

CURRICULUM VITAE

DAMINI KULKARNI



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Languages known: English, Marathi, Hindi, Kannada

Author Profiles: <https://scroll.in/author/11515>

<https://himalmag.com/author/damini-kulkarni/>

<https://www.epw.in/author/damini-kulkarni>

TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR (MEDIA STUDIES) (AUGUST 2023 - PRESENT)

Institution: Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts, Symbiosis International (Deemed University)

Courses taught: Key Concepts in Indian Cinema; Introduction to Films; Media and Research and Capstone Project; Research Methodology; Rhetoric and Critical Writing; Economics and Business of Media; Evolution of Media, Media Ethics & Laws.

Other responsibilities: Member Head, Board of Studies (Film Studies Sub-Committee) of Symbiosis International (Deemed University); Member, Board of Editors of the journal Confluence: Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies; Co-Faculty-In-Charge of Marketing and Branding; Co-Faculty-In-Charge of the Newsletter

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION-SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW, DIPLOMA IN INDIAN FILM STUDIES (FEBRUARY 2018- JANUARY 2023)

Institution: Department of Media and Communication Studies, Savitribai Phule Pune University

Courses taught: Perspectives on Indian Cinema, Indian Film Audiences, Introduction to Film Studies

Other responsibilities: Designed and taught a bridging program that would enable students to fully comprehend the material being taught in the program Diploma in Indian Studies. The bridging workshop was created to make students fluent in the rubrics of critical and film theory, and enable them to understand and locate the place of Indian cinema within the global landscape

No. Diploma Dissertations Guided: 4

VISITING FACULTY, FLAME SCHOLAR'S PROGRAM (2019-2020)

Institution: Flame University, Pune

Course Taught: Designed and taught the course Introduction to Film Theory

VISITING FACULTY, BACHELOR OF ARTS (2019-2020)

Institution: Flame University, Pune

Course Taught: Communication Theory

VISITING FACULTY, BACHELOR OF MASS MEDIA (2017-2018)

Institution: Mithibai College, Mumbai

Course Taught: Mass Media Research

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION

PHD IN MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES (2018-2023)

Institution: Department of Media and Communication Studies, Savitribai Phule Pune University

Dissertation Title: Indian Women's Reception of Cinema on Digital Screens

Supervisor and Guide: Prof. Madhavi Reddy

Date Received: June 14, 2023

MASTER OF ARTS (COMMUNICATION AND JOURNALISM) (2013-2015)

Institution: Department of Communication and Journalism, University of Mumbai

Dissertation Title: Feminist Film Aesthetics in Commercially Successful Hindi Cinema

Supervisor and Guide: Dr. Mangesh Karandikar

Date Received: April 2015

BACHELOR OF MASS MEDIA (2010-2013)

Institution: University of Mumbai (Placed second in the University)

Date Received: April 2013

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

FREELANCE BOOK REVIEWER, *KIRKUS REVIEWS* (APRIL 2017-PRESENT)

Reviewing fiction, primarily novels intended for female audiences

NEWS CURATOR, SCROLL.IN (JANUARY 2016 - JUNE 2016)

Curating news pieces across five verticals, General News, Economics, Sports, Technology and Celebrity, parsing through over 100 sources

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES IN JOURNALS

Kulkarni, D., (2024). All Over the Place, or Everything Everywhere All at Once: The 18th Edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival. *Film Criticism* 48(2): 11.
doi: <https://doi.org/10.3998/fc.6870>

Kulkarni, D. (2024). Displacing difference, interrupting Indianness: Song sequences in digitally-released Indian-American films. *Journal of Postcolonial Writing*, 1–14.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/17449855.2024.2353088>

Kulkarni, D (2022) Screening Bodies: Women watching cinema in post-pandemic India. *Interactive Film and Media Journal*, 2 (1).

Kulkarni, D (2020) Appropriation and Articulation: Mapping movements in ‘Gully Boy’, *Cinergie – Il Cinema e le altre Arti*, 9(17), 87-96.
doi:<https://doi.org/10.6092/issn.2280-9481/10508>

Kulkarni, D (2019) Beyond the Clouds and the Construction of Indian Slums in Hindi Cinema, *Film International*, 17(1):89-95, DOI: 10.1386/fiin.17.1.89_1

Kulkarni, D (2018) The Many Forms of Islamophobia, *Film Criticism*, Vol. 42, Issue 3, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3998/fc.13761232.0042.317>

CHAPTERS IN EDITED BOOKS

Kulkarni, D (Upcoming, 2024) Female Cinema Audiences in Early Post-Independence India. In *A Media Anthropology in India*. Raghunath and Narsimhan (Eds.). Routledge

Kulkarni, D (2023) History into Myth: Popular Hindi cinema and the politics of “True Stories”. In *Historicising Myths in Contemporary India*. Gopinath and Deshmukh (Eds.), Routledge.

Gajjala R, Kulkarni D, Rahut D (2019) Dialogue Interlude: Extending and Nuancing the Framework, in *Digital Diasporas: Labor and Affect in Gendered Indian Digital Publics*, Gajjala et al. Rowman & Littlefield.

OTHER ACADEMIC ARTICLES

Kulkarni, D (2019) Mapping political consciousness: Samskara’s journey from novel to film, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 54, Issue 39 pp 77-78

Kulkarni, D (2018) The Politics of Food and Sexuality in Lust Stories, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 53, Issue 45

Kulkarni, D (2017) ‘Strong Female Characters’ in Hindi Cinema, *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 52, Issue 14

PAPERS PRESENTED

Kulkarni, D. (July 2025) Beyond Conflict: Spectatorship and Reception at the History of Moviegoing, Exhibition, and Reception (HoMER) Conference 2025, held at Galatasaray University, Istanbul, Turkey.

