

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH ASIAN LANGUAGES AND CIVILIZATIONS

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September, 2009

Clinton B. Seely, Professor Emeritus

DEGREES:

A.B., Biology, Stanford University, 1963

A.M., South Asian Languages and Civilizations, The University of Chicago, 1968

Ph.D., South Asian Languages and Civilizations, The University of Chicago, 1976

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION TITLE:

Doe in Heat: A Critical Biography of the Bengali Poet Jibanananda Das (1899-1954)
with Relevant Literary History from the Mid-1920's to the Mid-1950's.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Professor of Bengali, The University of Chicago, 2004-

Associate Professor of Bengali, The University of Chicago, 1983-2004

Assistant Professor of Bengali, The University of Chicago, 1975-83

Assistant Professor of Bengali, University of Minnesota, 1977-78

Instructor in Bengali, The University of Chicago, 1971-75

Instructor in Bengali, University of Illinois, summer 1967

Assistant Language Coordinator, Peace Corps Training Program, The University of
Chicago, 1966

Peace Corps Volunteer, East Pakistan, 1963-65

ACADEMIC AWARDS:

National Defense Foreign Language Fellowship, The University of Chicago, 1965-68

Foreign Area Fellowship, England, India, East Pakistan, & the US, 1968-71

Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship, Bangladesh, 1981-82

American Institute of Indian Studies, Senior Research Fellowship, India, 1982

U.S. Department of Education, 1983-85
Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning, 1988
Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning, 1989
"Ashoke Kumar Sarkar Memorial" Ananda Prize (Calcutta), 1993
Special Award, 2nd North America Bangla Literature & Culture Convention (Chicago),
1997
Dinesh Chandra Sen Research Society's "4th Annual Award for Excellence in Research
in Bengali Literature" (Calcutta), 1999
Distinguished Service Award, Cultural Association of Bengal, presented at the North
American Bengali Conference (NABC 2004), Baltimore, 2004
A.K. Ramanujan Book Prize for Translation, awarded by the South Asian Council of the
Association of Asian Studies, for *The Slaying of Meghanada: A Ramayana from
Colonial Bengal*, 2006

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

- Rain through the Night*. New Delhi: Hind Pocket Books, 1973 (revised by the author).
Translation of a novel by Buddhadeva Bose. Reprinted, revised, and retitled: *It
Rained All Night*. New Delhi: Penguin Books India, (forthcoming).
- Women, Politics, and Literature in Bengal*. Edited. East Lansing: Asian Studies Center,
Michigan State University, 1981.
- Grace and Mercy in Her Wild Hair: Selected Poems to the Mother Goddess*. Boulder,
Colorado: Great Eastern Book Co., 1982 (co-author, Leonard Nathan).
Introduction to and translation of lyrics by Ramprasad Sen. Reprinted: Prescott,
Arizona: Hohm Press, 1999.
- A Bengali Prose Reader for Second-Year Students*. By Edward C. Dimock, Jr. and
Somdev Bhattacharji, with Ronald Inden, Arati John, and Clinton B. Seely.
Chicago: The University of Chicago, Committee on Southern Asian Studies,
1988. Intermediate Bengali prose reader.
- A Poet Apart: A Literary Biography of the Bengali Poet Jibanananda Das (1899-1954)*.
Newark, Delaware: University of Delaware Press; London and Toronto:
Associated University Presses, 1990.
- Calcutta, Bangladesh, and Bengal Studies: 1990 Bengal Studies Conference
Proceedings*. Edited. East Lansing: Asian Studies Center, Michigan State
University, 1991.

Bengal Studies: A Collection of Essays. Co-edited with Rama Datta and Zillur Khan. New Delhi: Allied Publishers Private Limited, 2001.

Intermediate Bangla. München: Lincom Europa, 2002.

The Slaying of Meghanada: A Ramayana from Colonial Bengal. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.

Barisal and Beyond: Essays on Bangla Literature. New Delhi: Chronicle Books (An Imprint of DC Publishers), 2008.

Celebrating Tagore: A Collection of Essays. Co-edited with Rama Datta. New Delhi, et al.: Allied Publishers Private Limited, 2009.

Articles/chapters of books:

"Research Materials on West Bengal and Bangladesh: Library Resources Available and the Needs of North American Scholars." In *South Asian Library Resources in North America: Papers from the Boston Conference, 1974.* Edited by Maureen L.P. Patterson and Martin Yanuck. Zug, Switzerland: Inter Documentations Co. AG, 1975; pp. 37-50.

