

SHEELA JANE MENON

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Assistant Professor of English, Dickinson College
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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin (UT)

Ph.D., English & Graduate Portfolio, Asian American Studies 2016

Dissertation: *Rakyat Malaysia: Contesting Narratives of Nationalism & Exceptional Multiculturalism*

Committee: Domino Perez (Director), James Cox, Snehal Shingavi, Barbara Andaya, Philip Holden

M.A., English 2013

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM)

B.A., English (Highest Honors) & B.A., Religion 2008

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Dickinson College

Assistant Professor, Department of English 2016-present

The University of Texas at Austin

Assistant Instructor, Departments of English & Rhetoric / Center for Asian American Studies 2013-2016

Writing Consultant, University Writing Center 2013-2014

Graduate Assistant, El Mundo Zurdo 2015, Society for the Study of Gloria Anzaldúa Spring 2015

Graduate Assistant, Texas Institute for Literary & Textual Studies 2013- 2014

Teaching Assistant 2011-2013

Chaminade University of Honolulu

Job Placement Coordinator, Career Services 2009-2010

Student Services Coordinator, Student Support Services 2008-2009

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Peer Academic Advisor & Student Coordinator, Mānoa Advising Center 2006-2008

HONORS & AWARDS

Kalaris Faculty Fellowship, Dickinson College 2020-2021

NEH Summer Institute, "Colonial Experiences & Their Legacies in Southeast Asia" June-July 2019

University Graduate Continuing Fellowship, UT (declined) 2016-2017

Graduate School College Continuing Fellowship, UT Spring 2016

2014-2015 Outstanding Assistant Instructor Award, UT 2015

2012-2013 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, UT 2013

Phi Beta Kappa, UHM 2008

Regents' Scholarship, UHM 2004-2008

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

“Diagnosing Malaysian Multiculturalism: Jo Kukathas and ‘The 1Malaysia Virus,’”
Verge: Studies in Global Asias, Special Issue 6.1: “Displaced Subjects,” 2020.

“*Highland Tales in the Heart of Borneo*: Postcolonial Capitalism, Multiculturalism, & Survivance,”
ARIEL, Special Issue 49.4: “Literature & Postcolonial Capitalism,” 2018.

Encyclopedia Article

“Malaysian American Culture.” *Encyclopedia of Asian American Culture: From Anime to Tiger Moms*.
 Ed. Lan Don. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2016.

OpEds

“Time to Embrace, Not Shun, Malaysia’s Migrant Community.” <i>The Diplomat</i>	May 2020
“Malaysians Worldwide Demand Prime Minister's Resignation.” <i>The Conversation</i> .	Sept. 2015
“Najib & Barisan - Failing 1Malaysia.” <i>The Malaysian Insider</i> .	Nov. 2014

Book Reviews

Review of <i>Yasmin Ahmad's Films</i> by Amir Muhammad. <i>E3W Review of Books</i> (13)	Apr. 2013
Review of <i>The Female Cell</i> by Rumaizah Abu Bakar. <i>E3W Review of Books</i> (12)	Apr. 2012

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“Settler Colonialism in Southeast Asia” (Organizer & Chair)
 2020 MLA Annual Convention, Seattle, WA, Jan. 2020

“*Highland Tales in the Heart of Borneo*: Postcolonial Capitalism, Multiculturalism, & Survivance”
 2019 ACLA Annual Meeting, Georgetown, Washington DC, Mar. 2019

“Race, Nation, and Empire in Southeast Asian Life Writing” (Organizer)
 “Nation & Migration in Tash Aw’s *The Face: Strangers on a Pier* (2015)” (Panelist)
 2019 MLA Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, Jan. 2019

“Why Indigenous Literatures Matter in Malaysia” (Invited Panelist)
 Roundtable Discussion of *Why Indigenous Literatures Matter* (2018) by Daniel Heath Justice
 2018 WLA Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO, Oct. 2018

“Censorship, Co-optation, and the Authoritarian State” (Co-Chair)
 “Jo Kukathas, Instant Café Theater, and the Politics of Performance in Malaysia” (Panelist)
 2018 ACLA Annual Meeting, UCLA, Mar. 2018

