

**Sara H. Smith**  
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## **EDUCATION**

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### **University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ**

Ph.D., Geography, 2009 Minors: Anthropology and History

### **University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ**

M.A., Geography, May 2005

### **Lewis and Clark College, Portland, OR**

B.A. in Religious Studies, May 1997

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Geography**

Associate Professor, 2015 to present

Assistant Professor, 2009 to 2015

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### ***Refereed Journal Articles***

- Forthcoming.* Paul Robbins (first author) and Sara Smith. "Baby bust: Towards Political Demography." Early View at *Progress in Human Geography* March 1, 2016.  
doi:10.1177/0309132516633321.
- Forthcoming.* Sara Smith (first author), Banu Gökariksel, Nathan Swanson. "Introduction: Territory, Bodies, and Borders," *Area*, online in Early View DOI: 10.1111/area.12247. Full special issue will come out in 2016.
- 2016 Sara Smith. Intimacy and angst in the field. *Gender, Place and Culture*. 23:134-146. Special issue, "Emotions and stickiness in the field," edited by Nicole Laliberté and Carolin Schurr.
- 2015 Sara Smith (first author) and Mabel Gergan. The diaspora within: Himalayan youth, education-driven migration, and future aspirations in India. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*. 33:119-135.
- 2014 Sara Smith. Intimate territories and the experimental subject in the Leh District of India's Jammu and Kashmir State. *Ethnos* 79:41-62. Special issue, "Bodies and experiments in Asia," edited by Fouzieyha Towghi and Kalindi Vora.
- 2013 Sara Smith. "In the past, we ate from one plate": Memory and the border in Leh, Ladakh. *Political Geography* 35:47-59. Special issue, "Geographies at the Margins: Borders in South Asia," edited by Jason Cons and Romola Sanyal.
- 2013 Sara Smith. "In the heart, there's nothing": Unruly youth, generational vertigo, and territory. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 38(4):572-585.
- 2012 Sara Smith. Intimate Geopolitics: Religion, Marriage, and Reproductive Bodies in Leh, Ladakh. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. 102: 1511-1528.
- 2011 Sara Smith. "She says herself, 'I have no future'": Love, fate, and territory in Leh, Jammu and Kashmir State, India. *Gender, Place and Culture*. 18(4): 455-476.
- 2009 Sara Smith. The domestication of geopolitics: Buddhist-Muslim conflict and the policing of marriage and the body in Ladakh, India. *Geopolitics* 14(2): 197-218.

- 2008 Sara Smith. Notes from the field: the geopolitics of intimacy and babies in Leh. *Ladakh Studies* 23: 20-25.

### ***Refereed Special Issue (forthcoming)***

Forthcoming. Sara Smith (lead editor), Banu Gökariksel, Nathan Swanson. Themed section: "Territory, Bodies, and Borders," *Area*, online in Early View DOI: 10.1111/area.12247. Full special issue will come out in 2016.

### ***Refereed Special Issue (under review)***

Sara Smith and Pavithra Vasudevan (equal authorship). Introduction and editorship for special themed section, "Race, Biopolitics, and the Future," proposal accepted at *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*. The proposal is accepted and five articles are currently undergoing the revision and review process.

### ***Book chapters in edited volumes***

- 2016 Sara Smith (first author) and Mabel Gergan. "Life, love, and activism on the forgotten margins of the nation-state. In Matt Benwell and Peter Hopkins (Eds). *Children, young people and critical geopolitics*. London: Ashgate. 91-106.
- 2015 Sara Smith. "Religious identity and gender on the edges of the nation: the Leh district of India's Jammu and Kashmir state." In Stanley D. Brunn (Ed). *The Changing World Religion Map: Sacred Places, Identities, Practices and Politics*. New York: Springer. Chapter 13.5.)

### ***Guest Editorial***

*Forthcoming* Banu Gökariksel and Sara Smith (equal authorship). "Making America Great Again?": The Fascist Body Politics of Donald Trump." Guest editorial for *Political Geography* submitted June 29, 2016.

### ***Book Reviews***

- 2015 Sara Smith. Review of *Prostitution and the Ends of Empire: Scale, Governmentalities, and Interwar India*. Stephen Legg. *Journal of Historical Geography*. DOI: 10.1016/j.jhg.2015.07.011
- 2012 Sara Smith. Review of *Intimate others: marriage and sexualities in India*. S. Sen, R. Biswas, and N. Dhawan. *Gender, Place and Culture*. 19(6): 810-812. DOI:10.1080/0966369X.2012.736249.
- 2004 Sara Smith. Review of *The scandal of the state: women, law, and citizenship in postcolonial India*. Rajeshwari Sunder Rajan. *Environment & Planning D: Society & Space*. 22(6): 936.