"Bengali Books at the Ames Library." *South Asia Library Notes & Queries*, no. 6 (June 1979): 2-4.

"On the Poetry of Jibanananda Das." *The Literary Review*, vol. 23, no. 3 (Spring 1980): 361-77.

"Say It with Structure: Tagore and Maṅgala Kāvya." In *Women, Politics, and Literature in Bengal.* Edited by Clinton B. Seely. East Lansing: Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University, 1981; pp. 147-55.

"Āṭ bachar āger ek bismayakar mṛtyu" *Sāhitya Patrikā*, vol. 25, no. 2 (Rains 1389/June 1982): 163-72. Reprinted in *Jibānānanda Dāśer 'Āṭ bachar āger ek dīn.'* Edited by Faizul Latif Chowdhury. Dhaka: Dibyaprakas, 1994; pp. 59-67.

"Rāma in the Nether World: Indian Sources of Inspiration." *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, vol. 102, no. 3 (July-September, 1982): 467-76.

"Asādhāraṇ athaca svābhābik ek bhāṣāśilpī." In *Jibānānanda.* Edited by Abdul Mannan Syed. Dhaka: Carita, 1984; pp. 223-26.

- "Homeric Similes, Occidental and Oriental: Tasso, Milton, and Bengal's Michael Madhusudan Dutt." *Comparative Literature Studies*, vol. 25, no. 1 (March, 1988): 35-56.
- "Serious *Sāhitya*: The Prose Fiction of Bangladesh's Rizia Rahman." In *Bengal and Bangladesh: Politics and Culture on the Golden Delta*. Edited by Elliot L. Tepper and Glen A. Hayes. East Lansing, MI: Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University, 1990; pp. 161-69.
- "*Māikeler hāte Rāmādi caritra*," *Jadavpur Journal of Comparative Literature* 29 (1990-91): 54-77.
- "The Raja's New Clothes: Redressing Rāvaṇa in *Meghanādvadha Kāvya*." In *Many Rāmāyaṇas: The Diversity of a Narrative Tradition in South Asia*. Edited by Paula Richman. Berkeley, Los Angeles, and Oxford: University of California Press, 1991; pp. 137-55.
- "Raudrer andhakār'-e dā~ṛiye," *Desh* (December 26, 1998): 39-42.
- "Jibanānander upare kichu chinna cintā," *Parabaas* 2:5 (Basanta 1406 B.S./Spring, 1999):
<http://www.parabaas.com/BAUSHONTO2/LEKHA11/pJibanananda.html>
- "Translating *Rāt Bhore Bṛṣṭi*: Reliving through Letters," *Baidagha: Buddhadeva Basu saṁkhyā* (May, 1999): 208-38.
- "The Scent of Sunlight," *Ebaṁ kathā: Jibanānanda Dās janma śatabarṣa smarāṇa saṁkhyā* (December, 1999): 14-20.
- "Secular and Sacred Legitimation in Bharatacandra Ray's *Annada-mangal*," *Archiv Orientalni*, Quarterly Journal of African and Asian Studies, Praha, 68 (2000): 327-58.
- "A Muslim Voice in Modern Bengali Literature: Mir Mosharraf Hosain." In *Understanding Bengal Muslims: Interpretative Essays*. Edited by Rafiuddin Ahmed. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2001; pp. 113-38.
- "Translating between Media: Rabindranath Tagore and Satyajit Ray." *Parabaas*: Tagore Issue (July 15, 2001): <http://parabaas.com/rabindranath/articles/pClinton1.html>
- "Jibanānanda prasaṅge kichu chinna cintā." *Viśvāyaṇa o Bānālī* (publication of the 21st North American Bengali Conference, July 6-8, 2001, Lowell, Massachusetts): 32-33.

"The *Mangal-kavya* Nature of Bharatchandra's *Annada-mangal*." In *Bengal Studies: A collection of essays*. Edited by Rama Datta, co-eds. Zillur Khan and Clinton Seely. New Delhi: Allied Publishers Private Limited, 2001; pp. 3-13.

"Reliving through Letters: A bit of time again with Buddhadeva Bose." *Parabaas*: Buddhadeva Bose Issue (June 15, 2004):
<http://www.parabaas.com/BB/articles/pSeely.html>

Co-authored with Tista Bagchi, "Mismatches in the Grammar of Causative Verbs in Bangla," *Indian Linguistics* 65.1-4 (2004): 49-58.

