

# ISHITA SAREEN

Curriculum Vitae

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**Official Address:**

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**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

24 April 2021 – Present - Working as Assistant Professor, Department of English, DAV College, Sector 10, Chandigarh (on permanent basis).

**EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS****Ph.D. in English Literature and Cultural Studies – since Nov. 2018**

- Currently pursuing Ph.D. with full-time employment.
- Senior Research Fellow, Ph. D. – 30 October 2020 – 23 April 2021 – Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh under a UGC Fellowship.
- Junior Research Fellow, Ph.D. – 01 November 2018 – 01 November 2020 – at above.
- Under the guidance of Prof. Akshaya Kumar, Head of Department, Dept. of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh.
- Thesis title: “Space, Sensibility, and Literature: Reinterpreting Chandigarh Post-1990.”

**M.A. English – 2015-2017**

Department of English, North Campus and Hans Raj College, University of Delhi, graduated with 67.75% (First Division).

**B.A. Hons. English – 2012-2015**

Department of English, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi, graduated with 69.22% (First Division).

**Diploma in Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding – 2014-2015**

Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi, graduated with 66.22% (First Division).

In partial fulfilment for the diploma, wrote a dissertation titled, *Operation Pied Piper and the Second World War: A Discussion on Children's Literature and the War in England*.

#### **Certificate Course in Human Rights – 2014-2015**

UGC-recognised centre at R. R. Bawa DAV College for Girls, Batala, Dist. Gurdaspur, completed with 'A' Grade and distinction.

#### **Summer School, "Media, Gender, Culture", King's College, London Summer School- 2014**

Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi with 61/100 (Upper Second Division).

#### **Certificate Course in Russian Language – 2012-2013**

Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi with 86.33% (First Division with Distinction).

#### **Senior School Certificate Examination (XII), CBSE – 2011-2012**

Dr. D.R.B. DAV Centenary Public School, Batala, with 86.4% marks.

#### **Secondary School Examination (X), CBSE – 2009-2010**

Dr. D.R.B. DAV Centenary Public School, Batala, with 9.8 CGPA.

### **AWARDS AND HONOURS**

2018 – **Research Fellowship of 5 years** (2018-2023) by the University Grants Commission for being in the top 1% of candidates in the National Eligibility Test for Assistant Professorship.

2015 – **"Meritorious Services Award"** for recognition as Student Body President, Department of English at Lady Shri Ram College for Women from 2014-2015. In this position, I organized the annual department national seminar, *Litmus*, with my team.

2014 – **"Best Volunteer for the term 2013-14"** for "commendable work as a volunteer at NGO Kutumbh" by NSS Chapter, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi.

2014 – **"Academic Prize for Excellence"** by Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi.

2013 – Inducted into the Golden Key International Honours Society for being in the **top 15% of undergraduates** at the University of Delhi in 2013.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book chapters:

- “From Cosmopolis to Claustropolis: Chandigarh’s Transitioning Sensibility” in *Articulating Urbanity: Writing the South Asian City*, forthcoming in 2023 by Palgrave Macmillan as part of their Literary Urban Studies Series.

### Research papers:

- “Ambiguity Inherent in the ‘Pure’ Suffering of Thomas Hardy’s Tess (*of the d’Urbervilles*)” in *New Horizons* by MCM DAV College for Women, Chandigarh in 2020 issue (ISSN: 2277-5218).
- “Sonny as a Flawed Hero in Nadine Gordimer’s My Son’s Story” in *Shodh Sanchar Bulletin*, Vol. 10, Issue 37 (III), January-March 2020 (ISSN: 2229-3620).
- “Consonance in Dissonance: A Brief Analysis of B.R. Ambedkar and M.K. Gandhi’s Ideological Differences” in *Shodh Sarita*, Vol. 7, Issue 25 (III), January-March 2020 (ISSN: 2348-2397).
- “Artaud’s “Pure Cinema”: The Manifestation of the Double in the Cinema of Cruelty” in *Shodh Sarita*, Vol. 7, Issue 26 (V), April-June 2020 (ISSN: 2348-2397).
- “Oprah’s “Next Chapter”: Reconfirming Stereotypes” in *Shodh Sanchar Bulletin*, Vol. 10, Issue 38 (V), April-June 2020 (ISSN: 2229-3620).
- “The Character of Dorimant in Etherege’s *The Man of Mode*: The ‘Almost’ Transformation of a Libertine” in *Shodh Sanchar Bulletin*, Vol. 10, Issue 39, July-September 2020 (ISSN: 2229-3620).
- “Naming her Evelina: A Discussion on the Concept of Names and Inscription in *Evelina*” in *Shodh Sarita*, Vol. 7, Issue 27, July-September 2020 (ISSN: 2348-2397).
- “What Happened in at the New Wil’ins: Beyonce and her Black Cult of Countervisuality” in *Pragati’s English Journal*, December 2019 (ISSN 0975-4091).
- “Johnson’s Preface to Shakespeare: A Discussion on the Influence of Chaos Theory” in *Shodh Sanchar Bulletin*, Vol. 9, Issue 36, October-December 2019 (ISSN: 2229 – 3620).
- “The Changelings: A Discussion of the Changing Characters of Beatrice-Joanna and the Duchess of Malfi” in *Shodh Sarita*, Vol. 6, Issue 24, October-December 2019 (ISSN: 2348 – 2397).