### **HONORS**

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- 2016 Institute for Arts and the Humanities Academic Excellence Award
- 2012 Social Science Research Council Book Fellowship
- 2011 Institute for Arts and the Humanities Faculty Fellowship
- 2009 Asian Geography Specialty Group First Place Paper Award

### **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

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#### ***External Fellowships and Grants***

- 2016 National Science Foundation Geography and Spatial Science Program Grant (BCS-1561072) “Impacts of Education-Driven Urban Migration on Youth Aspirations and Identity” (\$250,000)
- 2015 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (BCS-1536339) with Pavithra Vasudevan: “Black Geographies and Industrial Toxicity in North Carolina” (\$15,975)
- 2013 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (BCS-1302785) with Mabel Gergan: “Hydropower Development and Indigenous Youth Agency” (\$15,967)
- 2011 Social Science Research Council Book Fellowship
- 2007 Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$3,770)
- 2007 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (\$18,310)
- 2007 Society of Woman Geographers Evelyn L. Pruitt National Fellowship for Dissertation Research (\$5,921)
- 2007 Association of American Geographers Political Geography Specialty Group Dissertation Research Grant (\$800)
- 2007 Association of American Geographers Qualitative Research Specialty Group Dissertation Research Grant (\$500)

***Internal Fellowships and Grants***

- 2014 UNC University Research Council Publication Grant (\$500)
- 2013 UNC University Research Council Small Grant (\$5,000)
- 2013 UNC Arts and Sciences Interdisciplinary Initiatives Grant (with Jean Dennison, Anthropology)
- 2013 Carolina Asia Center Faculty Travel Award with funding from the Jimmy and Judy Cox Asia Initiative (\$6,000, .33 months)
- 2011 Center for Global Initiatives Conference Travel Award (\$1,000)
- 2011 Institute for Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellowship
- 2011 North Carolina Consortium for South Asian Studies Research Travel Grant (\$1,000)
- 2010 North Carolina Consortium for South Asian Studies Undergraduate Research Grant (faculty advisor for Siddarth Nagaraj, \$500)
- 2011 UNC Junior Faculty Development Award (\$7,500)
- 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005 Graduate and Professional Student Council Travel Grants
- 2006 Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Institute Doctoral Graduate Research Grant (\$800)
- 2004 Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Institute Pre-Doc Graduate Research Grant (\$600)

**PRESENTATIONS AND ORGANIZED SESSIONS**

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- 2016 Earth beyond repair: Race and apocalypse in collective imagination. Paper presentation with Pavithra Vasudevan and Mabel Gergan. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco.
- 2016 What is to be done with World Regional Geography? Panelist. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco.
- 2016 Fieldwork in Human Geography. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco.
- 2015 Critical Pedagogy in Geography III: Teaching to Transgress, Teaching Community: bell hooks and feminist geographic pedagogies panelist, American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Chicago

- 2014 New Turns in Feminist Political Geography: Challenging the Subjects and Objects of Politics, II, invited panelist in session organized by Jill Williams and Vanessa Massaro, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Tampa Florida
- 2014 Race, Biopolitics, and the Future. Series of two paper sessions and one panel, co-organizer with Pavithra Vasudevan, Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Tampa Florida
- 2012 Bodies, Borders, and Territory. Series of three paper sessions and one panel, organizer, along with Agnes Chew, Mabel Gergan, Pavithra Vasudevan, and Nathan Swanson. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, New York City.
- 2012 Geographies of human genetic variation: critical pedagogies of race and relatedness, invited panelist in session organized by Catherine Nash. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, New York City.
- 2012 Doing feminist geography after the postcolonial turn, invited panelist in session organized by Nicole Laliberte and Carolin Schurr. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, New York City.
- 2011 "In the heart, there's nothing": Unruly youth and the future of territory in Leh, Ladakh. Royal Geographical Society-Institute for British Geographers Annual Conference, London, UK
- 2011 The politics of marriage and reproduction in Ladakh. International Conference on Critical Geography, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2011 Disseminating Feminist Geographies within Postsecondary Education. Invited panelist, with Audrey Kobayashi, Joni Seager, and Kim England. Organized by Samantha Herr and Kelsey Hanrahan. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.
- 2011 The geopolitics of intimacy: Marriage, babies, and territory in Ladakh. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.
- 2010 Closed birth doors, luck, and fate: Politics, Buddhism, and disrupted circulation in Ladakh, India. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- 2010 "We want to be someone else": Young people negotiate modernity, territory, and religious identity in India's Jammu and Kashmir State. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington DC.
- 2010 Numbers, bodies, love, and babies: Feminist methodological approaches to territory. Contextualizing approaches to gender in Asia conference. March 3-6, Delhi University, New Delhi, India
- 2009 State bodies, intimate territories, and the experimental subject in India's Jammu and Kashmir State. Medical Anthropology at the Intersections, Yale University.
- 2009 Geopolitical intimacy and territorial anxiety: marriage, babies and politics in Leh. International Association for Ladakh Studies Colloquium, Leh, Ladakh, India.
- 2009 A Geopolitics of Fear and Desire: Religion, Territory, and Fertility in Jammu and Kashmir, India. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada
- 2008 Embodied histories: women, ethnicity and decision-making in Leh, India. Annual Fulbright Conference South Asia, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India.
- 2007 Where every body matters: the geopolitics of religion and fertility in Ladakh. 36th Conference on South Asia, Madison, Wisconsin.
- 2007 New directions in postcolonial research. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California, (panel presentation).
- 2006 The domestication of geopolitics: Buddhist-Muslim conflict and the policing of marriage and the body in Ladakh, India. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2005 Producing division: religion and politics in the landscape of Leh, Ladakh, India. Association of Pacific Coast Geographers Annual Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona.

