

*Curriculum Vitae***AYESHA RAMACHANDRAN**

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2013- Yale University, Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature
 Affiliated Faculty, Program in Renaissance Studies
- 2008–13 Stony Brook University, Assistant Professor of English
 Affiliated Faculty, Department of Cultural Analysis and Theory
- 2007–08 Harvard Society of Fellows, Junior Fellow
- 2010 (Spring) New York University, Visiting Assistant Professor, Comparative
 Literature

EDUCATION

- 2008 Ph.D. with Distinction in English and Renaissance Studies
 Yale University, New Haven, CT
- 2001 BA, *Magna cum laude*, with highest honors in English
 Smith College, Northampton, MA
- 1999–2000 Exchange Student, The Graduate Institute for International and
 Development Studies, Université de Genève, Geneva, Switzerland

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2016–19 Mellon New Directions Fellowship (\$271,000)
- 2016–17 Blended Reality Applied Research Project Grant, Yale University (\$11,000;
 co-PI)
- 2016 Humanity/Humanities Grant, Whitney Humanities Center (\$15,000; co-PI)
- 2016 Digital Humanities Seed Grant, DH Lab, Yale University
- 2016 Morse Junior Faculty Fellowship, Yale University
- 2015 A. Whitney Griswold Grant, Yale University
- 2014 Frederick W. Hilles Publication Grant, Yale University
- 2011 John Carter Brown Long-Term Fellowship (Summer–Fall 2012)
- 2011 UUP Individual Development Grant, Stony Brook University

2010	FAHSS Interdisciplinary Initiatives Grant, Stony Brook University
2009	FAHSS Interdisciplinary Initiatives Grant, Stony Brook University
2009	FAHSS Individual Summer Research Grant, Stony Brook University
2009	UUP Individual Development Grant, Stony Brook University
2007–10	Junior Fellow, Harvard Society of Fellows (declined 2008–10)
2005–06	Graduate Affiliateship, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University
2005–06	Whiting Fellowship in the Humanities, Yale University
2001–05	Yale University Graduate Fellowship
2004–05	Sheldon Wise Fellow, Renaissance Studies, Yale University
2004	James M. Osborn Fellow, Beinecke Library, Yale University
2001–03	A. Bartlett Giamatti Fellowship in Renaissance Studies, Yale University

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

2017	Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize in Comparative Literary Studies for <i>The Worldmakers</i> , Modern Language Association
2016	Shawcross Prize for Best Chapter on Milton (for <i>The Worldmakers</i>), Milton Society of America
2016	Poorvu Family Interdisciplinary Teaching Prize, Yale University
2016	Director's Award, MacMillan Center, Yale University
2015	Founders Prize for best first book manuscript in early modern studies across all disciplines, Sixteenth Century Society and Conference
2010	Isabel MacCaffrey Prize for best article between 2008–10 on Spenser and his contemporaries, International Spenser Society
2008	Leab Exhibition Award for best exhibition brochure for <i>Collecting an Empire</i> , American Library Association
2007	Prize Teaching Fellowship for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching, Yale University
2006	Honorable Mention, Gerald Kahan Prize for best article on a theatre research topic, American Society for Theatre Research
2001	Phi Beta Kappa

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2015	<i>The Worldmakers: Global Imagining in Early Modern Europe</i> . University of Chicago Press. [Link] Awards: Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize in Comparative Literary Studies, Modern Language Association (2017) Shawcross Prize, Milton Society of America (2016) Founders Prize for best first book manuscript (all disciplines), Sixteenth Century Studies Association (2015) Reviewed in: <i>Renaissance Quarterly</i> , <i>Modern Philology</i> , <i>Studies in English Literature</i> , <i>The Spenser Review</i> , <i>Imago Mundi</i> , <i>Early Science & Medicine</i> , <i>British Journal for the History of Science</i> , <i>Journal of Historical Geography</i> , <i>British Society for Literature and Science</i>
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In Progress “Lyric Thinking: Poetry, Selfhood, Modernity”
Invited for submission by University of Chicago Press; expected completion
December 2017.

