

**BRIAN A. HORTON**

Assistant Professor of Anthropology  
 Department of Anthropology, Brandeis University  
 Brown Social Science Center 205

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- 2021 – 2024** Chair, South Asian Studies Program, Brandeis University
- 2019 –** Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Brandeis University  
 Affiliated Faculty in: African and African American Studies, South Asian Studies,  
 Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
- 2017 – 2018** Graduate Teaching Fellow, Center for Contemporary South Asia, Brown University

**EDUCATION**

- 2019** **Ph.D.** in Anthropology, Brown University  
**Dissertation:** *Shimmers of the Fabulous: Reinventions of Queer Life and Politics in Mumbai*  
**Committee:** Lina Fruzzetti, Bhri Gupta Singh, Paja Faudree, and Lawrence Cohen
- 2014** **M.A.** in Anthropology, Brown University  
**Thesis:** *Queer Attachments and Emergent Futures: The Politics of Desire and Subjectivity in LGBTQ India*  
**Committee:** Lina Fruzzetti (Chair), Kay Warren, & Jessaca Leinaweaver
- 2010** **B.A.** in French, Geography, & Political Science, *summa cum laude in Honors Studies*, Phi  
 Beta Kappa (Junior Year), Texas Tech University  
**Thesis:** *Troubling the Waters: Texas Freedwomen Seeking Agency Through Resistance*  
**Committee:** Isis Leslie and Perry Carter

**SCHOLARSHIP****Peer-Reviewed**

- 2021** “Future Entanglements: Beauty, *Fashion*, and (Anti-)Black Aesthetics in India, *QED: Journal of GLBTQ Worldmaking* (Solicited for Special Edition on Global Black Lives Matter)
- 2021** “The Police and the Policed: Queer Crossings in a Bombay Bathroom”, in *Queer Nightlife*, eds Kareem Khubchandani, Kemi Adeyemi, Ramón H. Rivera-Servera. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press: pp. 53 - 64.  
*Volume is a Finalist for the 2022 Lambda Literary Award for Best LGBTQ+ Anthology*
- 2020** “Hauntings of a Deadname: Proof, Ephemerality, and Queer/Trans Citizenship” *POLAR* (Invited submission to online series on India's Citizenship Amendment Act) <https://polarjournal.org/2020/09/07/hauntings-of-a-deadname-proof-ephemerality-and-queer-trans-citizenship/>
- 2020** “Fashioning Fabulation: Dress, Gesture, and the Queer Aesthetics of Mumbai Pride,” *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* 43:2, 294-307,
- 2018** “The Queer Turn in South Asian Studies? or “That's Over & Done Queen, On to the Next” in *QED: Journal of GLBTQ Worldmaking* Vol. 5, No. 3 (Fall 2018): pp. 165-180

**2018** “What’s So ‘Queer’ About Coming Out: Theorizing Kinship Agonistically in Mumbai”, *Sexualities* 21 (7): 1059–1074.

### Forthcoming

**2022** “Stylization in the Flesh: Queer Anthropology and Performance,” in *Queer Anthropology: Critical Genealogies and Decolonizing Futures*, eds Margot Weiss. Durham: Duke University Press.

### Work in Progress

**2021** *Shimmers of the Fabulous: Public Sex and Intimate Touch in Queer and Trans Bombay* (Book Manuscript, submitting to UC Press New Sexual Worlds Series in 2021/22)

### Book Reviews

**2021** “Sissie Lessons: Indian Pedagogies of Gay Nightlife,” review of *Ishtyle: Accenting Gay Indian Night Life*, by Kareem Khubchandani.” *Transgender Studies Quarterly (TSQ)* (Solicited, Forthcoming 2021)

**2014** “Queer Activism in India: A Story in the Anthropology of Ethics in India, by Naisargi Dave.” *Social Anthropology*, 22 (2): 229-230.

