

Emily T. Hudson

Department of Religion
145 Bay State Ave.
Boston, MA
02215
ehudson@bu.edu

15 Milton Street
Cambridge, MA
02140
(617) 354-6664

CURRENT POSITION

Boston University
Assistant Professor of Religion and Literature, 2009-present

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Harvard University
Lecturer in History and Literature, 2007-2009

Harvard Divinity School
Lecturer on South Asian Religions, 2006-2007

Emory University
Assistant Director, Emory Abroad Program in India, 2001

EDUCATION

Emory University

Ph.D., 2006. Graduate Division of Religion, West and South Asian Religions Program.
Fields: Comparative Literature and Religion, History of Religions, Religious Ethics,
Hindu Studies, Islam in South Asia.

University of Chicago

M.A., 1998. History of Religions.

St. John's College Graduate Institute

M.A., 1995. Eastern Classics.

M.A., 1993. Western Classics.

University of Texas

B.A., 1987. Department of English. Fields: English Literature and Creative Writing.

BOOKS

Disorienting Dharma: Ethics and the Aesthetics of Suffering in the Mahābhārata (New York: Oxford University Press, 2012)

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

“Time that Ripens and Rots All Creatures: Temporality and its Terrors in the *Mahābhārata*,” *Studies in Literary Imagination* 41/1 (2008).

“The Eyesight of Insight: Time, Paternity, and Moral Vision in the Characterization of Dhṛtarāṣṭra,” in *Gender and Narrative in the Mahābhārata*, edited by Simon Brodbeck and Brian Black. New York: Routledge, 2007.

“Heaven’s Riddles or the Hell Trick: Theodicy and Narrative Strategies in the *Mahābhārata*,” in *The Mahābhārata: What is Not Here is Nowhere Else*, edited by T.S. Rukmani. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal, 2005.

RESEARCH WORKING GROUPS

“Comparative Studies of the Premodern World Initiative.” September 2011-May 2012. Boston University. Organizers: Wiebke Denecke and Sunil Sharma.

INVITED LECTURES/PANELS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

“Meaning-Without-Saying in the Sanskrit Epics,” American Comparative Literature Association, Toronto, Canada, April 2013.

“The Imperfections of the Perfect Man: Dharma and Its Absence in the Sanskrit Rāmāyaṇa,” Philosophy, Poetry, and Religion Seminar, Harvard Humanities Center, November 2012.

“Rethinking Moral Paragons in the Sanskrit Epics,” Program in Scripture and the Literary Arts, Boston University, March 2012.

“Hindu Ethics and Comparative Religious Ethics,” Tertulia, Boston University, March 2012.

“The World Literature and Literary Theory Movement,” Comparative Studies of the Premodern World Initiative, Boston University, February 2012.

“Rāma in the Kingdom vs. Rāma in the Forest: the Altered States of the Perfect Man in the Vālmīki Rāmāyaṇa,” Conference on the Study of Religions of India, Loyola Marymount University, June 2011.

Panelist, Emory University/Candler School of Theology Teaching Initiative sponsored by the Wabash Center, April 2011.

“Reading Religion: Arjuna’s Dilemma in the Bhagavadgita as a Case Study,” Boston University, 2011 Spring Open House, April 2011.

“Krishna’s Task of Dispelling Arjuna’s Grief in the Bhagavadgita,” Core Curriculum, Boston University, February, 2011.

“Rāma, the Ambiguous Exemplar: Perfection and Meaning-Without-Saying in the Vālmīki Rāmāyaṇa,” American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, October 29-November 1, 2010. (presenter and organizer of panel)

“Rethinking Moral Dilemmas in the Indian Epics,” Center for the Study of Asia, Boston University, November 20, 2009.

“The Relationship Between Philosophical Discourse and Narrative Discourse in the Bhagavadgita: The Ethics of the Argument-Against-Grief,” American Academy of Religion, Montreal, November 7-10, 2009.

“Comparative Religious Ethics and the Indian Epics,” Hindu Studies Colloquium, Harvard University, February 8, 2009.

“Narrative Ethics in South Asia,” American Academy of Religion, Chicago, November 1-3, 2008.

“The Aesthetics of the Abandoned Wife: Ethics and the Poetics of Suffering,” American Academy of Religion, Philadelphia, November 19-23, 2005.

“The Eyesight of Insight: Dhṛtarāṣṭra, Moral Vision, and the Narrative’s Construction of Time,” Epic Constructions Conference: Gender, Myth and Society in the *Mahābhārata*, School of African and Oriental Studies, London England, July 7-9, 2005.

“When Heaven is for Sinners: The Problem of Suffering in the *Mahābhārata*,” American Academy of Religion, Toronto, Ontario, November 23-26, 2002.

“Heaven’s Riddles or the Hell Trick: Theodicy and Narrative Strategies in the *Mahābhārata*,” Concordia University, Montreal Quebec, May 18-20, 2001.

“The Puppet Master and the Arrow of Tamarisk: Fate in the *Mahābhārata* and the *Shahnameh*,” Emory University, May 1, 2000.

“Baby Muhammad, Clap Your Hands: South Asian *Pillaitamils* Dedicated to the Prophet,” Emory University, December 5, 1999.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Boston University Humanities Center Junior Faculty Fellowship, 2012-2013
Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University, 2007-2008
Emory University Conference Grant, Fall 2005
Summer Travel Grant, Graduate Division of Religion, Emory University, 2005
Doctoral Fellowship, Emory University, 1999-2003
Summer Travel Grant, Graduate Division of Religion, Emory University, 2001
Emory University Conference Grant, Spring 2001
Excellence in Sanskrit Award, Emory College Language Center, Spring 2001
University of Chicago Divinity School Graduate Fellowship, 1996-1998
High Honors, Oral Defense of Thesis, St. John's College, 1994
High Honors, Thesis, St. John's College, 1994

ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

Boston University

Religion Department Faculty Colloquium Series, Organizer 2011-12
Humanities Curriculum Committee. 2010-2011
Program of Scripture and the Arts Directorial Committee. 2010-

American Academy of Religion

Comparative Religious Ethics Group, Steering Committee. 2009-

External reviewer, *History of Religions*

Harvard University

History and Literature, Committee on Instruction, 2007-2009
History and Literature, Tutorial Board, 2007-2009
Board of Freshman Advisors, 2007-2009

LANGUAGES

Sanskrit
Hindi
French
German