

# Eric Moses Gurevitch

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## Employment

2022-pres. **Vanderbilt University**  
National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Humanities Postdoctoral Fellow

## Education

2022 **University of Chicago**  
Ph.D., Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations & Committee on Conceptual and Historical Study of Science  
Dissertation: *Everyday Sciences in Southwest India*  
Committee: Whitney Cox & Adrian Johns (co-chairs), Lorraine Daston & Gary Tubb

2013 **University of Chicago**  
B.A. with Honors, Department of Religious Studies

## Publications

### Peer Reviewed Articles and Chapters

Under review “When Is Medicine? Contesting the Temporality of Healing in Precolonial South Asia,” in the *Journal for the History of Knowledge*, special issue on *Knowledge: A Matter of Time* edited by Laetitia Lenel, Anna-Maria Meister and Hansun Hsiung.

In press “Practices of Translation in Medieval Kannada Sciences,” in *Narratives on Translation across Eurasia and Africa: From Babylonia to Colonial India*, edited by Sonja Brentjes with Jens Høyrup and Bruce O’Brien (Brepols Publishers, Forthcoming).

2021 “The Uses of Useful Knowledge and the Languages of Vernacular Science: Perspectives from Southwest India.” *History of Science* 59, no. 3 (2021): 256–86.

### Scholarly Book Reviews

Forthcoming Review of *Body and Cosmos: Studies in Early Indian Medical and Astral Sciences in honor of Kenneth G. Zysk*, eds. Toke Lindegaard Knudsen, Jacob Schmidt-Madsen, and Sara Speyer. *Asian Medicine*.

Forthcoming Review of *Science and Religion in India: Beyond Disenchantment*, by Renny Thomas. *Physics Today*.

Forthcoming Review of *Words of Destiny: Practicing Astrology in North India*, by Caterina Guenzi. *Isis: A Journal of the History of Science Society*.

2020 Review of *History and Theory of Knowledge Production: An Introductory Outline*, by Rajan Gurukulal. *Indian Economic & Social History Review* 57 (3): 421–23.

2020 Review of *Empires of Knowledge: Scientific Networks in the Early Modern World*, Edited by Paula Findlen (Review No. 2355). *Reviews in History*.

## Public Writing

Various articles, reviews and translations appearing in *Asymptote Journal*, *Economic and Political Weekly*, *Kafila*, *Muse India*, *N+1*, *Public Books*, *Religion Dispatches*, *Scroll*, *The Hindu Business Line*, the *History of Science Society Newsletter* and *The Hypocrite Reader*.

## Teaching Experience

2019 Instructor of Record, *Science Outside of Europe*, The University of Chicago  
2018 Teaching Assistant for Intermediate Sanskrit 3, taught by Daniel Arnold  
2018 Teaching Assistant for Intermediate Sanskrit 2, taught by Wendy Doniger  
2017 Teaching Assistant for Intermediate Sanskrit 1, taught by Nell Hawley  
2013-2014 English Teacher (ISC & IGCSE), 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> Standard, De Paul International Residential School, Mysore, India

## Awards, Grants and Fellowships

2022 The Mohini Jain Presidential Chair in Jain Studies Best Dissertation Award, given by the Department of Religious Studies at UC Davis  
2022 Dissertation Award on the Formation of Knowledge, University of Chicago  
(Awarded “for the top doctoral dissertation addressing topics related to social and historical influences shaping the formation of knowledge and which most effectively crosses and bridges disciplinary and divisional boundaries in its research, argument, and conclusions.”)  
2021-2022 Institute on the Formation of Knowledge (IFK) Graduate Community Fellowship (9 months)  
2020-2021 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (DDRA) (12 months)  
2019-2020 Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) administered by the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) (12 months)  
2018 Predoctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (MPIWG), Department II (Daston), Berlin (4 months)  
2017 Committee on Southern Asian Studies (COSAS) Pre-Dissertation Research Fellowship (3 months)  
2016 American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS) Summer Language Fellowship (2 months)  
2016 Committee on Southern Asian Studies (COSAS) Language Study Fellowship (3

- months)
- 2015-2022 Humanities Fellowship, University of Chicago (6 years)
- 2012 American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS) Summer Language Fellowship (3 months)
- 2012 Foreign Language Acquisition Grant (FLAG), University of Chicago (3 months)
- 2009 Rector's Prize for Study of Religion and Ethics, Trinity Church, New York City