"Who Does Your Dirty Work? NOT Michael Madhusudan Datta's Hanuman." In *Samaj o samskriti: Anisujjamaner sammane prabandha sambhar* [Society and Culture: A collection of essays in honor of Anisuzzaman]. Edited by Bhuiyan Iqbal. Dhaka: Mowla Brothers, 2007; pp. 391-408.

"Shifting Seas and 'Banalata Sen.'" In *Essays on Jibanananda Das*. Edited by Faizul Latif Chowdhury. Dhaka: Pathak Shamabesh, 2009; pp. 86-99.

Translations:

"On Poetry," by Jibanananda Das. In *An Anthology of Bengali Writing*. Edited by Buddhadeva Bose. Madras, Calcutta, Bombay: The Macmillan Company of India, Ltd., 1971 (co-translated with Buddhadeva Bose). An essay.

"The Fall," by Abdul Mannan Syed (co-translated with Pabitra Sarkar). *Padmābāī* (selections), by Alaol; *Iusuf Jalikhā* [selections], by Md. Sagir; "The Jāri Song of Kāsem and Sakhinā"; four Muslim Vaisnava -Sufi lyrics; two Baul lyrics; a poem by Abdul Gaffar Chaudhuri; a poem by Alauddin al Azad; and *Ādhunik Bāmlā Sāhitye Muslim Sāhitya* [sic] [selections], by Qazi Abdul Mannan (all co-translated with Qazi Abdul Mannan). "The Rebel" and "Helmsman, Beware!" by Qazi Nazrul Islam; "Repayment" and "Two Peasant Girls," by Jasimuddin; "Consumption" and "Consideration," by Shamsur Rahman. In *Learning Resources in Bengali Studies*. New York: Learning Resources in International Studies, 1974.

"The Fall," by Abdul Mannan Syed. *Journal of South Asian Literature*, vol. 13, nos. 1-4 (Fall-Summer, 1977-78). Co-translator, Pabitra Sarkar. A short story.

"What Sort of Sea Breeze Is This," "Hunt," "Night of Wind," and "Shadowy Figures" by Jibanananda Das; and, co-translated with Leonard Nathan, "It's this hope in hope" and "Why should I go to Kashi" by Ramprasad Sen. In *Practices of the Wind*. Kalamazoo, Michigan, 1981-83. Six poems.

"Michael Madhusudan Dutt: from *The Slaying of Meghanāda*." *Translation*, vol. 11 (Fall 1983). Poetry excerpt.

"India," by Ramapada Chowdhury, and "To Live the Fantasy," by Syed Shamsul Huq. In *Literary Olympians II*. Westlake Village, California: Crosscurrents Anthologies, 1987. Two short stories.

"In Camp," by Jibanananda Das. *Daedalus; Journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, vol. 118, no. 4 (Fall 1989): 297-99; and in *The Oxford Anthology of Modern Indian Poetry*. Edited by Vinay Dharwadker and A. K. Ramanujan. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1994. A poem.

"A Strange Darkness," by Jibanananda Das. In *Cambridge Encyclopedia of South Asia*, "Culture; Literature: Regional Languages; Northeast: Bengali, Assamese, Oriya," by William Radice. A poem.

"Hunt," "A Strange Darkness," and "I have looked upon Bengal's face" by Jibanananda Das. In *Bengali: A Complete Course for Beginners*, by William Radice. Teach Yourself Books; London: Hodder Headline Plc, 1994. Three poems.

"Sensation," "Windy Night," "The Hunt," "Night," "Grass," and "Rabindranath," by Jibanananda Das. In *I have seen the Bengal's face: Poems from Jibanananda Das*. Edited by Faizul Latif Chowdhury. Chittagong: Creative Workshop, 1995. Six poems.

"Blue Skies," "Sensation," "In Camp," "Thousands of Years Merely Played," "The Hunt," "A Day Eight Years Ago," "Bird," "In Fields Fertile and Fallow," and "On the Sidewalks," by Jibanananda Das. In *Modern Poems from Bengal*. Edited by Surabhi Banerjee. New Delhi: UBS Publishers' Distributors, 1996. Nine poems.

"Before Death," by Jibanananda Das. In *Jibananānanda Dāśer 'mṛtyur āge.'* Edited by Faizul Latif Chowdhury. Dhaka: Anyaprakash, [1999]. A poem.

"Me & Kolkata," by Sunil Gangopadhyay. *Poetry*, September, 2007 (190, 5): 398-99. A poem.