### Popular Publications

**2017** “Pleasure Beyond Parts: Love, Sex, and Dating While Trans” *Grazia India Magazine*, February 2017, pp 62 – 63.

**2017** “In Search of Babylon: Technology, Desire, and the Fantasy of the Good Life.” *Gaysi Zine*: 5, 88—96.

**2016** No Stag Norm a Stigma for Singles, Non-heterosexuals,” *DNA Lifestyle*, Dec 24th

**2016** “The Formless and The Functionless: Queering the Art of Conversation” *Godrej Culture Lab Blog*

**2016** You Have Sex. Let’s Talk About it” *Daily O*, Nov 7th

**2016** Putting the “Mast” Back in Masti: K se Kink Review, *Gaysi Blog*

### Invited Lectures

**2022** “Shimmers of the Fabulous: Queer Touch and Public Intimacies in Bombay,” *Women’s Studies Research Center*, Brandeis

**2021** “Shimmers in the Dark: On the Possibilities of Intimate Touch in Bombay’s Queer Sexpublics,” *Brandeis Anthropology Research Seminar*, Brandeis

**2021** “Shimmers in the Dark: On the Possibilities of Intimate Touch in Bombay’s Queer Sexpublics,” *Anthropology Otherwise: Emergent theories, methods, and practice*, Cornell University (virtual)

**2020** “Transforming Bodies of Power,” *Conference on Gender and International Affairs*, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Boston

**2020** “Caste, Race, Gender: Thinking through the Intersections of Trans Identity,” TRANSForm Conference on Transgender Rights and the Law, Center for Law and Policy Research, Bangalore (India)

- 2020 “Fashioning Fabulation: Queer Aesthetics of Mumbai Pride” (Guest Lecture), HIST/SOC 170B Gender and Sexuality in South Asia (Vijayakumar and Muller),
- 2020 “Fashioning Fabulation: Masterclass on Method,” *Godrej Culture Lab*, Mumbai (India)
- 2019 “Sifting through Fashion Detritus”, *Visual Cultures of Human Rights* for the Consortium for Graduate Studies in Gender, Culture, Women, and Sexuality, MIT, Boston
- 2019 “Lives Beyond the Laws: Rethinking Queer Life and Politics in India”, Providence College, Providence
- 2019 “Catwalking in Bombay: Cruising, Pride, and Fashion as Queer Work,” *Women’s Center Symposium: Divisions/Revisions of Labor*, Tufts University, Boston [Keynote Lecture]
- 2018 “The Police and Policed: Queer Crossings in a Bombay Bathroom,” Pomona College
- 2018 “Cannibalizing Race: The Queer Lives of Anti-Black Racism in Urban India,” Brandeis University
- 2018 “The Police and Policed: Queer Crossings in a Bombay Bathroom,” *Center for Contemporary South Asia Graduate Student Seminar*, Brown University
- 2018 *Animal Intimacies: Interspecies Relatedness in India’s Central Himalayas* Book Adda, Brown University Center for Contemporary South Asia [Respondent to Radhika Govindrajan’s newly released book from University of Chicago Press]
- 2018 “Death of a Gharana? Queer Inclusion Between Life and Death,” Department of Sociology and Anthropology Lewis and Clark University, Portland, Oregon
- 2017 “‘But There Can Only Be ONE’: On the Saturation of Queer South Asian Studies,” Queer Preconference, *Madison South Asia Conference*, Madison, Wisconsin
- 2017 “Death of a Gharana? Queer Inclusion Between Life and Death,” *Coming to Terms with the Sacred*, Brown University
- 2016 “Subcultures to Subculture: A Public Adda on Newness in Contemporary India,” Godrej India Culture Lab, Mumbai
- 2016 “Sex and the World: What Queer Studies Can Teach Us About Education.” *Sophia Platinum Jubilee Conference: ‘The Local-Global Education Imperative’*, Sophia College, Mumbai
- 2016 “Hum Waise Hain: LGBTQ Issues and Identities in Bombay and Beyond,” United World Colleges, Pune.
- 2016 “Multiculturalism in India and the US: Queer Perspectives on Gender and Sexuality,” *Multiculturalism in India*, Sophia College, Mumbai
- 2013 “Queer Attachments and Emergent Futures: The Politics of Desire and Subjectivity in LGBTQ India,” Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

### Conference Presentations

- 2020 Navigating Virtual and Physical Spaces, Humsafar Trust Knowledge Sharing Meeting, New Delhi (India)
- 2018 “Cruising Toilets and Spoiling Futures: Happiness without ‘the Good Life?’”

