



**Susmita Roye Ph.D.**

**Professor**

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**Profile**

Susmita Roye is Professor of English at Delaware State University, USA. She specializes in South Asian Women’s Writing and Indian Writing in English. Her other research and teaching interests include Women’s Writing in general, World Literature, Gender and Imperialism, British and Anglophone Literatures, Post/Colonial Literatures, Cultural Studies, Comparative Literary Studies (including Bengali and Hindi literatures) and Victorian Literature.

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**Education**

Ph.D. English, 2011. University of Bristol, UK.  
M.Phil. English, 2006. University of Calcutta, India.  
M.A. English. University of Calcutta, India.

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**Selected Publications:**

- **Books**

- **Roye, Susmita.** *Mothering India: Women's Fiction in English shaping Cultural History, 1890-1947.* Oxford University Press, 2020.
- **Roye, Susmita,** editor. *Flora Annie Steel: A Critical Study of an Unconventional Memsahib.* University of Alberta Press, 2017.
- Bashir, Hassan and **Susmita Roye,** editors. *Experiencing Otherness: Multidisciplinary Perspectives.* EBook. Oxford Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2015.
- **Roye, Susmita** and Rajeshwar Mittapalli, editors. *The Male Empire under the Female Gaze: The British Raj and the Memsahib.* Cambria Press, 2013.

#### - Journal articles

- **Roye, Susmita.** "Saint or Sinner? Suttee in the Depiction of Flora Annie Steel and Cornelia Sorabji." *Journal of Commonwealth Literature*, vol. 52, no. 2, June 2017, pp. 281-299.
- **Roye, Susmita.** "Politics of Sculpting the 'New' Indian Woman in Premchand's Stories: Everything the Mem is not." *South Asia Research*, vol. 36, no. 2, July 2016, pp. 229-240.
- **Roye, Susmita.** "Stereotyping the Feminist Lady Doctor in British India: A Study of the Literary Depictions by Colonial Women Writers." *Studies in the Humanities*. Special issue: Representations of, by, and for Women: The Gendered Politics of Art," vol. 41, nos. 1-2, March 2015, pp. 120-142.
- **Roye, Susmita.** "Toni Morrison's Disrupted Girls and their Disturbed Girlhoods: *The Bluest Eye* and *A Mercy*." *Callaloo*, vol. 35, no. 1, Winter 2012, pp. 212-227.
- **Roye, Susmita.** "Suttee-Sainthood through Selflessness: Pain of Repression or Power of Devotion?" *South Asia Research*, vol. 31, no. 3, November 2011, pp. 281-299.
- **Roye, Susmita.** "Lady Missionary in the Memsahib's Depiction." *English Studies*, vol. 92, no. 2, April 2011, pp. 193-209.
- **Roye, Susmita.** "Sultana's Dream versus Rokeya's Reality: A Study of a Pioneering Feminist Sci-Fi Utopia." Special Edition 'Science and Literature,' *Kunapipi*, vol. 31, no. 2, 2009, pp. 135-146.

#### - Book chapters

- **Roye, Susmita.** "Teaching Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain's *Sultana's Dream*". MLA Teaching Volume: *Teaching Anglophone South Asian Women's Writings*, edited by Deepika Bahri and Filippo Menozzi, Modern Language Association, 2021, pp. 213-221.
- **Roye, Susmita.** "The Transgressing Purdahnashin and Violated Purdah Space in Kipling and Steel." *Flora Annie Steel: A Critical Study of an Unconventional Memsahib*, University of Alberta Press, 2017, pp. 101-122.
- **Roye, Susmita.** "Othered in Language, Served in Silence: Role of Language in Amitav Ghosh's *The Hungry Tide*." E-Book on *Strangers, Aliens and Foreigners*, Oxford Interdisciplinary.Net, 2015.