- “The Jazz Era and F. Scott Fitzgerald: An Unearthing of the Decadent 1920s Through an Analysis of *The Great Gatsby* and *The Beautiful and The Damned*” in *Pragati’s English Journal*, December 2018 (Journal no. 44762, ISSN 0975-4091).
- “‘How Dare You Sport Thus with Life?’: The Antinatalist Impulse in Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*” in *The Scholastic Forum*, March 2018 (ISSN: 2395-0889).
- “Alt-J: An Aesthetic Study” in *Shodhara*, March 2018 (ISSN:2320-2726).
- “Cosmopolitan and ISIS: The Creation of a Global Risk Society and The War on the Islamic State” in *The Diviner*, July-Dec. 2017 (ISSN: 0973-8320).
- “The Tragic in Ishiguro’s *Never Let Me Go* and the Circle of Love, Memory, and Death” in *Pragati’s English Journal*, December 2017 (Vol. 17 No. 2) (Journal no. 44762, ISSN 0975-4091).
- “The Thematic Relationship of Thomas Gray with his Poem, *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*” in *Relevant Derive: Social Science International Research Journal*, Vol. 10, Issue 10, July-September 2015 (ISSN: 2322-018X).

#### Conference Proceedings:

- “The Influence of Kant’s Enlightenment on Poirot’s “Little Grey Cells”, under the theme "New Dimensions and Innovations in Humanities" in the conference proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Inter-Disciplinary Research Innovations in Science and Humanities conducted at Bali, Indonesia from November 27-28, 2018.
- Co-authored “The Flooded Desert: The Other Side of Diasporas” with Dr. Ajay Sareen in national seminar on “Diasporic Indian English Literature: Issues and Concerns” organized by Department of English, D.A.V. College, Bathinda, published as *Diasporic Indian English Literature: Issues and Concerns* on March 28, 2018.

#### Other Publications:

- Published a work titled ‘My Fort with its Moat: Why did I make it and why was it Destroyed?’ in the inaugural edition of DU-Vidha, an online e-journal in 2014.

### CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

#### Forthcoming:

- 2022 – “Topophrenic Spatiotemporalities in *The Waste Land*: Revisiting Eliot’s Poem as a Produced Space” at the 22<sup>nd</sup> MELOW International Conference on One Hundred Years

of T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land* to be held at the International Centre Goa from 23-25 September 2022.

- 2022 - "Round About the Geri Route: From Toxic Romancing to Azaadi and Beyond in Chandigarh" as part of the panel, Love in the South Asian City, to be presented at the largest gathering of South Asia scholars, the 50th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA from 19-22 October 2022.

Papers presented:

- 2022 – "Mediating Tolerance, Seeking Hospitality, Breeding Rebellion: Examining the Various Cultural Negotiations of Maharaja Duleep Singh" at the annual IACLALS [the officially recognised Indian chapter of ACLALS, Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies] conference Circulations, Mediations, Negotiations: New Perspectives on Translation from South Asia on 5 March 2022.
  - **Shortlisted for the prestigious C. D. Narsimha Prize Panel third year in a row.**
- 2022 – "Running from the Coronavirus: A Re-turn to Corporeality" at 2nd Pan NIT Humanities and Social Sciences International Conference on Resilience and Transformation for Global Restructuring 2022 (ICRTGR 2022) organized by Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at MNIT, Jaipur from 7-9 January 2022.
- 2021 – "Real, Unreal, and Retrospective Emplacements: The Le Corbusier Centre as Heterochronotopia" at Shifting Trajectories of Research in Cultural Studies, organised by the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, from 25-26 November 2021.
- 2021 – "Tapping into Desi Chandigarh: Popular Punjabi Songs as Affective Determinants of Urban Cityspace" at Narrating the South Asian City: Critical Perspectives, organised by Department of Liberal Arts, Indian Institute of Technology, Bhilai, in collaboration with Association for Literary Urban Studies on 15 November 2021.
- 2021 – "'Boundless Pleasure Attracts Cruel Penalties': Ahalya's Myth Reworked for These Times" at National Conference on Contemporary Perspectives in English Language, Literature and Cultural Studies from 11-12 April, 2021.
  - **Awarded 'Best Paper' prize for the same.**
- 2021 – "The Self in Disharmony: E(a)ffective Political Dystopias in Hari Kunzru's *Red Pill*" at the annual IACLALS [the officially recognised Indian chapter of ACLALS, Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies] from 8-10 March 2021.
  - **Shortlisted for the prestigious C. D. Narsimha Prize Panel second year in a row.**