*American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings*, San Jose, CA

- 2018 “‘I’d never Sleep With One, They Smell Like Meat’ and Other Tall Tales: Imagining the Black Body as a Queer Body in South Asia,” *Madison South Asia Queer Preconference*, Madison, Wisconsin.
- 2018 “Death of a Gharana? Queer Inclusion Between Life and Death,” *Gender in the Global South: A New Scholars Symposium*, Bates University
- 2018 “The Police and the Policed: Queer Crossings in a Bombay Bathroom,” *Mazaa Theorizing Fun, Pleasure, and Play in India*, Brandeis University
- 2017 “From Queer to Criminal to Victim: Flexible Theory and Ethnographic Impasse,” Anthropologists On The Move Studying Gender: Celebrating Kay Warren's Research, Teaching, Advocacy, and Professional Contributions on the Occasion of her Retirement, accepted for presentation at *American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings*, Washington DC
- 2017 “Death of a Gharana? Queer Inclusion Between Life and Death,” *Madison South Asia Conference*, Madison, Wisconsin
- 2017 “Citizenship Beyond the Law: The Intimate Politics of LGBTQ+ Youth in Mumbai,” *SSRC IDRF Fellows Workshop*, Seattle
- 2016 “Rethinking Visibility: Non-Disclosure as “Coming Out” for Queer Mumbai Youth,” *Fulbright India Conference*, Jaipur, India
- 2016 “SHAKTI,” *Humsafar Trust National Research Dissemination*, New Delhi
- 2015 “Rethinking Visibility: Non-Disclosure as “Coming Out” for Queer Mumbai Youth,” *Queer Kinship & Relationships*, Zalesie, Poland
- 2014 “Citizenship Beyond the Law: The Intimate Politics of Gay Youth in Mumbai,” *Graduate Program in Development Seminar*, Brown University
- 2013 “In the Wake of the Rainbow Spring: The Precarity of Queer Activism in a Post 377 India,” *American Anthropological Association Annual Meetings*, Chicago
- 2013 “In the Wake of the Rainbow Spring: The Precarity of Queer Activism in a Post 377 India,” *Brown India Initiative Fellows Symposium*, Brown University
- 2013 “Citizens of Nowhere: Queer Dispossession and Nationalism in Popular Hindi Cinema,” *Non States of Queer Theory Conference*, Brown University

### GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AWARDS, AND HONORS

#### External

- 2022 American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship
- 2021 Center for Black, Brown Queer Studies + Book Development Summer Institute Fellowship (\$2000)
- 2018 Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (Alternate & Honorable Mention)
- 2015 Social Sciences Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship
- 2015 Fulbright-Nehru (IIE) Research Fellowship

2013 National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship

### Internal

2022 Theodore and Jane Norman Fund to Support Fall 2023 Leave  
 2021 Provost's Teaching Innovation Grant (\$7188 for *Queer/Trans Theories from Elsewhere: Innovating Queer and Transgender Studies Instruction at Brandeis*)  
 2020 Theodore and Jane Norman Fund Award for Faculty Research and Creative Projects  
 2020 School of Arts and Sciences Co-Curricular Fund (\$500 for ANTH/WGS 176)  
 2019– Brandeis Tomberg Research Funds  
 2018 Deans' Faculty Fellowship, Graduate School, Brown University (*declined*)  
 2017 Archambault Teaching Award, School of Professional Studies, Brown University  
 2017 Center for Contemporary South Asia Graduate Teaching Prize  
 2017 Dean of the Faculty Lectureship Fund (\$4000) to organize a yearlong colloquium exploring the intersections of race and caste with Professor Lina Fruzzetti (Anthropology) and Professor Anani Dzidzienyo (Africana Studies)  
 2014 Brown Graduate School International Colloquium Fund: Awarded \$5000 to plan and host a Conference on Violence, Citizenship, and Sovereignty in South Asia  
 2014 Department of Anthropology Summer Travel Fellowship  
 2014 Joukowsky Summer Research Fellowship  
 2013 Center for Contemporary South Asia Graduate Student Research Fellowship  
 2013 NSF/IGERT Watson Graduate Program in Development & Inequality Fellowship  
 2013 Joukowsky Summer Research Fellowship  
 2012 Edgar Lewis Marston Graduate Fellowship

