

# Nisarg Patel | निसर्ग पटेल

## Curriculum Vitae

Comparative Studies in Literature and Culture  
266, 3501 Trousdale Pkwy, Los Angeles, CA 90089  
University of Southern California

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### Education

- 2021- **University of Southern California**  
Ph.D. Candidate, Comparative Studies in Media and Culture  
Comparative Culture and Media Track
- 2019-2020 **University of Toronto**  
M.A., Comparative Literature (w/ Focus on South Asian Studies)  
G.P.A.: 3.97/4.0
- 2016-2019 **University of Toronto**  
H.B.A, English Literature (major), Cinema Studies, Literary Theory and  
Criticism (minor)  
G.P.A.: 3.74/4.0 (Graduated with Silver Medal, High Distinction)
- 2013-2016 **Indira Gandhi Open University**  
B.A., Philosophy  
First Class
- 2012-2016 **Gujarat Technological University**  
B.E., Production Engineering  
G.P.A.: 8.14/10 (Graduated with High Distinction)

### Additional Training:

- Ph.D. Academy Certificate in Communication, Leadership, and Management, 2025 (USC)
- Visual Studies Graduate Certificate, 2024 (USC)
- USC Center for Excellence in Teaching Certificate, 2024 (USC)
- Digital Media and Culture Certificate, 2023 (USC)

### Publications:

#### Book Chapter:

- "Nationalist Ideology in the Times of Transnational Cinema," in *Cinemas Multiple Globalization*, Edited by Keith Wagner, Seung-Hoon Jeong, and Meta Mazaj (Upcoming)

#### Articles:

- Ancient Myths, Modern Markets, *Mid-Theory Collective* (Online, Upcoming)

#### Book Reviews:

- Alienation, Categorically Speaking: A Response to Kornbluh's 'Immediacy', *Women in Theory Book Forum* (Online, Upcoming)
- The Other Epics of India: Gurrām Jashuva's 'Gabbilam', *The Hooghly River Review* (Online, 02/02/2026)

- India's Absent Revolution: On Manu Joseph's 'Why the Poor Don't Kill Us', *Riot Magazine* (01/23/2026; Online)
- Frontiers, Sovereignty, and the Politics in/of Tribes, *OLR Supplement* (08/05/2025; Online)
- Stories in the Time of Despair: Easterine Kire's 'Spirit Nights', *The Hooghly River Review* (03/13/2025; Online)

Translation:

- 'Seven Poems in a Train' by Manglesh Dabral, *Harf: A Journal of South Asian Studies* (vol. 5, 2025)
- Simple Sorrows: Five Poems by Manglesh Dabral, *The Hooghly Review* (03/30/2025; Online)
- Three Poems by Manglesh Dabral, *Asymptote* (03/18/2025; Online)
- Five Poems by Manglesh Dabral, *Muse India* (June 2025)

Visual Art:

- '64 Seconds,' *Locomotive: A Marxian Magazine* (Jan. 2025)
- 'Abandoned,' *Spectator* (Fall 2022)

**Awards and Honors:**

2019	Silver Medal, Outstanding Academic Achievement Institution: St. Michael's College, UofT	
2018-'19	Dr. Michael Lutsky Undergraduate Award in Humanities Institution: St. Michael's College, UofT	
2018-2019 2017-2018 2016-2017	Dean's List Scholar, University of Toronto	
2016		Research Award for Outstanding Engineering Project (5000 INR) Institution: Birla Vishwakarma Mahavidyalaya, GTU

**Fellowships**

2026, Summer	USC Graduate School Summer Research and Writing Grant Institution: USC (\$2000)
2025-'26	Graduate Scholar, Society of Fellows in Humanities (\$3000) Institution: Levan Institute of Humanities, USC Teresa Wilson Endowed Fellowship (\$4000) Institution: USC
2025, Summer	VSGC Summer Research Fellowship (\$2000) Institution: VSRI, USC
2024-'25	Salz Pollak Pollak Research Fellowship (\$3000) Institution: USC
2024, Summer	VSGC Summer Research Fellowship (\$2000) Institution: VSRI, USC CSLC Summer Research Fellowship (\$1000) Institution: CSLC, USC
2023-'24	NEH/VSRI 'Images out of Time' Graduate Fellow Institution: VSRI, USC
2023, Summer	USC-LACMA Summer Research Fellowship (\$3000)

2022-'23	Institution: VSRI and CLSC, USC PhD Academy Scholarship and Research Fund (\$500) Institution: Dornsife PhD Academy, USC GSG Professional Development Fund (\$500)
2020	Institution: Graduate Student Government, USC Graduate Research Fellowship (\$2000)
2019-2020	Institution: East Asian Studies, University of Toronto Center for Comparative Literature Graduate Program Award Institution: University of Toronto 'Writers-in-Residence' Fellowship for Creative Writing
2018-2019	Institution: Massey College, UofT Undergraduate Research Fellowship (\$1000) Institution: Jackman Humanities Institute, UofT