"Blue Skies," "Sensation," "In Camp," "Night," "In Fields Fertile and Fallow," "The Eclipse of All Eclipses," "Feeling," and "Rabindranath," by Jibanananda Das. In *Beyond Land and Time*. Edited by Faizul Latif Chowdhury. Dhaka: Somoy Prokashon, 2008. Eight poems.

Contributions to:

Dictionary of Oriental Literature. Edited by Jaroslav Prusek and Dusan Zbavitel. New York: Basic Books, Inc., 1974. Notices on the life and works of various Bengali poets.

Grolier's *The New Book of Knowledge*. Entry on Indian literature.

Encyclopedia of World Literature in the 20th Century. Herder and Herder/Frederick Ungar/The Crossroad/Continuum Publishing Group. Entry on Jibanananda Das.

Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia. Entry on Bengali language.

Book reviews:

W.L. Smith, *Bengali Reference Grammar* (Stockholm: The Association of Oriental Studies, 1997), for *Archiv Orientalni*

James M. Wilce, *Eloquence in Trouble: The Poetics and Politics of Complaint in Rural Bangladesh* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998), for *Language in Society*

Malcom McLean, *Devoted to the Goddess: The Life and Work of Ramprasad* (Albany, NY: State University of New York Press, 1998), for the *Journal of the History of Religions*

Rachel Fell McDermott, *Mother of My Heart, Daughter of My Dreams: Kali and Uma in the Devotional Poetry of Bengal* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001) and *Singing to the Goddess: Poems to Kali and Uma from Bengal* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001), for the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*

Ghulam Murshid, tr. from Bengali by Gopa Majumdar, *Lured by Hope: A Biography of Michael Madhusudan Dutt* (New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2003), for the *Journal of Asian Studies*

SCHOLARLY PAPERS PRESENTED:

"On the Audience for Bengali Novelist Sarat Candra Chattopadhyay." Association for Asian Studies meetings, New York, 1972.

"Against Buddhadeva Bose's Bengali Novel There Was Hardly a Case." 4th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, 1975.

- "The Poetry of Rabindranath Tagore." Ripon College, Ripon, Wisconsin, 1976.
- "Old Structure, New Emotion: Bengali Śākta Lyrics." University of Minnesota, 1977.
- "Say It with Structure: Tagore and Maṅgala Kāvya." Bengal Studies Conference, Chicago, 1977
- "Criticism and Constructed Indigenous Ideologies." University of Minnesota, 1978.
- "Rāma in the Nether World: Indian Sources of Inspiration." American Oriental Society meetings, St. Louis, 1979.
- "The Tale of Prince Rāma." Outreach Educational Project, The University of Chicago, 1979
- "Subversive Similes in *Meghanādavadha Kāvya*." American Oriental Society meetings, Boston, 1981; Institute for Bangladesh Studies, Rajshahi, Bangladesh, 1982; Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University, Calcutta, India, 1982.
- "Jibanananda and the Oxymoron." Department of English, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh, 1981.
- "*Āṭ bachar āger ek bismayakar mṛtyu*." Department of Bengali, University of Chittagong, 1981; Bangladesh Parishad, Rajshahi, 1982; Asutosh Mookerjee Memorial Institute, Calcutta, 1982.
- Asādhāraṇ athaca svābhābik ek bhāṣāśilpī*." Chittagong University College; Bangla Gabeshana Samsad, University of Rajshahi, 1982.
- "*Māikeler hāte Rāmādi caritra*." Department of English, University of Chittagong; Bangla Gabeshana Samsad, University of Rajshahi; Department of Bengali, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh; Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University; Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta; Baṅga Sāhitya Sammelan, Calcutta, 1982.
- "The Woof of Dutt's *The Slaying of Meghanāda*." Middle West Branch of the American Oriental Society meetings, Chicago, 1983.
- "The *Rāmāyaṇa* Sung to Painted Scrolls: Contemporary Bengali *Paṭuyās*." Popular Culture Association meetings, Wichita, Kansas, 1983.
- "Serious *Sāhitya*: the Prose Fiction of Bangladesh's Rizia Rahman." Bengal Studies Conference, Salisbury, Connecticut, 1983.