### FUNDED FIELD RESEARCH

“Citizenship Beyond the Law: The Intimate Politics of LGBTQ+ Mumbai Youth.” (Mumbai, India: Summer 2014, and September 2015 – March 2017) Funded by Fulbright IIE, Social Sciences Research Council International Dissertation Research Fund, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, NSF/IGERT Graduate Program in Development and Inequality (Watson Institute at Brown University), Joukowsky Summer Travel Award, and the Brown Department of Anthropology Summer Travel Award

“In the Wake of the Rainbow Spring: The Precariousness of Being Queer in a Post-377 India.” (Mumbai India: Summer 2013) Funded by the Brown Center for Contemporary South Asia, Joukowsky Summer Travel Award, and NSF/IGERT Graduate Program in Development

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

#### Courses Taught

2021 – 2022 Queer Anthropology (F' 21); Social Sciences Writing Seminar (F'21); Digital Cultures (S'22); Discipline, Rules, and Power (S'22)

- 2020 – 2021** Queer/Trans Theories from Elsewhere (w/V. Chaudhry; F' 20); Digital Cultures (S'21); Graduate Writing Seminar (S'21)  
**2019 (Fall)** Queer Anthropology; Digital Cultures  
**2017** Intro to Modern South Asia  
**2017** Sex, Gender, Subversion: Intro to Queer Anthropology  
**2015** The Anthropology of Violence

### Courses TA'ed

- 2015** Culture and Religion (Bhrigupati Singh, Instructor)  
**2015** The Anthropology of Global Social Problems (Daniel J. Smith, Instructor)

### Additional Pedagogical Experience

- 2018 –** Writing Group Facilitator, Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship, Brown University.  
**2013 –** Associate, Brown University Writing Center (Hold 6 weekly shift hours to coach students on their writing for courses and applications)  
**2010 – 12** 6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts Teacher, YES Prep Gulfton Houston, Texas (Brought 250 ELL students to grade level reading proficiency and cultivated skills in working with specifically ELL students)  
**2010 – 12** Instructor of Forensics, Rice University (Instructed students in argumentation, debate, and public speaking for intercollegiate completion. Traveled with the team to over a dozen cities and judged 100+ rounds of forensics activities)

## SERVICE

### Service to the Profession

**Manuscript Reviewer for:** *Visual Anthropology Review*; *Contexto Internacional*; *Anthem Press*; *Contemporary South Asia*; *Journal of Lesbian Studies*; *Reproductive Biomedicine and Society*; *Sexualities*; *Social Sciences and Humanities Open*; *Theory, Culture, and Society*

**Fellowship Reviewer:** Social Sciences Research Council (International Dissertation Research Fellowship)

- 2021 – 2024** Treasurer, Association for Queer Anthropology

### Brandeis University

- 2021 –** Brandeis Phi Beta Kappa, Officer  
**2021** Intercultural Center Director Search, Committee Member  
**2021** ANTH/LGLS/COGSI Digital Ethics Kay Fellow, Application Steering Committee  
**2020** Brandeis Phi Beta Kappa Selection Committee  
**2020 –** Steering Committee for Faculty Action on Policing at Brandeis, Co-Founder  
**2020** ANTH BLM Statement, Organizer and Letter Drafter  
**2019** Committee Member for AAPI Minor Proposal  
**2019** Invited Speaker/Host, Tales from the Field Lunch for Anthropology Majors  
**2019** Guest Speaker, Queer in the Professoriate Brandeis Queer Graduate Student Union  
**2019 –** Affiliated Faculty, Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program  
**2019 –** Affiliated Faculty, South Asian Studies Program  
**2019 –** Affiliated Faculty, Department of African and African American Studies