Edited Volumes & Texts

- 2016 *Spenser and the Human*, A Special Issue of *Spenser Studies*, Volume XXX, guest
edited with Melissa Sanchez, AMS Press.
- 2015 “How to Read *The Faerie Queene*: A Forum,” in *The Spenser Review* 44.3 (Winter
2015), guest edited with Sarah van der Laan. [[Link](#)]

Articles (Peer-Reviewed)

- Under Review “Why Theorize the “World”: An Early Modern Manifesto,” *NLH: New
Literary History*.
- Forthcoming “Cosmic Matters: Spenser, Donne and the Philosophic Poem,” in *Spenser &
Donne: Thinking Poets*, ed. Yulia Ryzhik. Manchester: Manchester University
Press, 2018.
- 2016 “Humanism and Its Discontents,” in *Spenser and the Human*, eds. Melissa
Sanchez and Ayesha Ramachandran, *Spenser Studies* XXX: 3–18.
- 2013 “Montaigne’s Tasso: Madness, Melancholy and the Enigma of Italy,” *Italy
from Without*, special issue of *Forum Italicum* 47: 246–62. [[Link](#)]
- 2012 “A War of Worlds: Becoming “Early Modern” and the Challenge of
Comparison,” in *Comparative Early Modernities: 1100-1800*, ed. David Porter.
New York: Palgrave, 15–46.
- 2010 “Mutabilitie’s Lucretian Metaphysics: Skepticism and Cosmic Process in
Spenser’s *Cantos*,” in *Celebrating Mutabilitie: Essays on Edmund Spenser’s
Mutabilitie Cantos*, ed. Jane Grogan. Manchester: Manchester University Press,
220–245.
- 2009 “Edmund Spenser, Lucretian Neoplatonist: Cosmology in the *Fowre
Hymnes*,” in *Spenser and Platonism: An Expanded Special Volume*, eds. Kenneth
Borris, Carol Kaske and Jon Quitslund, *Spenser Studies* XXIV (2009): 373–411.
(Winner of Isabel MacCaffrey Prize.)
- 2007 “Tasso’s Petrarch: The Lyric Means to Epic Ends,” *MLN: Modern Language
Notes*, 122.1: 186–208. [[Link](#)]
- 2005 “Clarion in the Bower of Bliss: Poetry and Politics in Spenser’s *Muiopotmos*,”
Spenser Studies XX: 77–106.

- 2005 “New World, No World: Seeking Utopia in Padmanabhan’s *Harvest*,” *Theatre Research International* 30.2: 161–74. (Honorable Mention for Gerald Kahan Prize) [\[Link\]](#)

Articles (Invited)

- 2016 “Cosmology and Cosmography,” for *Edmund Spenser in Context*, ed. Andrew Escobedo, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 323–32.
- 2016 “Introduction,” with Melissa Sanchez, in *Spenser and the Human*, eds. Melissa Sanchez and Ayesha Ramachandran, *Spenser Studies* XXX: vii–xv.
- 2014 “Traductions cosmographiques dans les *Essais* de Montaigne,” in *Illustrations inconscientes: écritures de la Renaissance. Melanges en l’honneur de Tom Conley*, eds. Phillip Usher and Bernd Renner. Paris: Classiques Garnier, 121–42.
- 2014 “Allegory and Our Discontents: Thinking “Post-Critically” while Reading Judith Anderson,” Editor’s Choice in *The Spenser Review* 44.1.1. (7000 words) [\[Link\]](#)
- 2011 “Fundamentalism and (Early) Modernity: Revisiting the F-Word in Historical Context,” *Anglistik: International Journal of English Studies* 22.2: 49–66.