- "Pramilā: A Tradition Characterized." 17th Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, 1988.
- "Michael Madhusudan Dutt on Stage." Tercentennial Conference on Calcutta 1690-1990: The City, the Region and the World; Calcutta, 1990.
- "Michael Madhusudan Dutt and His Contributions to English and Bengali Literature." Calcutta tercentennial celebration, Philadelphia, 1991.
- "One Man's Construct: A Poetic Bengali Woman." 21st Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin, 1992
- "Viewing Bangladeshi Literature." 1st North America Bangla Literature & Culture Convention, Chicago, 1993
- "Bengali *paṭ* Paintings and Performance." Symposium: Popular Painting Traditions in India and Their Impact on Contemporary Art and Culture; Chicago, 1995
- "Rājā Pratāpāditya: Problematic Bengali Hero." Bengal Studies Conference, Bloomington, Indiana, 1998.
- "The Maṅgala Kāvya Nature of Bhāratacandra's Annadāmaṅgala." Bengal Studies Conference, Fayetteville, North Carolina, 1999.
- "Humanizing Hanumān in Dutt's 'Meghanādavadha Kāvya.'" Bengal Studies Conference, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, 2000.
- "Translating between Media: Rabindranath Tagore and Satyajit Ray." Keynote speech, 12th annual Tagore Festival, Urbana-Champaign, 2000.
- "The Man in Hanuman: Humanizing Animals in Dutt's Bengali Ramayana." 30th U. of Wisconsin Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, 2001.
- "Comings and Goings: From Michael Madhusudan Datta to the Diaspora of Today," Center for South Asian Studies and the Department of South & Southeast Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, 2003.
- "'Historizing' Buddhadeva Bose." Bishwo Sahitya Kendro/The World Literature Center, New York, 2003.
- "Ātmaparicay or Introdution of Myself." North American Bengali Conference, Baltimore, 2004.

"Ātmavilāp or Lament of Myself." North American Bengali Conference, Baltimore, 2004.

"Ātmabhāṣā and Mir Mosharraf Hosain." North American Bengali Conference, Baltimore, 2004.

"Winds of Change: Michael Madhusudan Datta and *The Slaying of Meghanada*." Bishwo Sahitya Kendro/The World Literature Center, New York; Nehru Centre, London, (annual Tagore-Yeats Memorial Lecture); Asiatic Society of Bengal, (joint auspices, Asiatic Society and the Department of English, University of Kolkata), 2004.

"Shifting Seas and 'Banalata Sen.'" Barisha Boi-Mela (Barisha Book Fair); Department of English, University of Kalyani (West Bengal); Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta; Bangiya Sahitya Parishad; Department of Bengali, University of Bardhaman (West Bengal), 2004.

"Bangla Devotional Texts." Bhav Bhakti Hindu Society, University of Chicago registered student organization, 2005.

"Stressed!?! Who's Stressed?!? -- On Translating Meter from an Unstressed Language (Bangla) into a Stressed One (English)," University of Wisconsin, 2006.

"Who Does Your Dirty Work? NOT Michael Madhusudan Datta's Hanuman," U. of Wisconsin and U. of Washington, 2006.

COMPUTER PROGRAMS:

"FLASHWORD.Bengali," 1987. An electronic "box of flash cards" in Bengali and English for the Macintosh.

"SCRIPT.Bengali," 1988. A Bengali orthography tutor.

"HyperBengali.I," 1989. A HyperCard® stack version of *An Introduction to Bengali, Part I*, by E.C. Dimock, et al.

"LearnLetters," 1989. A Bengali alphabet recognition tutor.

COURSES TAUGHT:

- Bengali: Introductory, Intermediate, Advanced, & Readings in Bengali

- Literary and Cultural History of Bengal (co-taught with Edward C. Dimock, Jr.)
- Rabindranath Tagore
- Study of a Text: The Poetry of Jibanananda Das
- Three Bengali Novelists Named Banerjee
- Modern Indian Literature in Translation (University of Minnesota)
- Indian Epic in Translation (University of Minnesota)
- The Novels of R. K. Narayan (co-taught with C. M. Naim)
- Indian Biography and Autobiography (co-taught with Norman H. Zide)
- Form, Problem, Event (College Core)
- Images of India
- Victorian Literature in Bengal
- Proseminar: Calcutta (Departmental Core)
- Twentieth-Century Literature from Bengal
- Literature of Bengal: Calcutta Theatre
- South Asian Texts: "Literary" Approaches (Departmental Core)
- Readings in World Literature (College Core)
- Literature of Bengal: Michael Madhusudan Dutt & Nineteenth-Century Bengali Identity
- Literature of Bengal: English Originally vs. In Translation
- South Asian Texts & Critical Practices-2 (Departmental Core)

THESIS COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP (U. of C.):

