

## Bhavana Upadhyaya

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D. in **Communication** 2003 to present (degree expected Fall 2009)  
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque  
Areas of specialization: Feminist, Interpersonal, Intercultural, and Spiritual Communication

Masters in **Communication and Journalism**, 2003 (MCJ)  
University of Pune, Pune, India

Bachelor of **Communication and Journalism**, 2001 (BCJ)  
University of Pune, Pune, India

Bachelor of **Science (Zoology)**, 1994  
University of Calcutta, Kolkata

Certificate in **Teaching Basic Course**, 2003  
Teaching Assistant Resource Center

Certificate in **Spanish**, 2003  
Pune University, Pune, India

Post Graduate Diploma in **Marketing Management**, 1997  
Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune,

Diploma in **Software Programming**, 1997  
NIIT, Pune

Diploma in **Desk-Top Publishing**, 1996  
Blue Chip Computer Academy

Diploma in **Public Relations**, 1993  
Birla Institute of Liberal Arts and Management, Kolkata

### TEACHING

#### **Research Service Learning Program, University of New Mexico (Summer 2006 till Present)**

*\*All service projects were developed, coordinated, and supervised directly by me in collaboration with community partners*

- Public Speaking, Fall 2009  
Service Project\*
  - Access to Healthy Food
  - Collecting data to develop a GIS map on access to healthy food in two different neighborhoods of Albuquerque.
- Interpersonal Communication, Fall 2008 (Part-I) & Spring 2009 (Part-II)  
Service Project\*

- Title: Improving Quality of Life at La Amistad Senior Center
- Prepared and finished report to improve community and senior participation at the center
  
- Communication and Peace, Fall 2007 (Part-I) & Spring 2008 (Part-II)  
Service Project\*
  - Students worked with Bread for the World and Food Stamps Division to collect information on who is hungry on campus.
  - Analyzed data collected in previous semesters and prepared Hunger on Campus report.
  - Raised awareness about the issue of hunger on campus through hunger awareness day.
  - Produced a video to document how hunger is perceived in New Mexico by different activists as well as lay people.
  
- Intercultural Communication, Spring 2007  
Service Project\*
  - Students partnered with 4 community organizations, namely Native Health Council of New Mexico, Mesa Verde Community Center, Asian American Association of New Mexico, and La Mesa Community Improvement Association, to provide culturally specific community services.
  
- Public Speaking, Fall 2006  
Service Project\*
  - Coordinated public, audiovisual presentations on the different activities of a non-profit organization called Endorphin Power Company(EPC) to volunteers and members of EPC
  
- Community-based Research, Fall 2006  
Service project\*
  - Organized a cross-cultural family day at La Mesa Neighborhood in Albuquerque along with Mesa Verde Community Center and La Mesa Community Improvement Association
  - Collected housing and health status data through quantitative and qualitative methods from residents of La Mesa neighborhood
  - A report was later prepared and given to the La Mesa Community Improvement Trust
  
- Public Speaking, Summer 2006  
Service Project\*
  - Students gave presentations on importance of staying school, staying off drugs, maintaining good GPA, and strategies to get University education to middle school and high school students in the summer school program at Mesa Verde Community Center.

**Communication and Journalism Department, University of New Mexico (Fall 2003-present)**

- Public Speaking, Fall 2003, Spring 2004, Winter Session 2007, Fall 2009 (total 7 classes)
- Nonverbal Communication, Fall 2004- Spring 2005 (4 classes)

- Intercultural Communication, Fall 2005 (2 classes)

**Women Studies, University of New Mexico (Fall 2005-Summer 2007)**

- Religion, Spirituality, and Feminism, Summer 2007
- Religion, Spirituality, and Feminism, Spring 2006 (Cross-listed with Religious Studies and American Studies)
- Teaching Assistant, Transnational Migration, Fall 2005
- Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Women's Studies, Fall 2005

**Communications Department, Central New Mexico Community College (Summer 2007 till Present)**

- Interpersonal Communication, Spring 2008 & Fall 2009 (2 classes)
- Public Speaking, Summer 2007-Fall 2009 (4 classes)

**TEACHING COMPETENCIES**

- Public Speaking
- Interpersonal Communication
- Intercultural Communication
- Nonverbal Communication
- Gender and Communication
- Introduction to Communication
- Effective Communication
- International Communication
- Communication and Globalization
- Communication Research Methods
- Communication and Conflict
- Communication and Social Change
- Activist or Advocacy-based Communication
- Special Topics based on Current Local Advocacy Issues
- All the above areas in a service-learning format