## Presentations

- 2022 (scheduled) "Small is a Big Thing of the Past: Making Local Knowledge and Predicting the Weather in Southern India" at the "Vernacular Sciences in Asia" panel at the annual meeting of the History of Science Society.
- 2022 (scheduled) "Planetary thinking and thinking with planets" at Astrology and the Anthropocene round table at the 50th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin – Madison
- 2022 (scheduled) "The Epistemology of Difference from the Center of Political Power" at the "Provincializing Brahmins: New Directions in the Study of Caste in Premodern South Asia" full-day symposium at the 50th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin – Madison
- 2022 (scheduled) "Before Translation," The Lawrence J. Schoenberg Symposium on Manuscript Studies in the Digital Age, University of Pennsylvania
- 2022 (scheduled) "Issues of Trust: Jainism, Medicine and Authority in Medieval India," Beyond Boundaries: A Celebration of the Work of John E. Cort, University of California, Davis
- 2022 "Weaving identities: Responsible to Whom?" Responsible Documentation and Conscious Outcomes: Explorations in the Ownership of Knowledge Workshop, the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science
- 2022 "Big-Enough Histories of Medieval Sciences," at the Grounds for a Trans-Regional Medieval Studies: Beyond the Global roundtable, 57<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, held online due to COVID-19
- 2022 "Diseases of the eye: Debating the physiology of vision across medicine and philosophy in medieval India," The History of Science in Early South Asia Working Group, hosted by the Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine
- 2022 "To Collect and Sort: Managing Information in Early Modern South Asia," Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge University
- 2022 "Communal Medicine in a Cosmopolitan World: Contesting Recipes, Authority and Scripture in Medieval India," Department of Religious Studies, Yale University
- 2021 "It's Only a Paper World: Consultation Reading, Excerpting, and Indexing in Early-Modern South Asia," History of Sciences/History of Texts Seminar, Université de Paris (Diderot) & CNRS

- 2021 “Sciences in Old Kannada Literature,” Language, Literature & Culture Seminar hosted by De Paul College, Mysuru (Affiliated to the University of Mysore), held online due to COVID-19
- 2021 “From Indigenous Knowledge to Palm-Leaf Information,” Spectrums of Coloniality Symposium at 26th International Congress of History of Science and Technology, Vienna [Symposium accepted, but withdrawn due to COVID-19]
- 2021 “Sciences of flow: Weather forecasting, agricultural scholasticism and the meanings of local knowledge,” University of Chicago Environmental Studies Workshop, held online due to COVID-19
- 2021 “Signification in Sanskrit,” presentation for the Premodern History of Signification Reading Group at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (MPIWG), held online due to COVID-19
- 2020 “Making Medicine Jain in the Medieval Deccan,” UC Riverside Jain Studies Symposium 2020: Illness, Medicine, and Healing in the Jain Tradition, held online due to COVID-19
- 2020 “Vernacular Sciences in History,” delivered at the French Institute of Pondicherry, held online due to COVID-19
- 2020 “Learning from History: Managing Elephants in Early Modern India,” Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation conference, organized by Asian Elephant Support and the Karnataka Forest Department, held online due to COVID-19
- 2020 “The Epistemology of Caste: Views from Western India, 950-1050 CE,” South Asia Graduate Student Conference at the University of Chicago XVII: Reception, Tradition, Canonization: Pasts and Presents in South Asia, Chicago, IL
- 2019 “Translation Practices in the Everyday Sciences of the Medieval Deccan,” at the conference Premodern Experience of the Natural World in Translation, MPIWG, Berlin
- 2019 “The Whig Interpretation of the Hindu Constitution: Legal History, Philology, and the Medieval in Late-Victorian Calcutta,” at H.T. Colebrooke and historiographies of sciences in Sanskrit conference at Université Paris-Diderot, Paris
- 2019 “How to Train an Elephant,” The Fishbein Workshop in the History, Philosophy and Sociology of Science, the University of Chicago
- 2019 “Handing Over Indigenous Knowledge” at the Sciences of Non-Modernity, Now Roundtable, Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL
- 2018 “Translating Science in Southwest India,” 9th Coffee Break Conference: Science and Technology in Premodern Asia, the University of Oxford
- 2018 “The Vernacular Sciences of Southwest India,” Premodern Conversations Workshop, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (MPIWG), Berlin
- 2018 “Fragments of a Palm Leaf Encyclopedism: The Information Order of Early Modern Southwest India,” at Assembling Knowledge and Ordering the World: Anthologies and Encyclopedias in Sanskritic Literary and Intellectual History, the University of Pennsylvania