- **Roye, Susmita.** “Cross-Gendered Voice and Disguise: A Discourse on Race, Class and Gender in British India.” *The Male Empire under the Female Gaze: The British Raj and the Memsahib*, Cambria, 2013, pp. 101-128.
  - **Roye, Susmita** and Rajeshwar Mittapalli. “(Re)Viewing the Gaze.” *The Male Empire under the Female Gaze: The British Raj and the Memsahib*, Cambria, 2013, pp. 1-28.
  - **Roye, Susmita.** “Refuge-denied Refugee: Analyzing Elite/Subaltern Identity in Amitav Ghosh’s *The Hungry Tide*.” *Subaltern Vision: a Study in Postcolonial Indian English Novel*, edited by Aparajita De, Amrita Ghosh and Ujjwal Jana, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2012, pp. 46-63.
  - **Roye, Susmita.** “Partition and Expatriation in *The Shadow Lines*: the Hysteria of History.” *Critical Anthology on Amitav Ghosh’s \*The Shadow Lines\** (also includes an interview with Amitav Ghosh), edited by Sandip Ain, Worldview, 2011, pp. 75-89.
- Roye, Susmita.** “Reconsidering Gender-Power Hierarchy in a Post/Colonial Society: Masculinities in Amitav Ghosh’s *The Hungry Tide*.” *Postcolonial Indian Fiction in English and Masculinity*, edited by Rajeshwar Mittapalli and Letizia Alterno, Atlantic, 2009, pp. 66-82.

#### - Book reviews

- **Roye, Susmita.** Review of *Reading Literature: Two Complementary Essays and a Conversation*, Tabish Khair and Sebastien Doubinsky 2011, in *South Asia Research*, vol. 33, no. 3, November 2013, pp. 261-263.
- **Roye, Susmita.** Review of *Memsahibs’ Writings: Colonial Narratives on Indian Women*, edited by Indrani Sen (Orient Longman, 2008), in *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*, vol. 37, no. 3, 2009, pp. 511-12.

#### - Encyclopedia Entry

- **Roye, Susmita.** “*The Bluest Eye*, Toni Morrison (1970).” *Twentieth-Century and Contemporary American Literature in Context*, edited by Linda de Roche, ABC-CLIO, 2021, pp. 149-151.

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## Conference Presentations

### Selected list of Special Events organized:

- As NeMLA Director: organized and co-chaired a special event with an invited speaker, Dr. Joseph Valente, Boston MA, March 7, 2020.
- As NeMLA Director: Co-organized a special event with an invited speaker, Dr. Gayle Wald, Washington DC, March 23, 2019.
- As NeMLA Director: Co-organized a special event with an invited speaker, Helon Habila, Pittsburgh PA, April 15, 2018.
- As NeMLA Director: Modernism and Douglas Mao, Baltimore MD, March 25, 2017.

- As NeMLA Director: “Meeting the Iranian-American author Porochista Khakpour,” Hartford CT, March 19, 2016.
- As NeMLA Director: “Writing from the Hyphen: Canadian-Sri Lankan writer Shyam Selvadurai,” Toronto, May 2, 2015.
- As DSU Humanities Faculty: “Celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery in the US,” Dover, October 20-21, 2015.

### **Selected list of Conference Sessions organized:**

- Organizer and Chair: “South Asian Literature,” NeMLA Conference, Washington DC, March 23, 2019.
- Organizer and Chair: “Masculinity in Women’s Literature (part II),” NeMLA Conference, Pittsburgh PA, April 14, 2018.
- Organizer and Chair: “Masculinity in Women’s Literature,” NeMLA Conference, Baltimore MD, March 26, 2017.
- Organizer and Chair: “English and Englishness in Anglophone Literature,” NeMLA Conference, Baltimore MD, March 26, 2017.
- Organizer and Chair: “Gender and the British Empire,” MLA Conference, Philadelphia PA, January 8, 2017.
- Organizer and Chair: “Resurrecting the Memsahib: Reconsidering Her Resourcefulness and Resistance,” AAS Conference, Seattle WA, April 2, 2016.
- Organizer and Chair: “Unsung Heroines of British Literature”, NeMLA Conference, Hartford CT, March 18-20, 2016.
- Organizer and Chair: “Literature of Imperialism before the Age of Imperialism”, NeMLA Conference, Toronto, Canada, April 30, 2015.
- Organizer and Chair: “The Memsahib as Imagined and Imaged by Male Writers”, NeMLA Conference, Susquehanna University, 2014.
- Organizer and Chair: “The Male Empire under the Female Gaze”, ACLA International Conference, Harvard University, 26-29 March 2009.