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- Researcher (along with Sara Holmes)  
Law School Curriculum Evaluation  
Conducting focus groups consisting of judges, attorneys, faculty and students to evaluate the current curriculum and recommend changes, Fall 2009
- Principal Investigator  
*Housing and healthcare status evaluation of residents of La Mesa neighborhood*  
Project head: Bhavana Upadhyaya, Fall 2006
- Research Assistant  
*Navajo women and Bosque Redondo*  
Project head: Dr. Jennifer Denetdale, Summer and Fall 2006
- Research Assistant  
*Discourse on sexual violence in history and Navajo women*  
Project head: Dr. Jennifer Denetdale, December 2005- January 2006

- Research Assistant  
*Does the subaltern really speak?-- The case of Muslim women writers*  
Project Head: Dr. Feroza Jussawala, December 2005- January 2006
- Program Assistant  
*Evaluation of Nexus: Religion in public university clergy-faculty dialogue series*  
Project head: Dr. Richard L. Wood, August 2005-December2005
- Research Assistant  
*Immigration dynamics of East Indian scientists and engineers*  
National Science Foundation funded project, Summer 2005  
Project head: Dr. Roli Varma
- Research Assistant  
*Gender and race in computer science education in United States*  
National Science Foundation funded project, Summer 2004  
Project head: Dr. Roli Varma

### **PUBLICATIONS**

- Upadhyaya, B. (2009). Recentring ego: A Buddhist Asiacentric approach to the public sphere. In S. Kapoor (Ed.), *Ego Management: Achieving Excellence*. ICFAI University Press: Hyderabad, India.
- Graham, L., Droogsma, A. R., Glenn, C.L., Denker, K.J., & Upadhyaya, B. (2007) Reflections on mentoring: A dialogue with Women's Caucus graduate student representatives. In *Voices*, 4(1) (<http://www.iupui.edu/~ncfws/mentoring07.htm>, downloaded July 6, 2009)
- Upadhyaya, B. (2006). Recentring ego: A Buddhist Asiacentric approach to the public sphere. *China Media Research* 2(4) pp. 75-82.

### **DISSERTATION**

- *Amma's daughters: An ethnographic study of personal, gender, cultural, and religious identities amongst the women followers of Mata Amritranandamayi in United States.*  
Dissertation director: Dr. Iliia Rodriguez

### **PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PAPERS/PRESENTATIONS**

Sustaining and transforming the communication Discipline: Examining the relationship of spirituality and communication  
Panelist, Spiritual Communication Division, NCA, 2009

Acknowledging menstruation: the practices of visibility and invisibility amongst East-Indian women  
Feminist and Women's Studies Division, NCA, 2007

Home videos, Indian diaspora and (construction of) meaning of celebration of religious festivals and performance of religious rituals  
Religious Communication Division, NCA, 2006

Finding nepantla in Amma community  
Spiritual Communication Division, NCA, 2006

Ego and public Sphere: A Buddhist Asiacentric approach  
Philosophy of Communication Division, ICA, 2006

Spirituality and teaching intercultural communication: An Asiacentric perspective  
Instructional Communication, Western Communication Association Conference, 2006

Towards a motherly world: feminist ideological constructions in the rhetoric of Ammachi  
Feminist and Women's Studies Division, NCA, 2005

Situating renunciation with gender in modern India: Intersection of philosophy, social practices and living as a woman saint  
Religious Communication Division, NCA, 2005

How can we see Her?: Communicating saintliness through the visual medium"  
Spiritual Communication Division, NCA, 2005

Finding the third space in Indian feminism: Is a self-actualizing Indian woman possible?  
Western Social Science Association, 2005

Moksha for women: The engaging and disengaging practices of the woman with regards to economics, sexuality and duty to society as means for self-liberation  
American Comparative Literature Association, 2005 (Accepted but not presented)

The Goddess tradition in Indian film: Precolonial culture and the "repowerment" of women  
Intercultural Communication Division, NCA, 2004

### **INVITED PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

When the noise comes from somewhere else: Re-examining the transactional model of communication  
Anthropology Graduate Symposium, University of New Mexico, February 2009

Amma's daughters: Revisiting the equality-difference question in the Amma Spiritual Community  
Feminist Research Institute, University of New Mexico, February 2009

Towards a new paradigm in communication  
Peer Mentoring for Graduate Students of Color Symposium, November 2008

Teaching for democracy  
The Educating for Democracy at the Success in the Classroom Conference,  
Spring 2007

Voices of women in India: Contemporary feminist perspectives  
Feminist Research Institute, University of New Mexico, Spring 2007

Spirituality in feminist movement  
Forum on Women and Spirituality: Contemporary issues and challenges,  
Feminist Research Institute, April 2007