- 2021 - “‘And What If I Wave my Wand and Nothing Happens?’ The Thingification of the Wand in J. K. Rowling’s Harry Potter” presented at the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Southwest Popular/American Culture Association (SWAPCA) on February 24, 2021.
- 2021 - “We lived in the gaps between stories”: Heterotopias of Escape in Margaret Atwood’s Gilead” presented at the Spatiality and Temporality International Conference conducted by the London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research, London from 6-7 February 2021.
- 2020 - “Graphic Narratives and Narrative of Graphics: Invading the Literary Canon” at MELUS-MELOW Conference, Panjab University, Chandigarh on February 24, 2020.
- 2020 - “The Enemy Within and the Enemy Without: Reading Naxal Dissent as a Response to NaMo’s Precarious Politics” at IACLALS Conference, Jadavpur University, Kolkata on February 7, 2020.
  - **Shortlisted for the prestigious C. D. Narsimha Prize Panel.**
- 2019 - “Alt-J: An Aesthetic” at 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Inter-Disciplinary Research Innovations in Science and Humanities at Sharjah, UAE from Nov. 8-10, 2019.
  - **Awarded ‘Special Mention’ for the same.**
- 2019 - “Doing Time in the 1940s: The Space of the Prison in Gandhi’s *Yeravda Mandir* (1932) and Urmila Shastri’s *Kaaragaar* (1932)” at Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh on the occasion of their UGC DRS-II SAP seminar ‘Towards Indian Theory/Theories of Cultural Studies’ on March 15, 2019.
- 2018 - “The Influence of Kant’s Enlightenment on Poirot’s “Little Grey Cells”, under the theme "New Dimensions and Innovations in Humanities" at the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Inter-Disciplinary Research Innovations in Science and Humanities conducted at Bali, Indonesia from November 27-28, 2018.
  - **Awarded ‘Best Paper’ prize for the same.**
- 2017 – “Gendered Spaces in Alice’s Wonderland - Mad Hatter’s Tea Party and the Quest for a Space of One’s Own” at Maitreyi College, the University of Delhi at their literary festival Ekphrasis’17 on March 10, 2017.
  - **Awarded ‘Best Paper’ prize for the same.**
- 2016- “The Tragic in Ishiguro’s *Never Let Me Go* and the Circle of Love, Memory, and Death” at Ramjas College, the University of Delhi at their literary seminar, ‘The End’, on March 16, 2016.

Invited talks:

- 2020 - Delivered a talk titled “Employment Avenues in the Field of English Language and Literature” during the Webinar titled “Teaching of English Language and Literature in the Post-Covid Era” hosted by Hans Raj Mahila Maha Vidyalaya, Jalandhar on July 13, 2020.

## **OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

2021 – present – **Editorial Assistant, *Dialog***

Working as Editorial Assistant at *Dialog*, a bi-annual peer-reviewed UGC-Care Listed journal of the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

2020 – present – **Editor, *Literophile***

Serving as editor and mentor at *Literophile*, a student initiative for promoting literary research. Served as Chief Editor for its volume 8, issue 1, based on “Fantasy Narratives: Modes, Tropes, and Meaning” to come out in July 2021.

2014 – 2015 - **Diploma of Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding**

In partial fulfilment for the degree of the Diploma of Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding, wrote a 10,000-word dissertation entitled, “Operation Pied Piper and the Second World War: A Discussion on Children’s Literature and the War in England.”

2013 – 2015 – **University of Delhi’s Innovation Project** "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam - Creating Sustainable Global Partnerships in Higher Education"

As a paid student researcher within a team of ten students, I worked for the creation of a model that could be applied to the University of Delhi to enhance its international relations and improve its global ranking.

My Role: Intensive research, data collection, design, and creative work as a student researcher.

2014 – **King’s College London Delhi Summer School**

Participated in the Media, Gender, and Culture program conducted by Dr. Rachel O’Neill between June – July 2014.

## **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

UGC National Eligibility Test (English literature) - 2018

Eligible for Assistant Professorship and Junior Research Fellowship.

Himachal Pradesh State Eligibility Test (English literature) – 2018

Eligible for Assistant Professorship in the state of Himachal Pradesh.

IELTS (Academic) – 2018

Qualified with 8 bands, with full scores in the Listening section.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

April 2021 – Present – Teaching undergraduate courses as Assistant Professor (permanent), Department of English at DAV College, Sector 10, Chandigarh.

March 2021 – Present – Working as Editorial Assistant for the journal *Dialog*.

October 2020 – Present – Acting as Editor for academic journal *Literophile*, and Chief Editor for its April 2021 issue.

January 2019 – April 2021 – Teaching postgraduate courses as Senior Research Fellow, Ph.D. at Department of English and Cultural Studies, Panjab University.

July 2018 – December 2018 – Assistant Professor (ad-hoc), DAV University, Jalandhar, Punjab.

February 2017 – September 2017 – Worked as Editorial Assistant (freelance), and from April 2017 as Assistant Editor, Knowledge Division, at Dorling Kindersley Publishing House, Noida, National Capital Region.

### **OTHER LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Hindi – Native

Punjabi – Native

Urdu – Professional Proficiency (Certificate Course at Intermediate Level)

Russian – Professional Working Proficiency (Certificate Course at Beginner Level)

*Shite Sareen*