Articles in Progress

- 2018 “What Can We Learn from Renaissance Literary Critics?” (in conjunction with a Newberry Library Symposium on “Contexts of Early Modern Literary Criticism in Italy and Beyond”)
- 2017 “Between Thought and Feeling: The Uses of Lyric in the *Orlando Furioso*,” *MLN* Special Issue for *Ariosto 500*

Book Reviews

- 2012 Phillip Usher, *Errance et coherence: Essai sur la littérature transfrontalière à la Renaissance* (Paris: Editions Classiques Garnier, 2010), *Sixteenth Century Journal* 43.3: 800–02.
- 2012 Joanna Picciotto, *Labors of Innocence in Early Modern England* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2010), *Journal of Modern History* 84.1: 176–77. [\[Link\]](#)
- 2011 Jane Grogan, *Exemplary Spenser: Visual and Poetic Pedagogy in the Faerie Queene* (Farnham, Surrey, UK: Ashgate, 2009), *The Spenser Review* 41.2.

- 2008 Teresa Chevolet, *L'idée des fables: Théories de la fiction poétique à la Renaissance* (Geneva: Droz, 2007), *Renaissance Quarterly* 61.2: 617–18. [[Link](#)]
- 2004 Alex Davis, *Chivalry and Romance in the English Renaissance* (Cambridge: D. S. Brewer, 2003), *Renaissance Quarterly* 57.3: 1141–42. [[Link](#)]
- 2003 Dino Campana, *Canti Orfici*, translated by Luigi Bonaffini (Boca Raton, FL: Bordighera Press, 2003), *Italian Poetry Review* 1: 275–78.

Other Publications

- 2008 *Collecting an Empire*, exhibition brochure (Beinecke Library, 2007). (Winner of Leab *Exhibition Award*)
- 2001 *The Mercenary Problem: The Need for a New Approach* (International Alert, 2001), coauthored with L. Gaultier, G. Hovsepian, I. Wadley and B. Zerhdoud. [[Link](#)]

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures and Talks

- 2017 “Before Knowing: Philosophic Lyric and the Thinking Self,” Columbia Renaissance Seminar, Columbia University.
- 2017 “Petrarch Beyond Petrarchism: Lyric Thinking in the *Fragmenta*,” Department of Comparative Literature, Cornell University.
- 2017 “Selfhood Matters: Politics and Teaching Now,” Center for Writing and Speaking, Barnard College.
- 2017 “The New World in European Literary History,” Renaissance Society of America, Chicago.
- 2017 “On Renaissance Literary Criticism and Its Contemporary Avatars,” Symposium on “Contexts of Early Modern Literary Criticism in Italy and Beyond,” Newberry Library, Chicago.
- 2016 “Between Thought and Feeling: The Uses of Lyric in the *Orlando Furioso*,” *Ariosto 500* conference, Johns Hopkins University.
- 2016 “From World to Cosmos: The Long View from Early Modern to Postmodern,” ACL(x) conference on *Extra-Disciplinarity*, Pennsylvania State University.
- 2016 “Between Epic & Lyric: Petrarch and the Poetics of Thought,” Renaissance Workshop, University of Chicago.

- 2016 “Between Epic & Lyric: Petrarch and the Poetics of Thought,” Department of Italian Studies, New York University.
- 2016 “Genre and Geography: Epic vs Lyric,” *Epic Geographies* Conference, Medieval and Renaissance Center, New York University.
- 2015 “Cosmopolitanism before Kant: Towards an Alternate History of World Literature,” Early Modern Studies Institute, Huntington Library.
- 2015 “Americana in Global Perspective,” *Americana: A Roundtable Conversation*, John Carter Brown Library, Brown University.
- 2015 “Spenser’s Philosophical Poetry,” Special Focus Panel on Religion and Philosophy, International Spenser Conference, Dublin.
- 2014 “Cosmopoesis: A Literary History of Mercator’s *Atlas*,” Center for Digital Humanities, University of South Carolina.
- 2013 “Descartes’s Philosophical Fictions,” French Department, University of California, Berkeley.
- 2013 “The Infinite Spaces of Descartes’s World,” Department of Comparative Literature, Yale University.
- 2012 “Worldmaking in Early Modern Europe: Mercator, Montaigne, Milton,” Renaissance and Early Modern Studies Colloquium, Brown University.
- 2012 “Cosmopoesis: A Literary History of Mercator’s *Atlas*,” John Carter Brown Library, Brown University.
- 2011 “Making Connections,” President’s Lunch Talk, Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Fort Worth, TX.
- 2011 “Montaigne’s Italy: Anti-Italianism and the Alterity of Torquato Tasso,” at conference on “Italy from Without,” Stony Brook University.
- 2011 “Renaissance and Revolution: Cartography in the Early Modern World,” Smith College.
- 2009 “The Mortal World of Montaigne’s *Essais*,” *Romancing The Text: Renaissance Translation and the Question of Genre*, Barnard College.
- 2009 “Worldmaking and the Project of Modernity,” Department of Comparative Literature, New York University.
- 2009 “A War of Worlds: Becoming “Early Modern” and the Challenge of Comparison,” Comparative Early Modernities Symposium, University of Michigan, April 2009.