Accepting mestiza knowledges  
Women in Higher Academy Conference, March, 2005

Violence without bloodshed: Tyranny of tradition  
International Human Rights Symposium, November, 2004

Sa Ham- I am She: Goddess and women repowerment in Indian film "Daman"  
Feminist Research Institute, February, 2004

### **GUEST LECTURES**

- *India and its languages*, guest lecture in World Language Expo, University of New Mexico, April 2009
- *The influence of culture, history and social organization on the political structure in India*, guest lecture for Comparative Politics course, Central New Mexico Community College, Spring 2008
- Guest speaker for Walatowa High School Graduation ceremony, Jemez Pueblo, 2007
- *On India*, a lecture presentation to Walatowa High School students, Jemez Pueblo, 2007
- *Can religion play a role in nonviolent peace movements?*, Nonviolent Alternatives Course in Sociology, University of New Mexico, 2006
- Intercultural Communication C&J 314, *Intercultural nonverbal communication*, University of New Mexico, 2005
- International Intercultural panel C&J314, *On India*, University of New Mexico, 2005
- Nonverbal communication C&J 320, University of New Mexico, 2005
- *Current trends in media research*, Department of Communication and Journalism, University of Pune, India, 2005
- *Gender and tradition in contemporary Indian society*, History class for standard V111, Highlands School, Albuquerque, 2004.
- *Indian women in contemporary society*, Glendale Women's club, Glendale, 2002
- *Understanding India*, International Women's club, American Graduate School of International Management, Glendale, Arizona, 2002.

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Collaboration and understanding amongst cultures and religions
- Topics concerning women and social change
- Effective communication amongst activists
- Issues of the public sphere
- Translation and reconciliation of ancient wisdom with modern philosophies in humanities

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

**Everett Rogers Doctoral Research Scholar Award**, University of New Mexico, 2007

**Feminist Research Institute Grant** for conducting a small event on University of New Mexico campus titled *Voices of women in India: Contemporary feminist perspectives*, 2006

**Hank Trewhitt Departmental Service Award**, Department of Communication and Journalism, University of New Mexico, 2005

**Research Project Travel Grant**, \$1000, University of New Mexico Fall, 2004

**Prabhakar Padhye Memorial Prize** of Rs. 500/- for standing University First in Master of Communication and Journalism

**Prof. L. N. Gokhale Prize** of Rs. 500 for standing University First in Master of Communication and Journalism

**Manohar Mahadeo Kelkar Wangmaya Shobha Award**  
(Rs. 750/-): Best Dissertation (Indian word for Master' thesis).

**Hari Malini Joshi Gold Medal, The Late Shri D. V. Vidwans, Manager, Kesari Memorial Prize** of Rs. 275/-, **The S. G. Phadke, Editor, Vijay (Weekly), Sangli, Paritoshik** of Rs.200/-, **Late Shri Dattatraya Gopal Limaye Prize** of Rs. 150/-, **The Late G. V. Ketkar Paritoshik** of Rs.150/-, **The Late Nandini Pittie Prize** of Rs.150/- for standing University First in Bachelor Of Communication And Journalism

**The Journalist B. K. Vaidya Prize** of Rs.250/- for the first among all the successful female candidates in the annual examination of Bachelor of Communication and Journalism, 2001.

### **SERVICE**

#### **Professional Memberships**

- International Communication Association, 2005 till present
- National Communication Association, 2004 till present
- Western Communication Association, 2004 till present
- Indian Communication Association, 2005 till present
- Western Social Sciences Association, 2005 till 2007
- American Comparative Literature Association, 2005
- Public Relation Society of India, 1994-2003

### **To the Discipline**

- Grant Reader, Student Research and Conference Grants, Graduate Professional Student Association, Spring 2009
- Reader, Feminist Studies Division, National Communication Association 2008
- Reader, Religious Studies Division, National Communication Association 2008
- Womentoring–I/II/III, Facilitator  
Women’s Caucus, National Communication Association 2007
- Gender, Feminism, and International Leadership, Chair  
Feminist Studies Division, Intercultural and International Division, National Communication Association 2006
- Graduate Student Representative, Women’s Caucus, National Communication Association 2006-2007
- Symposium Organizer for Departmental Annual Symposium, 2005
- Graduate Representative, Women’s Caucus, National Communication Association, 2004-2005
- Vice President, Communication Graduate Student Association, University of New Mexico, 2004-2005

### **Departmental Service, University of New Mexico**

- Faculty Liaison, Department of Communication & Journalism, University of New Mexico, 2006
- Student representative on Intercultural Faculty Hiring Committee, 2004-2005
- Student organizer of Annual Symposium
- Vice-President of Commgrads (Communication and Journalism Graduate Student Association)