### **Selected list of Papers presented:**

- “Can you have it all? Challenges and Dilemmas of Female Academics,” NeMLA Conference, Boston MA, USA, March 7, 2020.
- “Personal Memory vs. State-dictated History in Amitav Ghosh’s *The Hungry Tide*,” NeMLA Conference, Washington DC, USA, March 23, 2019.
- “Challenging Constraints, Crossing Confines: A Memsahib’s Negotiations with her Identity,” AAS Conference, Seattle WA, USA, April 2, 2016.

- “Publicity of the Privacy of Purdah: Studying a Memsahib’s Depiction,” SALA Conference, Austin TX, USA, January 6, 2016.
- “Five Steps towards Winning NEH Grants,” NeMLA Conference, Toronto, Canada, May 1, 2015.
- “Everything the Mem is *not*: Politics of Sculpting the ‘New’ Indian Woman in Premchand’s Stories”, NeMLA Conference, Susquehanna University, USA, April 4, 2014.
- **Invited lecture** at Kakatiya University, India, December 2, 2013.
- “Othered in Language, Served in Silence: Role of Language in Amitav Ghosh’s *The Hungry Tide*”, 5<sup>th</sup> Global Conference: Strangers, Aliens and Foreigners, University of Oxford, UK, September 6, 2013.
- “Cross-gendered Voice and Disguise: An Unconventional Depiction of the Indian Mutiny”, NeMLA Conference, Tufts University, USA, March 21, 2013.
- “Saint or Sinner?: Viewing the Suttee across the Colonial Divide,” Columbia University, USA, September 10, 2009.
- “Strength of Womanhood or Shame of Unwomanliness?: White Feminists and Lady Doctors in British India”, ACLA Conference, Harvard University, USA, March 26-29, 2009.

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## Courses Taught

English Literature I, English Literature II

World Literature I, World Literature II, World Literature II (Honors)

Underdog Writes Back (special section), Contemporary Literature

English Composition I, English Composition II, English Composition I (Honors), English Composition II (Honors)

Victorian Literature

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## Awards, Honors and Service

Selected list:

- **Fulbright U.S. Student Program National Screening Committee** (for United Kingdom), 2023-2026
- **U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Award for Faculty**, 2014
- **International Advisory Board of *South Asia Research* journal**
- **Review panelist, National Endowment for Humanities (NEH)**

- **Board of Directors, Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA)**, 2014-2020
- **Chair, NeMLA Postcolonial Essay Award Committee**, 2018-2020
- **Judge, Sigma Tau Delta** National Conventions
- **Excellence in Teaching Award** by The National Society of Leadership and Success, DSU Chapter, 2014
- Departmental Student Choice Award for the **Most Encouraging Professor**, DSU, 2015
- **Member, Steering Group** of SAF, [Inter-Disciplinary.Net](#), Oxford, UK, 2013-2015
- **Overseas Research Scholarship (ORS)** by the Government of UK, 2007-2010
- **Junior Research Fellowship (JRF)** by the Government of India, 2004-2009
- Certificate of Qualification for Lectureship in the highly competitive **National Eligibility Test (NET)** in India, 2004
- Center for Teaching and Learning **Innovative Teaching Mini-Grants**, DSU, 2020, 2015
- **Peer-reviewer** for Oxford University Press, *Journal of Commonwealth Literature*, *Contemporary Women's Writing*, *English Studies*, *South Asia Research*, *American Fiction Studies*, *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature in the United States*, *Women's Writing*, among others