- 2009 “Pendant Worlds: *Paradise Lost* and Miltonic Modernity,” Intellectual History Discussion Group, Harvard University.

Invited Campus Presentations

- 2016 “Normativity, Early Modernity and Literary Study,” mini-conference on *The Fact of Value? “Normativity” in the Humanities*, Department of Religious Studies, Yale University.
- 2016 “Between Epic and Lyric: Poetic Knowing in Early Modern Europe,” Open Forum, Department of Comparative Literature, Yale University.
- 2015 “Between Epic & Lyric: Petrarch & Spenser,” Renaissance Colloquium, Department of English, Yale University.
- 2015 “How We Invented the World: Mapping the Globe from the Renaissance to Google Earth,” Yale Summer Session Lecture Series.
- 2015 “Early Modern Cosmopolitanism: Religious Toleration Revisited,” Comparative Research Workshop, Department of Sociology, Yale University.
- 2014 “From *Theatre* to *Atlas*: Cartography as Performance,” Performance Studies Working Group, Yale University.
- 2013 “Early Modern Cosmopolitanism: Mapping Identities Beyond the Nation,” Center for Historical Enquiry and the Social Sciences (CHESS), Yale University.
- 2013 “How We Invented the World: Mapping the Globe from the Renaissance to Google Earth,” Global Studies College Faculty Lecture, Stony Brook University, February 2013.
- 2010 “Cartesian Romance and the Making of the World,” Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies Faculty-Student Colloquium, Humanities Institute, Stony Brook University.
- 2009 “Atomic-Biography: Materialism, Modernity, Selfhood,” Faculty Colloquium, Department of English, Stony Brook University.
- 2009 “A War of Worlds: Maps and Metaphysics in Early Modern Europe,” Humanities Institute, Stony Brook University.

Selected Conferences and Symposia

- 2017 “Lyric Thinking: Reconsidering Petrarchan Poetics,” Renaissance Society of America, Chicago.
- 2017 “Lyric Orientalism from Spenser to Milton,” Modern Language Association, Philadelphia.

