaking, superior proficiency in reading and writing)  
Hindi (basic proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing)  
French (basic proficiency in reading)