### Paper Presentations

2025-'26	ACLA Annual Conference Seminar Organizer: 'Uses and Abuses of History in Literary Narratives' Paper Title: 'Writing After Amnesia: The Narratives of History between G.N. Devy and Qurratulain Hyder'
	Annual Conference on South Asia, U. Wisconsin-Madison Paper Title: 'To See a World in a Frame of an Image: Stereoscopes and Colonial 'Life-Worlds' [Lebenswelt] of British India'
	CSLC Annual Graduate Student Symposium, USC Paper Title: 'Between Two Deaths: The Work of Silence in the Thought of Ranajit Guha and Gayatri Spivak'
2024-'25	Winter Workshop on Photography, Universität Tübingen Paper Title: 'Visions of Pasts, Fictions of History'
	Media Fields Journal Biennial IX Conference Paper Title: 'Witnessing Empire: Stereoscopes and the 1857 Mutiny in British India'
2022-'23	Summer Workshop on South Asian Literature, Universität Tübingen Paper Title: 'Ancient Myths, Modern Markets'
	CARGC Symposium, University of Pennsylvania Paper Title: 'Nationalist Ideologies in the Time of Transnational Cinema'
	SAGSC XX, University of Chicago Paper Title: 'हमारे अपनो को जगाना है: Bollywood's Histories in the Time of Hindu Nationalism'
	NYU Cinema Studies Conference, NYU Paper Title: 'After-Images of Pre-Colonial India'
2021-'22	First Forum, USC Paper Title: 'मेरे पास माँ है: Material and Sentimental Excess in Visual Cultures of Post-Colonial India'
	Annual Conference on South Asia, U. Wisconsin-Madison Paper Title: "'Hello, Hello, Ji": Networks of Sociality and Commodity in Post-Colonial India'
	CSLC Graduate Symposium, USC

Paper Title: ‘Expert Yogis, Impotent Men, Depressed Wives: Social Life of Sexual Tonics in Late Colonial India’  
 Annual South Asian Studies Conference, University of Chicago  
 Paper Title: ‘Making Space, Indulging Fantasies: Studio Photo in Colonial and Post-Colonial India’

2019 Research-Fellow Presentation, Jackman Humanities Institute [UofT]  
 Paper Title: “Glimpse of an Old Home”: On Hermeneutics of Colonial-gaze and the Gaze of Colonial-Hermeneutics”

### Teaching Experience

2023-‘24 Fall: On Location, The Place of Literature in Global Culture [COLT102g]  
 Prof. Neetu Khanna, Dept. of Comparative Literature  
 Spring: Introduction to Sociology [SOC1200g]  
 Prof. Juliana McGene, Dept. of Sociology

2022-‘23 Fall: On Location, The Place of Literature in Global Culture [COLT102g]  
 Prof. Neetu Khanna, Dept. Comparative Literature  
 Spring: Cultures of Latin America [COLT250g]  
 Prof. Roberto Diaz, Dept. of Comparative Literature

### Research Experience

2026-2027 Graduate Research Assistant, Visual Studies Research Institute (USC)  
 2024 Graduate Summer Research Assistant, Prof. Kimia Shahi (USC)  
 2023 History of Photography Summer Research, Britt Salvensen (LACMA)  
 2020 Graduate Summer Research Assistant, Prof. Atsuko Sakaki (UofT)  
 Editorial Assistant, Prof. Martin Revermann (UofT)  
 2019-2020 Graduate Research Assistant, Prof. Sara Saljoughi (UofT)

### University Service

2024-‘25 Humanities Lead, Doctoral Career Lead Network, Career Center, USC  
 Vice-President, Dornsife Graduate Student Association  
 Organizer, ‘Theory Today’ Working Group, Levan Institute, USC

2023-‘24 Organizer, CSLC PhD Students Initiative  
 Graduate Student Government Representative for CSLC, DGSA, USC  
 Mentor, Asian Institute Mentorship Program, U. of Toronto

2022-‘23 Organizer, CSLC Graduate Symposium, USC [Theme: ‘Thinking, Crisis’]  
 Graduate Student Government Representative for CSLC, DGSA, USC

2021-‘22 Organizer, CSLC Graduate Symposium, USC [Theme: ‘Illness’]  
 Graduate Student Government Representative for CSLC, DGSA, USC  
 Mentor, Asian Institute Mentorship Program, U. of Toronto

2020 Organizer, Centre for Comparative Literature Graduate Conference [Theme: ‘Fire’]  
 2017 Organizer, Inaugural Shakespeare Undergraduate Conference, U. of Toronto

### Languages

- Gujarati: Native proficiency
- Hindi: Native bi-lingual proficiency
- English: Full proficiency
- French: Intermediate working proficiency

### **Professional Membership**

- American Comparative Literature Association
- Society for Cinema and Media Studies

### **References**

- Prof. Neetu Khanna, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, USC  
Email: [neetukha@usc.edu](mailto:neetukha@usc.edu)
- Prof. Panivong Norindr, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, USC  
Email: [norindr@college.usc.edu](mailto:norindr@college.usc.edu)
- Prof. Vanessa Schwartz, Professor of Art History, USC  
Email: [vschwart@usc.edu](mailto:vschwart@usc.edu)
- Prof. Priya Jaikumar, Professor of Cinematic Arts, USC  
Email: [pjaikumar@cinema.usc.edu](mailto:pjaikumar@cinema.usc.edu)
- Prof. Ronald Mendoza-de Jesús, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, Emory University  
Email: [rmendoz@emory.edu](mailto:rmendoz@emory.edu)

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