

**Juli L. Gittinger**  
Georgia College  
CBX 111, Beeson 341  
Milledgeville, GA 31061  
juli.gittinger@gcsu.edu + 01 912-601-9367

## **EDUCATION**

- 2010-2015      PhD, Religious Studies (Hinduism)  
McGill University, Montreal  
Dissertation: *Contesting Hinduism in the electronic public sphere*  
Supervisor: Davesh Soneji
- 2006-2008      MA, Indian Religions  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
Thesis: *Hindutva from Savarkar to Ayodhya: phantasmic identity of Hindu Nationalism*  
Supervisor: Loriliai Biernacki
- 2002-2005      MA, Indian Religions  
School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), United Kingdom  
Dissertation: *From Priestess to Prostitute—Reclaiming the history of the Devadasi tradition in India*  
Supervisor: Sîan Hawthorne
- 2002-2004      BA (Honors), Religious Studies  
Webster University, St. Louis MO  
Thesis: *Gender Jihad: A struggle for women's equality in Islam*  
Supervisor: Dennis Klass
- 1987-1992      BFA, Printmaking (Intaglio) and Film making  
School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago IL

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- 2015-present    Lecturer, South Asian Religions and Islam  
Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, GA
- 2014-2015      Visiting Assistant Professor, Asian Religions  
Georgia Southern University, Statesboro GA
- 2011-2014      Teaching Fellow, Religion and Globalization  
McGill University, Montreal QC

## BOOKS

- 2018/19 *Hinduism, Nationalism, and the Web* [tentative title]. Contracted with Routledge. [In progress].

## CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

- 2018 “Hijabi Cosplay: Negotiating Spheres of Religious, Cultural, and Fan Identities,” in Morehead, John, ed. *Fantastic Fan Cultures and the Sacred*. McFarland [forthcoming].
- 2018 “Mediating Hindu Identities: cultural regrouping online,” in Zeiler, Xenia, ed. *Digital Hinduism*. Routledge [forthcoming]

## JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 “Hijabi Cosplay: performances of culture, religion, and fandom,” *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture*. Forthcoming.
- 2017 “The Rhetoric of Violence, Religion, and Purity in India’s Cow Protection Movement,” *Journal of Religion and Violence*. May 2017
- 2017 “Digital Hinduism.” In *Oxford Bibliographies in Hinduism*. Ed. Tracy Coleman. New York: Oxford University Press, February.
- 2015 “Hindu diaspora as ‘virtual community’: digital neighborhoods, electronic transnationalism,” *Symposia* Volume VII, University of Toronto. 2015. pp. 1-16.
- 2015 “Modi-era Nationalism and the Rise of Cyber-Activism.” *Exemplar* 3.1. Special Issue: The Meaning of Modi. 3:1 Spring 2015. pp. 9-17.
- 2014 “Is there such a thing as ‘cyberimperialism’?” *Continuum: Journal of Media and Cultural Studies* 28.3 May 2014, pp. 1-11.
- 2011 “Saffron Terror: Splinter or Symptom?” *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol XLVI no 37, 10 Sept 2011, pp. 22-25.
- 2011 “Bharatiya Janata Party,” pp .87-90; “Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh,” pp. 588-590; “Sangh Parivar,” pp. 611-612; “Shah Bano Case,” pp. 624-626; in Arnold P. Kaminsky and Roger D. Long, eds., *India Today [Two Volumes]:An Encyclopedia of Life in the Republic*. Santa Barbara, CA and Oxford, UK: ABC-CLIO, 2011.
- 2010 “Hindutva: from nationalism to secularism,” *Journal of Theta Alpha Kappa*, Nov 2010.