- Kristine M. Rogers, "Citrā Caitālī, and Kṣaṇikā: A translation and critical analysis of three books of poetry by Rabindranath Tagore." Ph.D. 1979
- Tony K. Stewart, "The Biographical Image of Kṛṣṇa Caitanya." Ph.D. 1985
- Vaswati Rani Sinha. "Nonroman Script Text Processing Developments and Library Applications." M.A. (jointly with the Library School) 1986
- Jeffrey J. Kripal, "Kālī's Child: The Mystical and the Erotic in the Life and Teachings of Ramakrishna Paramahansa." Ph.D. (Divinity School) 1993
- Kevin R. Downey, "Changing Modes of Consolidation: A Comparison between the Turks in Delhi and Lakhnauti in the 13th through 16th Centuries." M.A. 1993
- Patricia Gossman, "Riots and Victims: Violence and the Construction of Communal Identity among Bengali Muslims, 1905-1947." Ph.D. 1995
- Hugh B. Urban, "The Poor Company: Secrecy and Symbolic Power in the Kartābhajā Sect of Colonial Bengal." Ph.D. (Divinity School) 1998
- Anne Daisy Rockwell, "The Novelty of Ashk: Conflict, Originality and Novelization in the Life and Work of Upendranath Ashk (1910-1996)." Ph.D. 1998
- Gautam Ghosh, "Generic Nationality, Displaced Temporality: Bhadrakok Agency after the Partition of Bengal." Ph.D. (Department of Anthropology) 2000
- Françoise Labrique, "'Fetching Bit of Skirt': An Examination of the Stereotyping of Anglo-Indian Women in Four Novels." M.A. (Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences-MAPSS) 2000
- Sameera Iyengar, "Performing Presence: Feminism and Theatre in India." Ph.D. 2001
- Mithi Mukherjee, "'The Lawyer, the Legislator and the Renouncer: A History of Anticolonial Representational Politics in Modern India (1757-1947)." Ph.D. (Department of History) 2001
- Rochona Majumdar, "Marriage, Modernity and Sources of the Self: Bengali Women, c. 1870-1956." Ph.D. (Departments of SALC and History) 2003
- Andrew Sartori, "'Culture' in Bengal, 1879 to the 1920s: The Historical Genesis of an Ambivalent Concept." Ph.D. (Department of History) 2003
- Debali Mookerjea, "Unfinished Histories: Gendered Violence and National Identity in Women's Writings." Ph.D. 2004

Sanjay Gautam, "Conflict of Callings: Love, Care and the Birth of Pain in the Poetry of Mutibodh (1917-1964)." Ph.D. 2005

Edward M. Yazijian, "From Performance to Literature: The *Caṇḍīmaṅgala* of Kavikaṅkana Mukundarāma Cakravartī." Ph.D. 2007

Jesse Ross Knutson, "The Consolidation of Literary Registers in the World of the Senas and the Beginning of Its Afterlife: Sanskrit and Bengali Social Poetics 12th-14th Century." Ph.D. 2009

Erin Elizabeth O'Donnell, "History, Trauma and Remembering: The Construction of a Postcolonial Bengali Cultural Identity in Ritwik Ghatak's Films." Ph.D. 2009

Thesis/examination committee membership (external):

Madhup Kumar De, "*Jaṅgal mahaler lokakathā*." Ph.D. (Bengali Department, University of Calcutta) 1990

Atreyi Sil, "*Bāmlār moukhik aitijhye khoṣ galpa*." Ph.D. (Bengali Department, University of Calcutta) 1991

Rachel Fell McDermott, "Evidence for the Transformation of the Goddess Kālī: Kamalākānta Bhaṭṭācārya and the Bengali Śākta Padāvalī Tradition." Ph.D. (Committee on the Study of Religion, Harvard University) 1993

Prasenjit Gupta. Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination, (Writers' Workshop, University of Iowa) 1997

Sharmistha Chatterjee, "Socio-Cultural Milieu and the Search for Self in Post Independence Indo-Anglian Poetry." Ph.D. (Department of English, University of Kalyani, West Bengal) 2005

Subhendu Sarkar, "The Third Theatre: Theory and Practice: A Study in Translation of the New Open-air Theatre Texts in Bengal." Ph.D. (Department of English, University of Calcutta, West Bengal) 2005

Samarpita Mitra, "The Literary Public Sphere in Bengal: Aesthetics, Culture and Politics, 1905-1939." Ph.D. (Department of History, Syracuse University) 2009