**Rudrani V. Sarma**

Department of English, Rutgers University

Murray Hall, 510 George Street  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D., English Literature, Rutgers University–New Brunswick, May 2025 (expected)

Dissertation: “The Bio/logics of Blackness: Nineteenth-Century Networks of Black Medical Praxis.” Co-chairs: Michelle A. Stephens, Maurice O. Wallace

M.A., English Literature, Rutgers University–New Brunswick, May 2022

Major Field: Long Nineteenth-Century Transatlantic Black Literature  
Minor Fields: Comparative Racialization, Performance Studies

A.B. Bryn Mawr College, May 2016 (magna cum laude)

Major: English Literature

Additional Fields of Study: Black Studies, Creative Writing

**PUBLICATIONS**

“Catching Tigers: White Childhood Nostalgia and Constructions of Blackness in *Little Black Sambo*.” *Children's Literature*, vol. 50, ed. Julie Pfeiffer, 2022.

**AWARDS & HONORS**

2023-2024 PreDoctoral Leadership Academy (PLDA), fellow

2021 Cheryl A. Wall essay prize, inaugural winner

2020 Emerging Scholars essay prize, Mid-America Theatre Conference (MATC)

**CONFERENCES**

Nov. 2022 “From ‘Baboos’ to Bollywood: Inhabiting the Other in Indian Minstrel Acts,” Global Blackface Symposium, Duke University, November 2022.

Apr. 2022 “Staging a Spectacle: The Lynching Scene in The/An Octoroon,” Rutgers English Symposium, April 2022.

Mar. 2022 “The Lynching Photograph: (Re)viewing the Spectacular in The/An Octoroon,” C19: Reconstructions, March 2022.

Apr. 2020 “Artefactual Yellowface: Transferable Nationalisms & Commodifiable Orientalisms” – Rutgers English Symposium, April 2020

Mar. 2020 “Of Masks and Men: *Chu Chin Chow* and the National Imagination” – Mid-America Theatre Conference (MATC), March 2020

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

*Writing Program:*

Fall 2022 Expository Writing (in person, two sections), instructor of record

Fall 2021 Expository Writing (synchronous remote), instructor of record

Spring 2021 Expository Writing (synchronous remote), instructor of record  
  
Fall 2020 Expository Writing (synchronous remote), instructor of record

*English Literature:*

Spring 2022 Principles of Literary Study (in person), teaching assistant and recitation leader

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

2022- Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice, Research Assistant

**DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

2021- Technical Support Team, Rutgers Department of English, Online Teaching/Remote Work Consultant

2020-2 Committee on Bias Awareness and Prevention, Graduate Representative

**SELECT NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

2017-8 Grant Writer, Melharmony Foundation

2016- 7 Project Manager, Implementation Specialist, Epic Systems Co.

2015 Editorial Intern, One Story, Inc.

**REFERENCES**

Michelle A. Stephens  
Director, Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice  
Professor of English

Rutgers University

42 Central Avenue, East Brunswick, NJ 08816

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Anthony Foy  
Associate Professor of English and Black Studies

Swarthmore College

English Literature Department, Lang Performing Arts Center 207, Swarthmore College, 500 College Avenue, Swarthmore, PA 19081

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Bakirathi Mani

Professor of English

Co-Director, Asian American Studies

Swarthmore College

English Literature Department, Lang Performing Arts Center 307, Swarthmore College, 500 College Avenue, Swarthmore, PA 19081   
bmani1@swarthmore.edu

Lynn Festa (Teaching Reference)

Associate Chair of the English Department

Professor of English

Rutgers University

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