- 2016 “Allegory between Epic and Lyric: Spenser’s Bleeding Hearts,” Sixteenth Century Society Conference, Bruges.
- 2016 “Between Epic & Lyric: Petrarch’s *Africa* and the *Rerum Vulgarium Fragmenta*,” Renaissance Society of America, Boston.
- 2014 “Between Epic and Lyric: Petrarch and Spenser,” Sixteenth Century Society Conference, New Orleans.
- 2014 Discussant, “Connected Histories: A Roundtable,” Renaissance Society of America, New York.
- 2014 “Reflections on Epic Voyages: Tasso & Camões,” American Comparative Literature Association, New York.
- 2013 “Mapping Cosmopolitanism,” Sixteenth Century Society Conference, San Juan.
- 2013 “The Return of the Giants: Challenging Political Order in the New World,” Renaissance Society of America, San Diego.
- 2011 “Prophecy and Cosmic Translation in Montaigne’s *Essais*,” Conference on The Global Dimensions of European Knowledge, London.
- 2010 “Sequencing the Lyric: Defining a Collective Form in the Renaissance,” Sixteenth Century Society Conference, Montreal, Canada.
- 2010 “Mapping Origins: The Cosmographic Scope of Indian Genealogies,” Conference on Early American Borderlands, St Augustine, FL, May 2010.
- 2010 “Imagination as Instrument: Speculation and Knowledge in Descartes’s *Le Monde*,” American Comparative Literature Association, New Orleans.
- 2009 “Forgotten Science: Natural Philosophy in the Northumberland Circle and the Elizabethan Court,” North American Conference on British Studies, Louisville, KY.
- 2009 “Atomic-Biography: Materialism, Modernity and Selfhood,” Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies, Dallas.
- 2009 “World-Making and its Discontents: Mercator’s *Atlas* and Hexameral Cartography,” Sixteenth Century Society Conference, Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2009 “Scythians in the New World: European Genealogies of the Amerindian,” Society for Early Americanists, Hamilton, Bermuda.
- 2008 “Rethinking Genre: The Cosmic Scope of Spenserian Poetry,” Sixteenth Century Society Conference, St Louis, MO.

- 2008 "The Materials of Mourning: Poems on Funerary Placards in Seventeenth-Century England," Renaissance Society of America, Chicago.
- 2007 "Early Modern Creationisms: Milton, Lucretius and the Problem with Genesis," Conference on Faith and Fantasy in Early Modern Europe, Center for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, University of Toronto.
- 2007 "A Rage for Order: Poetics and Epistemology in Sidney's Arcadia," Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Minneapolis.
- 2006 "Inventing the Post-Columbian World: Italy and America in Montaigne's *Essais*," Mediterranean Studies Association Conference, Genoa, Italy.
- 2006 "Explorations in Spenserian Cosmography: Inventing the World in the Proems to Book II and V of the *Faerie Queene*," International Spenser Conference, Toronto, May 2006.
- 2006 "Making Science: The Erotics of Spenserian Natural Philosophy," Renaissance Society of America, San Francisco.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Courses:

Yale University:

Literature 320: Modernities: Selfhood, Race, Class and Gender, Spring 2017
Literature 122: World Poetry and Performance, Spring 2015
Literature 120: Introduction to Narrative, Fall 2013, Fall 2014
Literature 179: Renaissance Love Poetry, Fall 2013
Literature 417: Maps and the Western Literary Tradition, Spring 2014, Fall 2014
Literature 425: The Literature of Doubt, Spring 2014
Literature S318: The Problem of Evil, Summer 2015, Summer 2016

Stony Brook University:

English 494/495: Honors Practicum in English, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Spring 2013
English 390/301: The Problem of Evil: Boethius to Rushdie, Spring 2010, Spring 2013
English 204: Literary Analysis and Argumentation, Spring and Fall 2009, Fall 2010
English 304: Sexual Politics in Elizabethan England, Spring 2009, Fall 2011
English 193: Performing Desire, Fall 2008
English 344: Donne, Jonson, and Marvell, Fall 2008

New York University:

Comp Lit 425: Skepticism & the Transformation of the Early Modern World, Spring 2010

Graduate Courses:

Yale University:

Comparative Literature 637: Mappings, Fall 2014

Stony Brook University:

English 620: The Genres of Professional Writing, Spring 2011

English 599: Contemporary Minority Poets, Fall 2010

English 585: Silk, Gold and Spices: Literature and International Trade, Spring 2010

English 599: An Introduction to New Media Studies, Spring 2010

English 599: Science and Literature: Philosophical Debates, Spring 2010

English 603: Interdisciplinarity and Literary Study, Fall 2009

English 584: Lyric Poetry, Summer 2009

English 599: A Critical Introduction to Renaissance Studies, Fall 2008

English 584: Encyclopedic Epic: Homer to Milton, Summer 2008

English 587: Worldmaking in Early Modern Europe, Summer 2008

SERVICE

Yale University

Departmental:

