

NIKHIL JOSEPH DHARAN

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Ph.D., History and Sociology of Science *exp. 2024*
M.A., History and Sociology of Science 2020

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

A.B., *Magna cum laude*, Chemistry and History 2016

RESEARCH INTERESTS

South Asian History | History of Chemical Knowledge | Environmental History
Colonial & Imperial History | History of Medicine | Industrialization | STS

HONORS AND AWARDS

Benjamin Franklin Fellowship[†] 2018-24
Science History Institute Short-Term Fellowship 2023
Tece Dissertation Research Award[†] 2022, 2023
Certificate in College & University Teaching[†] 2022
Academic Year FLAS* Fellowship 2020-21
Harrison Graduate Fellow[†] 2019-20
Summer FLAS* Fellowship 2019
Linda Hall Library Travel Fellowship 2019
Phi Beta Kappa 2016
Merle Kling Undergraduate Honors Fellowship 2014-16

PUBLICATIONS

Review of Siegel, Benjamin Robert, *Hungry Nation: Food, Famine, and the Making of Modern India*. H-Environment, H-Net Reviews. April, 2021.

<https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=55606>

“The Many Labors of Leather: Chemical Knowledge and the Industrial Economy in the Madras Presidency, 1914-30” (in preparation)

PRESENTATIONS

HISTORY OF SCIENCE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING *November 2023*

COLONIAL CHEMICAL TRANSLATIONS: SOUTH ASIA AND THE MODERN
CHEMICAL SCIENCES, 1850-1980

“The Chemists’ University: Chemical-Economic Exchange at the Indian Institute of Science, 1909-25”

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES *July 2023*

MAKING ARTISANS: ARTISANAL LIVES AND PRODUCTION

“The Many Labors of Leather: Chemical Knowledge and the Industrial Economy in the Madras Presidency, 1914-30”

SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF CHEMISTRY AND ALCHEMY *May 2022*

CHEMISTRY OUTSIDE THE LABORATORY

“Colonial Alchemies: Towards a Chemical Modernity in South India, c. 1925”

[†]Awarded by the University of Pennsylvania; *Foreign Language and Area Studies

BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE *July 2020*
GLOBAL DIGITAL HISTORY OF SCIENCE FESTIVAL
“Resources for Collaborative Pedagogies”
(co-presented with Claire Sabel and Koyna Tomar)

VIRTUAL HISTSTM *June 2020*
“Decolonizing the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine”
(co-presented with Claire Sabel and Koyna Tomar)

SCIENCES OF DIFFERENCE IN SOUTH ASIA *August 2019*
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
“India’s Nitrogenous Differences: Race, Labor, and Metabolism in the Experiments of David McCay, c. 1910”

**WISCONSIN INTENSIVE SUMMER LANGUAGE INSTITUTES
JOINT STUDENT CONFERENCE** *June 2019*
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
“How Vultures Are Like Power Lines: Calculating Species Collapse in Postcolonial India”

TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
TEACHING ASSISTANT*
The Information Age *Spring 2021*
The Emergence of Modern Science *Fall 2020*
The People’s Health *Spring 2020*
Medicine in History *Fall 2019*

SERVICE

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND SOCIOLOGY OF SCIENCE
Science Beyond the West, Co-Coordinator *January 2019 – August 2021*

- Working group of faculty and graduate students concerned teaching and research relating to the history of science, technology, and medicine outside of Western Europe and North America
- Co-organized a workshop on “Collaborative Pedagogies in the Global History of Science” (October 11-12, 2019) with 50 attendees from 15 universities
- Co-recipient of a Dean’s Global Inquiries Fund Award, University Research Foundation Conference Support Grant, School of Arts and Sciences Conference Support Award, and multiple co-sponsorships totaling \$20,000

Graduate Student Representative *January – December 2020*

- Inaugural holder of this position, served as a liaison to foster communication and collegiality between department faculty and graduate students

PENN PROGRAM IN ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES
Anthropocene and Animal Studies Reading Group Co-Convener *2019-20*

**RELEVANT
WORK EXPERIENCE**

MENTORS FOR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS
RESEARCH MENTOR *Summer 2021, 2022*

- Paired with high school students seeking research experience and with interests in history of science, history of medicine, STS, etc.
- Organized directed readings in tutorial format and supervised students’ writing of 2,500-3,000 word original research papers

*100-level surveys capped at 80 students; responsible for two discussion sections of 20 students each

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES

PROGRAM ASSOCIATE

August 2016 – June 2018

- Assisted in the administration of a dozen pre- and postdoctoral fellowship programs for advanced research in the humanities
- Coordinated an off-site workshop for thirty graduate fellows and five early career faculty on preparing for the academic job market