- 2005 The geopolitics of everyday life: Buddhists and Muslims in Ladakh, India. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado.

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

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- 2015 North Carolina South Asia Colloquium, "The Diaspora within," with Mabel Gergan. November 17th, Durham, NC.
- 2015 Guest speaker in the UNC Humanities and Human Values "Adventures in Ideas" Weekend Seminar, "Religious Beliefs and Religious Violence." September 12. Research Triangle Headquarters, Durham.
- 2012 Guest speaker in "Gender and Geopolitics of South Asia," and "Women, Gender, and Development," classes at Dartmouth College, May 10.
- 2012 "Cooked minds," empty hearts, and Emo Boys: Taming the unruly future of territory in Leh, Ladakh. Colloquium, Department of Anthropology and Working Group on Anthropology and Population, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island. April 26.
- 2011 "In the heart, there's nothing": Unruly youth and the future of territory in Leh, Ladakh, Colloquium, Department of Geography and Geology, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia. September 30.
- 2011 North Carolina Consortium for South Asian Studies Colloquium, March 15.
- 2011 "In the heart, there's nothing": Unruly youth and the future of territory in Leh, Ladakh, Women's Studies Luncheon Colloquium, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, February 16.
- 2010 Roundtable on Transnationalism and Territoriality, Working Group on Feminism and History, Duke Women's Studies Parlors.
- 2010 Intimate Geopolitics: Religion, Territory, and Fertility in Leh District, Jammu and Kashmir, India. Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar on Diversity and Conformity in Muslim Societies. Nationalists and Salafis Workshop. February 4-5, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

#### **COURSES TAUGHT**

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- First Year Seminar 67: The Politics of Everyday Life (22 students, Fall 2015; 24 students, Fall 2014)
- Geography 804: Social Seminar, "Decolonizing Methodologies" (16 students, Spring 2016) (co-taught with Jean Dennison in Anthropology in 2014, and Pat Parker in Communication in 2016)
- Geography 453: Political Geography (28 students, Spring 2016; 27 students, Spring 2015)
- Geography 543: Qualitative Methods in Human Geography (11 students, Fall 2015)
- Geography 120: World Regional Geography
- Geography 267: South Asia
- Geography 703: Graduate Research Design
- Geography 814: Social Seminar, "Bodies, territory, violence"

#### **GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING**

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##### ***Current Graduate Students (Primary Advisor)***

Pavithra Vasudevan, PhD (ABD, PhD in progress)

MA 2013, "Memory and the re-invention of place: The legacies of environmental justice in Warren County, North Carolina"

Chris Neubert, MA/PhD (in progress)

##### ***Completed Graduate Students (Primary Advisor)***

Mabel Gergan, PhD 2016, "Precarity and possibility at the Margins: Hazards, Infrastructure, and indigenous politics in Sikkim, India."

Mike Dimpfl, PhD, 2016, "Clean U: Cleanliness, Social Difference and the Dirty Work of Everyday Hygiene" Co-advisor with Banu Gökariksel

### ***Current Graduate Students (Committee Member)***

Dayuma Alban (Anthropology); Mike Hawkins, MA; Batool Zaidi, PhD (Sociology); Willie Wright, PhD; Sertanya Reddy, PhD; Nathan Swanson, PhD

### ***Completed Graduate Students (Committee Member)***

Adam Bledsoe, PhD 2016, "Defender Nosso Pedaco de Chão: Quilombola Struggles in Bahia, Brazil," MA 2012, "Black Geographies: Racialization and Political Responses"

Stevie Larson, PhD 2016, "The Fractured Values of Best Interests: Struggles and Spaces of Transnational Adoption"

Andreina Malki, MA 2016 (Global Studies)

Jim Kuras, MA 2015, "#Direhamile: Pregnancy, morality, and resisting discourses of seclusion at the Gezi Park protests."