- 2018 “Removing the Conflict Between Textual Authority and the Worldly: New Epistemic Virtues for Old Śāstric Models in Jayasīṃha II’s Court,” American Oriental Society Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2017 “Rewriting the World as Epistemic Object in Southwest India,” South Asia Graduate Student Conference at the University of Chicago XIV: Materials in Focus: Working across Media and Methods in South Asia, Chicago, IL
- 2016 “Resembling the Upanayana Samskara’: Modern Sanskrit Revival Perspectives on Early Zionism,” American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX
- 2016 “Erasing History, Emplotting Authors, Critiquing Ideology: The Place and Reception of Vijnāneśvara’s Mitākṣara,” Religion and Human Sciences Workshop, University of Chicago

## Events Organized

- 2022 (scheduled) “Vernacular Sciences in Asia,” panel at the annual meeting of the History of Science Society, co-organized with Hyeok Hweon Kang. Sponsored by the Forum for the History of Science in Asia.
- 2022 (scheduled) “Provincializing Brahmins: New Directions in the Study of Caste in Premodern South Asia,” full-day symposium at the 50th Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin – Madison, co-organized with Seema Chauhan.
- 2018 Artist Amruta Patil Campus Visit, co-organized with Sara Maillacheruvu
- 2018 Fifteenth Annual South Asian Graduate Student Conference at the University of Chicago, “South Asia and the Limits of Humanistic Inquiry,” co-organized with Anna Lee White and Joya John
- 2016 “Modern Sanskrit, Religious Others, and South Asian Nationalism” panel at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, co-organized with Charles Preston and Justin Henry

## Respondent Activities

- 2022 Respondent to Scott deLahunta, “What is there already?” at Responsible Documentation and Conscious Outcomes: Explorations in the Ownership of Knowledge Workshop, the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science
- 2020 Respondent to Ishan Chakrabarti, “The Person of Rāmānanda Rāya: Penetrating Insight in Biographical Memory and Literary History,” at South Asian Languages and Civilizations Graduate Student Workshop, The University of Chicago, held online due to COVID-19
- 2019 Session chair and respondent at the Republic of Plants Conference, hosted at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) and co-sponsored by the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)
- 2019 Respondent to Suchismita Das, “Organic Politics in the Himalayas: Between State Sovereignty and Alternative Agrarian Imaginaries” at The Environmental Studies Workshop, The University of Chicago

- 2019 Respondent to Emma Kitchen, “Rare Meat: On Temporality and Attempts to Bring an Extinct Cow Back to Life,” at The Fishbein Workshop in the History of Human Sciences, The University of Chicago
- 2019 Respondent to Li Liang, “Astral science practices of Philippe de La Hire in early modern China,” at On Cultures of Scientific Practice in Ancient Mathematical Sciences, Université Paris-Diderot, Paris
- 2019 Respondent to Margherita Trento, “Writing Christianity: Poetics and Politics of Place,” at South Asian Languages and Civilizations Graduate Student Workshop, The University of Chicago
- 2018 Respondent to Karine Chemla, “Simplicity in Certain Ancient Chinese Mathematical Texts” at the seminar What Is Simplicity in Mathematics and the Sciences? at The Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin
- 2017 Respondent to Mannat Johal, “‘The South’ as object of knowledge between archaeology and history” at the Interdisciplinary Archeology Workshop at The University of Chicago

## Professional Service

### Discipline and Department Service

- 2022-2023 Co-convenor of the Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine *Science Across Regions in Asia* working group (together with Mary Augusta Brazelton, Charu Singh, and Duygu Yıldırım)
- 2022-2023 History of Science Society (HSS) Committee on Education and Engagement, Member
- 2020-2022 History of Science Society (HSS) Graduate and Early Career Caucus (GECC) Diversity Officer (*ex officio* member of the Committee for Diversity and Inclusion)
- 2018-2019 Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations representative to the Humanities Student Advisory Board, the University of Chicago

### Reviewing Service

- 2022 Manuscript referee for *History of Science in South Asia*
- 2021 Manuscript reviewer for *Osiris*
- 2020 Manuscript referee for *History of Science in South Asia*
- 2019 Manuscript referee for *NTM: Zeitschrift für Geschichte der Wissenschaften, Technik und Medizin*