Kulkarni, D. (June 2025) Cinema Reception as History: Women Audiences in Early Post- Independence India at the Doing Women's Film and Television History organized by the University of Lincoln (UK).

Kulkarni, D (June 2024) Women Cinema Audiences in Early Post-Independence India at the History of Moviegoing, Exhibition, and Reception (HoMER) Conference 2025, organized by ESPM-Rio & Programa de Pós-graduação em Cinema e Audiovisual da Universidade Federal Fluminense (Brazil).

Kulkarni, D (November 2022) Pleasure and Pain: A study of women engaging with cinema on digital screens at the SSAAANZ 2022 conference organized by Massey University

Kulkarni, D. (October, 2022) Database to Archive and Beyond: Indian Women Watching Cinema on Digital Platforms at the conference titled Archives of Indian Cinema: Methodologies, Creativities and Urgencies organized by De Montfort University, Savitribai Phule Pune University and Loughborough University

Kulkarni, D. (June, 2022) Delayed Histories, Deferred Identities: Watching Indian Historical Films on Digital Platforms at the Screen Studies Conference (online) organized by the University of Glasgow

Kulkarni, D (March, 2022) Undoing Interruptions: Renegotiations with song-and-dance sequences in popular Hindi cinema (online) at the conference titled Diaspora Cinema and Media: Globalising the Local organized by the Diaspora Media Screen Network at Birmingham City University

Kulkarni, D (March 2022) “Screening Bodies: Women Watching Cinema in Post-pandemic India” at the conference titled Many Facets of Covid-19 Pandemic organized (online-mode) by Council for Social Development, Hyderabad

Kulkarni, D (August, 2021) Screening Bodies: Women Watching Cinema in Post-Pandemic India. Paper presented at the III Interactive Film and Media International Conference organized by Ryerson University, The Glasgow School of Art, University of São Paulo and The University of Texas, Dallas

Kulkarni, D (April, 2021) Pause, Rewind, Forward: Gendered negotiations with cinema in post-pandemic India. Presented at I World Cinema International Conference, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain.

Kulkarni, D (February, 2020) Screens and She: Sacred Games and Digital Play. Paper presented at the international conference Visual Cultures in Contexts: Affect, Subversion and Resistance, Christ University, Bangalore.

Kulkarni, D & Kumar, D (January, 2020) Border Disputes: Travel and Tourism in Imtiaz Ali’s films. Paper presented at the National symposium Locating Indian Cinema: Place, Popular Culture and Tourism, at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

Kulkarni, D (February, 2019) Body and Gaze: Unpacking the politics of reproduction in Hari-Bhari and Lajja. Paper presented at the international conference Contemporary Indian Cinema: Contestations and Consolidations, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune.

Kulkarni, D (2015) Politics of the Female Body: A study of close shots of a single body part of a female in Hindi films. Paper presented at the International Media Summit, Jai Hind College, Mumbai, published in *Media Research and*

Communication Studies Journal, Vol 2, pp 23-28

Kulkarni, D (2015) Transparency and Objectivity: A study of audience expectations from news on social media. Paper presented at the National Seminar Media Summit, Garden City College, Bangalore, published in *Media Matters*, Vol 1, pp 41- 46

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

CURATOR AND WRITER, GOOGLE ARTS AND CULTURE

Curated and wrote eight visual essays for a research collaboration between Google Arts and Culture and the Museum of Arts and Photography, Bangalore, India

WRITER, COURSE MATERIAL, INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE AND OPEN LEARNING, UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI

Wrote six course modules for subjects Media Criticism and Film Theory for the post-graduate distance education program initiated by the University of Mumbai.

INVITED TALKS AND SPECIAL LECTURES

Special Lecture titled *Discussing Digital Cinema* at the Rainbow Film Festival in 2020

Special Session titled *Women's Rights or Right Women: A Discussion around Cinema* at St. Mary's College Hyderabad, 2022

Special Session titled *Learning from Cinema* at Vellore Institute of Technology-AP, Amravati, 2023

WORKSHOPS AND SPECIAL COURSES ATTENDED

GIAN Workshop titled Studying Gender, Digital Labor and Globalization: Theory and Method, July 30 – August 10, 2018, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune

Moving Images: A Hands-on Workshop, February 13 – 16, 2019, at Manipal Centre for Humanities, Manipal

Techniques of Enchantment: An Introduction to Art and Media, January 5 – 28, 2021 at Jnanpravaha Mumbai,

HONORS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

UGC-JUNIOR AND SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP (2018-2023)

Qualified through the National Eligibility Test to secure the University Grants Commission Junior Research Fellowship

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Awarded for standing second in the University of Mumbai in the Bachelor of Mass Media (Advertising) 2013

SAARC JAPAN CULTURAL-EXCHANGE PORGAM AWARDEE, 2008

Selected at SIES College of Science for my linguistic and cultural adaptability for a 10-day cultural exchange program

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Designed and conducted gender sensitization workshops for 13 to 15-year-olds in 2012-13. These sessions were designed with the purpose of equipping students with the ability to identify stereotypical portrayals of gender in media products

Wrote and appeared in a Podcast series titled *Screendemic*, which examined the changes in the relationships between audiences and digital screens in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic for the magazine Indie Journal

Authored several articles for audiences beyond universities:

- Over 50 articles for *Scroll.in* which have been cited by several academic articles: <https://scroll.in/author/11515>
- One article for *Himal Southasian*: <https://himalmag.com/author/damini-kulkarni/>
- Art Reviews, Features and Interviews for *Critical Collective*