“Southeast Asia as Method and Concept of World Literature” (Co-Chair)
 “Indigeneity & Multiculturalism: *Highland Tales in the Heart of Borneo* (2015)” (Panelist)
 2018 MLA Annual Convention, New York City, NY, Jan. 2018

“Migration & Multiculturalism in Tash Aw’s *The Face: Strangers on a Pier* (2015)”
 Writing Malaysia & Singapore, The Open University, London, Oct. 2017

“Diagnosing Malaysian Multiculturalism: Jo Kukathas and ‘The 1Malaysia Virus’”
Global Asias 4, College Station, Pennsylvania, Mar. 2017

“Situating the Orang Asal in Malaysian Literary & Cultural Studies”
2017 MLA Annual Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Jan. 2017

“Malaysia Boleh: The Politics of National Language & Literature” (Invited Speaker),
2nd Annual Singapore Literature Festival, New York City, New York, Sept. 2016

“Malaysia: Mediating Literature, Culture, and the State” (Chair)
“Land, Culture, Community: Narratives of Indigenous Activism in Malaysia” (Panelist)
2016 MLA Annual Convention, Austin, Texas, Jan. 2016

TEACHING

Assistant Professor (Dickinson)

FYS Reading Race: Culture Wars & Civil Rights	Fall 2019
ENGL 101: Introduction to Asian American Literature	Spring 2020, Fall 2017
ENGL 101: World Literature: Race, Nation, Colonization	Fall 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2016
ENGL 220: Introduction to Literary Studies	Spring 2020, Spring 2017, Fall 2017
ENGL 221: Multiculturalism: Race, Rhetoric, & Writing	Spring 2019 & 2018
ENGL 321: Literatures of Migration & Displacement	Spring 2018 & 2017
ENGL 331: Science Fiction: Past, Present, Future	Fall 2019
ENGL 331: Global Sci-Fi & Fantasy	Fall 2017
ENGL 349: Border Crossings in Asian American Literature	Fall 2018 & 2016
ENGL 404: Senior Thesis Workshop	Spring 2019
ENGL 403: Questions & Methods of Literary Study	Fall 2018

Assistant Instructor (UT)

E 314V / AAS 314: Asian American Literature & Culture	Fall 2015
E 376M / AAS 320: Contemporary Asian American Novels	Spring 2015
E 314V / AAS314: Asian American Literature & Culture	Fall 2014
RHE 306: Rhetoric & Writing	Fall 2013-Summer 2014

SERVICE

Community Engagement

Member, Governor Wolf's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs	Dec. 2019-Dec. 2021
Chair, Commission's Schools That Teach Committee	Dec. 2019-Dec. 2021
Facilitator, 2019 Harrisburg Book Festival	Oct. 2019

Modern Language Association

Member, Executive Committee, CLCS Southeast Asian & Southeast Asian Diasporic	2018-present
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Dickinson College

Member, Advisory Board, Popel Shaw Center for Race & Ethnicity	Aug. 2018-Jun. 2020
Co-Chair, Mellon Civic Engagement Faculty Seminar, “Citizen/Refugee”	Jan-May 2018
Member, Search Committee, VAP in Native American Studies	Nov. 2016-May 2017
Member, Civic Engagement Study Group, Department of English	Nov. 2016-May 2017

Dickinson College (cont.)

Member, Honors & Prizes Committee, Department of English	May 2017 & 2018
Facilitator, Islamophobia Discussion Group, Dickinson Day of Teaching	Jan. 2017
Co-Facilitator, “Faith & Standing Rock” Discussion & Fundraiser	Nov. 2016
Faculty Advisor, Asian & Asian American Student Organization	Nov. 2016-Aug. 2020

The University of Texas at Austin

Publicity Coordinator, Ethnic and Third World Literatures Program (E3W)	2011-2016
Publicity Coordinator, UT Symposium for African Writers	Fall 2014
Panel Coordinator, Rhetoric Society of America, Student Chapter	2011-2012

The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

Member, Presidential Scholarship Selection Committee	2010
Ambassador, Honors Program	2005- 2010
Member, Mānoa Undergraduate Education and Engagement Committee	2008
Member, English Department Curriculum Committee	2007