Director of Graduate Studies, 2014–15; Fall 2015; Spring 2017–present

Graduate Admissions Committee, 2014–15, 2016–17

Course Director, LITR 122, Spring 2015

Department Website Coordinator, 2014–16

Course Director, LITR 120, Fall 2014

Job Search Committee, 2013–14

Literature Major Prize Committee, 2014, 2015, 2017

Department Website Committee, 2014

University:

320 York St Selection Committee, 2017

Committee on the Economic Status of the Faculty, 2016–18

Writing Center Advisory Council, Spring 2015, 2015–17

320 York Street Committee, 2016

Panelist, Teaching @ Yale Day, Center for Teaching and Learning, 2015, 2016

HGS Humanities Exploratory Committee, 2015

Associate Director, Yale CHESS, 2014–15

University Committee on Digital Humanities, 2014–15

Steering Committee Member, Yale CHESS, 2013–present

Interdisciplinary Events Organized:

Co-organizer, Humanity/Humanities workshops (*Early Modern Techné*), 2017
Co-organizer, Panel on 'Trans* Identity, Poynter Fellowship in Journalism, 2017
Coordinator, Yale CHESS Workshop, 2014–15

Stony Brook University

Co-organizer, Lecture series on Coastlines and Environmental History, Spring 2011
University Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2010–11
English Department Strategic Planning Committee, 2010–11
Associate Director of the English Honors Program, 2009–13
Co-organizer, Lecture series on Early Modern Cultural Studies, Spring 2010
Co-organizer, “Histories of Modernity” seminar, Humanities Institute, Spring 2010
Committee on the Major, 2008–12
Undergraduate Program Committee, 2008–09
Teaching, Learning + Technology (TLT) Advisory Board, 2008–09

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Academic Boards:

Sixteenth Century Studies Society Liaison to International Spenser Society, 2014–present

Editorial Board, *The Spenser Review*, 2013–present

SCJ Literature Prize Committee, Sixteenth Century Studies Association, 2011–2013, 2015

Executive Committee, International Spenser Society, 2011–present.

Isabel MacCaffery Prize Committee (International Spenser Society), 2012, 2013

Editorial Board for book series, “Maps, Spaces, Cultures” at Brill Press.

Reviewer/Referee:

Article Referee for the following peer-reviewed journals: *PMLA*; *MLN*; *Modern Philology*; *Journal of the History of Ideas*; *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism*; and *Forum Italicum*.

Manuscript Referee for the following presses: Routledge, University of Chicago Press, Brill.

Conference Organization:

Organizer for Renaissance Society of America sponsored session on “Academics as Writers,” Chicago, 2017.

Representative for Yale Renaissance Studies at the Renaissance Studies Association, 2016–present.

The Spenser Roundtable (plenary session) Chair and Coordinator, Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, 2010–present.

Coordinator for International Spenser Society sessions, Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, 2013–present.

Seminar Leader (with William Oram), “Lucretian Pleasure and the Shakespearean Text,” Shakespeare Association of America conference, Toronto, 2013.

Regular session organizer and discussant at the following annual conferences: Renaissance Society of America, Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, American Comparative Literature Association.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association, Renaissance Society of America, Sixteenth Century Studies Society, American Comparative Literature Association, Society for Early Americanists, International Spenser Society, Shakespeare Association of America

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

2001–07 Assistant to the Curator, James M. and Marie Louise Osborn Collection
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University

2007 Exhibit Curator, *Collecting an Empire: The East India Company, 1600–1900*
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University [\[Link\]](#)

2005 Exhibit Curator, *Parliaments, Peoples and Power: 1603–1800*
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University [\[Link\]](#)

LANGUAGES

Italian: strong reading, writing, and speaking skills

French: strong reading, writing, and speaking skills

Hindi: near native reading, writing, and speaking skills

Portuguese: reading competence

Spanish: reading competence

Latin: reading competence