**Student Committees (Graduate)**

- 2021 – Gowthaman Ranganathan (Anthropology PhD., Advisor)
- 2020 – Sarah Han (Anthropology PhD., Reader)
- 2020 – Moriah King (Anthropology PhD., Reader)
- 2020 – Kimberly Craig (Anthropology PhD., Reader)
- 2020 – Medha Asthana (Anthropology PhD., Co-Advisor)
- 2020 – 2022 Ye Lim Lee (Anthropology M.A., Reader)
- 2020 – 2022 Sarah Schmieder (Anthropology and WGS M.A., Advisor)
- 2020 – 2022 Raphael Miller-Figueroa (Anthropology and WGS M.A., Advisor)
- 2020 – 2022 Jennifer Crowder (Anthropology and WGS M.A., Reader)
- 2019 – 2021 Mordecai Chapman (Anthropology and WGS M.A., Co-Advisor)
- 2019 – 2020 Kaliska Ross (Anthropology and WGS M.A., Reader)

**Student Committees and Supervision (Undergraduate)**

- 2022 – 2023 Noah Goble (IIM Digital Technology and Culture, Advisor)
- 2019 – 2022 Jason Frank (Department Advisor and Thesis Supervisor)
- 2021 – 2022 Claire Kierwa (IIM Communication and Media Studies, Advisor)
- 2020 – 2022 Sesily Beridze (IIM Media, Culture, and Communications, Advisor)
- 2020 – 2022 Ruth Itzkowitz (IIM Communications and Media Studies, Advisor)
- 2021 Rebecca Goldfarb (IIM Media, Culture, and Communications Capstone, Reader)
- 2020 – 2021 Meredith Levy (Undergraduate Thesis, Reader)

**Brown University**

- 2017 – 18 Co-Organizer, *Textures of Discrimination: Race, Caste and Everyday Feelings of Exclusion* (Yearlong colloquium on theorizing race and caste together)
- 2017 – 18 Student organizer, *Coming to Terms with the Sacred* (brought on in the last stages to help with planning the final list of speakers and organizing the conference).
- 2014 – 15 Co-organizer, *In Dialogue With Borders: Violence, Citizenship, Sovereignty Colloquium*
- 2013 – 15 Graduate student representative, Diversity Advisory Board
- 2013 – 15 Mentor, African American, Latino, Asian/Asian American, and Native American Students (ALANA)
- 2014 Graduate student coordinator, Anthropology/Watson Job Search
- 2013 – 14 Student organizer, Friday Anthropology Colloquium Series

**Community**

- 2017 Volunteer organizer, Queer Azaadi Mumbai (Bombay LGBTQ Pride)
- 2016 – 17 Crisis case documentation, the Humsafar Trust, Mumbai
- 2016 Digitized the entire collection of *Bombay Dost* (first LGBTQ magazine in India)
- 2016 Expert testimony to UN OHCHR on issues LGBTQ youth face, Mumbai
- 2016 Expert testimony to UN OHCHR on LGBTQ corporate inclusion, Mumbai
- 2016 Rapporteur, National LGBT Consultation, New Delhi
- 2016 Facilitator and organizer, Training Series for Humsafar Media Team
- 2016 Facilitator and organizer, Community Consultation on Representation in Media
- 2016 Facilitator and discussant, *She's Beautiful When She's Angry* (Mary Dore 2014), US Consulate to India
- 2015 – 17 Consultant and data analyst, SHAKTI Study on transgender barriers to healthcare (Swagata Banik, PI, Baldwin Wallace University)

- 2015** Rapporteur, NACO-WHO PrEP Consultation, Mumbai
- 2015** Rapporteur, National LGBT Consultation, Mumbai
- 2015** Panelist, “Inclusive Services on College Campuses for Indian International Students, US Consulate Mumbai” (Asked specifically to speak about resources for LGBTI students)
- 2014** Read and edited college applications for students from Classical High School (Providence)
- 2014** Drafted the initial version of *Mission Azaadi* the advocacy manual that the Humsafar Trust implemented to fight Section 377 (ban on ‘sodomy’)
- 2013** Rapporteur, SHAKTI Transgender Community Consultation, Mumbai
- 2013 –** Grant Writer, the Humsafar Trust, Mumbai (raised over \$500K for projects ranging from support services for queer women to a transgender community needs assessment)

### **LANGUAGES**

**Hindi** Fluent (Reading and Speaking) Proficient (Writing)

**French** Fluent (Reading, Speaking, Writing)

**Marathi** Basic (Reading and Speaking)

Updated 03.28.2022