Linda Quiquívix, PhD 2012, "The Political Mapping of Palestine"

Murat Es, PhD 2012, "Turkish-Dutch Mosques and the Construction of Transnational Spaces in Europe"

Agnes Chew, MA 2012, "Embodying the Nation-State: Urban Planning and Spatial Tactics of Inclusion and Exclusion of Migrant Groups in Singapore"

### ***Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advising***

Lily Herbert (honors thesis committee member, 2016) "Is Hijab for Kazakh Girls?": Shifting the Borders of Kazakh Nationhood and the Modern in Almaty, Kazakhstan

Dinesh McCoy (honors thesis chair, Global Studies, 2015) "'Inclusive Development:' Examining the Secular Framing Efforts of the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Role of Neoliberal Rhetoric"

Shelby Cogburn (honors thesis chair, Geography, 2014) "Identifying the spatial distribution of first food deserts in North Carolina: Effects of access to breastfeeding support on low-income African American women of childbearing age"

Emma Seagle (honors thesis chair, Geography, 2014) "Gendered climate justice: Identifying vulnerability in Tanzanian waterscapes"

Siddarth Nagaraj, (honors thesis chair, Global Studies, 2012)

"Primary Health Centers in Urban India: Selection and Satisfaction"

Sathya Mandjiny (honors thesis chair, Asian Studies, 2012)

"The formation of the physician: A case study in South Asia and North Carolina"

Claire Kane-Boyчук (honors thesis committee member, Geography, 2012)

"Contesting the "Ethnic Vote": A Spatial Statistical Analysis of Voting Trends in Toronto"

Amy Sara Kate Nuñez (honors thesis committee member, Geography, 2012)

"An Orientalist Appetite for India: The Commodification and Consumption of South Asian Culture in the West"

Bethany Corbin (honors thesis committee member, Global Studies, 2011)

"A Bleeding Sin: An Examination of Honor Killings in Turkey and Germany"

David Crawford (honors thesis committee member, Geography, 2011)

"The Transnational Project and its Implications in Bangladesh"

### ***Undergraduate Research Advising***

Siddarth Nagaraj SURF program faculty advisor summer 2011

Lily Steponaitis SURF program faculty advisor, summer 2011

Yanneka King SURF program faculty advisor, summer 2010

***Teaching and undergraduate-research related activities***

Undergraduate research in the Social Sciences Workshop, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015, UNC  
Graduate Research Consultant Awards for GEOG 453 (1 Award) and FYS (2 Awards)

***Department***

2015-present Post-Tenure Review Committee  
2014-present Diversity Committee Chair  
2016 Merit Committee Chair  
2014-2016 Merit Committee  
2013-2014 Graduate Student Awards Committee Member  
2013-2014 Diversity Committee Member  
2011: Search committee member East Asia Assistant Professor position (Xiaodong Chen hire)  
2010: Interview committee member (Alvaro Reyes hire)  
2010-2011: Colloquium Committee Chair, Department of Geography  
2009-2011, 2014: Undergraduate Committee, Department of Geography

***University***

2014-present Diversity Liaison  
2015: South Asia Working Group Committee  
2014-present College of Arts and Sciences Diversity Committee Liaison for Department of  
Geography  
2014-2015: Faculty Learning Community on Diversity  
2012, 2013, 2014, 2015: UNC Fulbright Review Committee  
2011-2016: Mahatma Gandhi Fellowship faculty consultant and reviewer

***External***

2002-2007: Editorial Board, *you are here – the journal of creative geography*  
2005-2007: Jan Monk Distinguished Lecture Committee  
2005-2006: Senior Editor, *you are here – the journal of creative geography*  
2003-2004: Editor, *you are here – the journal of creative geography*

***Community Outreach***

Participation in Project Uplift (2014 and 2015)  
Presenter at the Ackland Art Museum Exploring Exchange along the Silk Road workshop for K-12  
educators. "Geography and the Silk Road: How trade makes our world." June 2010.  
Guest Judge in AP Geography Health Geography Poster Session at Carrboro High School

**Referee Work**

*National Science Foundation; Progress in Human Geography; Gender, Place, and Culture (6); Contemporary South Asia; Space and Polity; Geopolitics; Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers; Social and Cultural Geography; Geoforum; Geographica Helvetica; Routledge; Emotion, Space, and Society; Professional Geographer; Society for Women Geographers; National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program; Environment and Planning A, International Women's Studies Forum*

**SCHOLARLY AFFILIATIONS**

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Faculty Fellow, Center for Urban and Regional Studies, UNC  
North Carolina Consortium for South Asian Studies, Core Affiliated Faculty Member  
Carolina Center for the Study of the Middle East and Muslim Civilizations, Faculty Member  
Association of American Geographers, Society of Woman Geographers, International Association for Ladakh Studies