### **Advising and Mentorship**

- Faculty Advisor, student organization Progressive Action Coalition, 2006-2007
- Mentor for undergraduate students
  - Dianna Vaughan
- Tutoring for Indian undergraduate students

### **Community Service**

- Student President, Association for India’s Development, New Mexico Chapter, Student Organization, University of New Mexico 2004-2005
- President, International Women’s Club, American Graduate School of International Management, Glendale, 2001-2002
- Interpreter in Hindi, Bengali and Tamil, New Mexico Asian Family Center (Specifically for domestic violence and sexual assault cases)
- Community organizing and activism around the case of the “Namaste Kicker” (a series of attacks on Indian male students near the university campus for a period of 3 years. The attacker was finally caught and is presently behind bars)
- President, India Student Association, 2007-08
- 2004 Asian Tsunami Relief Activities (both in India and United States)
- Indo-Pak Earthquake Relief activities
- Bhopal Gas Tragedy Awareness Activity
- Founder, Indian Women’s Group

- Fundraising Activities for various grassroots projects in India through Association for India's Development
- Translator (Hindi-English) for Dr Rajendra Singh, Magasasy Winner, water activist from India, in a cross-national panel on "Issues of water and community rights," September, 2004.
- Translator (Bengali-English) for artists from Bangladesh, United Nations Award winners for excellence in local artistry, during a world market fair at a museum in Santa Fe.

### **Media**

- Interviewed on Voces Feministas, a popular public radio show for women of color on three different occasions.
- Interviewed on Aztlan, public radio show
- Interviewed by NPR (KUNM) on 2 different occasions
- Interviewed on Channel 27
- Interviewed by Albuquerque Tribune for story "Real-Life Real Model"
- Interviewed by Albuquerque Journal on two different occasions

### **LANGUAGES**

- Spoken: Hindi, English, Tamil, Bengali (fluently) and Malayalam, Marathi, and Spanish (beginner)
- Written: Hindi, English, Bengali (fluently) and Spanish (beginner)

### **OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE**

#### **Event Organizing**

- Overall Coordinator, *Lobo Hunger Awareness Day*, University of New Mexico, total of 500 surveys collected
- Overall Coordinator, *Flavors of La Mesa: Cross-cultural Community Family Day at La Mesa Neighborhood*. 600 people attended this event.
- Publicity coordinator, *The Left Hand of God: Lecture by Rabbi Michael Lerner*. 750 people attended this event.
- Publicity assistant, *Saint at odds: Islam and America in the world: Lecture by Dr. Anouar Majid*. 100 people attended this event.
- Publicity assistant, *Failure of Environmentalism: Lecture by Dr. Larry Rasmussen*. 70 people attended this event.
- Publicity assistant, *Sillapadhikaram: an Indian dance concert*, Albuquerque. 600 people attended this event.
- Publicity assistant, *Indo-Pak Earthquake Fundraiser* in Santa Fe. 400 people attended this event.

#### **Journalism**

- Intern, Maharashtra Herald , Pune India, 2000
  - Worked as a reporter.
  - Two days when the computer systems failed and most of the staff went missing, I single handedly produced an 8-page newspaper for two days.
- Intern, valuenotes.com, a financial search engine, 2000
  - Worked on an investigative story titled ' Myth of Computer Education in India' which has since then been syndicated to Kotakstreet.com.

**Software Consultancy**

- Owner, *Initiatives*, Training Needs Provider and Consultant, 1999-2000  
The objective was to provide training programs to companies totally conditioned to Indian environment instead of merely mimicking the West.

- Software Engineer, Patni Computer Systems, 1997-1999  
I worked mostly in Euro conversion related projects. The clients were mainly companies in European countries. I was the group leader and quality analyst. I prepared the detail design for conversion and modification of an ERP package, Dispatch -1, to a Euro friendly environment.

**Marketing Executive, Elder Pharmaceuticals limited, 1994-1996**

I was responsible for territory sales management and competitor study.

**Dance Teacher, Classical Indian Dance Bharatnatyam, 1986-1994**

**REFERENCES**

- **Dr. Ilia Rodriguez (Dissertation director)**  
Associate Professor, Department of Communication & Journalism  
Phone: (001) 505-277-2103  
Email: [ilia@unm.edu](mailto:ilia@unm.edu)
- **Dr. Dan Young (Service learning course supervisor)**  
Director, Research Service Learning Program, University of New Mexico  
Phone: (001) 505-277-3355  
Email: [dyoung@unm.edu](mailto:dyoung@unm.edu)
- **Dr. Jan Schuetz (Dissertation committee member)**  
Professor, Department of Communication & Journalism  
Phone: (001) 505-277-0573  
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