## BOOK REVIEWS

- 2017 *Heathen, Hindoo, Hindu: American Representations of India, 1721-1893* by Michael J. Altman. JAAR/ReadingReligion. <http://readingreligion.org/books/heathen-hindoo-hindu>
- 2016 *The Value of Comparison* by Peter van der Veer. JAAR/ReadingReligion. <http://readingreligion.org/books/value-comparison>
- 2016 *Digital Methodologies in the Sociology of Religion* edited by Sariya Cheruvallil-Contractor and Suha Shakkour. JAAR/ReadingReligion. <http://readingreligion.org/books/digital-methodologies-sociology-religion>

## ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 *Techno-orientalism: representations of South Asia on the Web*. Association for Global South Studies (AGSS). Marrakesh, Morocco. December.
- 2017 *Personhood in HBO's Westworld*. American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Conference. Boston, MA. November.
- 2017 *Secularism, plurality, and majority: "Religious freedom" in India*. SECSOR (Southeast regional AAR), Raleigh, NC. March.
- 2017 *Dalit suicides and post-colonial hangovers*. British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference. Savannah, GA, February.
- 2016 *Rhetoric of violence, religion, and purity in India's Cow Protection movement*. American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Conference. San Antonio, TX. November.
- 2016 *Secularism vs Sickularism: The post-colonial legacy of communalism in India*. British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference. Savannah, GA, February.
- 2016 *Trans...something? Labelling alternate sexual identities in Indian vs US media*. Center for Media, Religion, and Culture (CMRC) Annual Conference. Boulder CO, January.
- 2012 *Talking about Saffron Terror in 'Secular' India*, Association of Asian Studies (AAS) National Conference, Toronto March. [Panel organizer and presenter]
- 2011 *Hindu Radicalism and the 'Talibanisation' of Hinduism*, American Academy of Religion Eastern International Regional Conference (AAR-EIR), Syracuse NY, May.
- 2010 *Secular Religion? Cultural Nationalism vs Hindutva in the fight for "Who is a Hindu?"* South Asian Studies Conference, Madison WI, October.

- 2009        *The "Talibanisation" of Hindutva*, Midwest Conference of Asian Affairs (MCAA), Oxford OH, October.
- 2009        *Civilised = Secular? Replicating colonial discourses in Hindu Nationalism*, Association for Asian Studies (AAS) National Conference, Chicago IL, March.

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

- 2016        Faculty Research Grant, Georgia College.
- 2013        Eugene McBurney Foundation Fellowship, McGill University.
- 2013        SSHRC Award for Research Assistance on *Polyphonic Thinking and the Divine* (Rodopi 2013).
- 2013        Graduate Excellence Fellowship, McGill University.
- 2012        Graduate Excellence Fellowship, McGill University.
- 2012        Eugene McBurney Foundation Fellowship, McGill University.
- 2010-2011    President's Doctoral Fellowship, McGill University 2010-2011.
- 2010-2011    Provost's Doctoral Fellowship, McGill University.
- 2007-2008    Theta Alpha Kappa National Honor Society for Religious Studies
- 2006-2007    Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, University of Colorado.

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2017-        Book Review editor, *Journal of Religion and Violence*
- 2011-2014    Project Assistant, Faith and Globalization Initiative (in conjunction with the Tony Blair Faith Foundation), McGill University
- 2011-2013    Proofing, copy editing, formatting (various faculty member publications)
- 2013        Conference organization assistant: "Pluralism, Religion, and Public Policy" (McGill, October)
- 2013        Conference organizer: "Religion and Foreign Policy: Global Challenges of Religious Pluralism" (McGill, June)
- 2013        Conference organization assistant: "International Conference on Philosophy of Religion: Has Philosophy of Religion a Future" (McGill, April)
- 2008        Graduate Research Assistant, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado
- 2008        Conference organizer: Western Conference of the Association for Asian Studies (WCAAS), University of Colorado at Boulder, September
- 2008        Webmaster and Assistant to the Director, Center for Asian Studies, University of Colorado

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

Introduction to World Religions  
South Asian Religions  
Hindu Traditions  
Islam and the Modern World  
Religion and the Body

Religion and Media  
Religion and Science Fiction  
Hindu Nationalism  
Human Rights and Social Justice  
Introduction to the Study of Religion  
(theories/methods)

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Academy of Religion (AAR)  
Association for Sociology of Religion (ASR)  
Centre for Research On Religion (CREOR)

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Modern Hinduism  
Secularism  
Technology and Religion

Hindu Nationalism  
Conflict and Violence  
Religion and Pop-culture

## **LANGUAGES**

Reading/writing/translation proficiency in Hindi and French