

Rahuldeep Singh Gill, PhD
Associate Professor of Religion
Campus Interfaith Strategist

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Academic Positions

- 2015- Associate Professor of Religion and Campus Interfaith Strategist, CLU
- 2015-17 Visiting Associate Professor, Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley)
- 2014-16 Director of the Center for Equality and Justice, CLU
- 2012-13 Associate Director of Center for Equality and Justice, CLU
- 2009-15 Assistant Professor of Religion, CLU
- 2005, 2008 Lecturer, Department of Religious Studies, UCSB

Education

- Ph.D., Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
Dissertation: *Sikh Tradition in the Works of Bhai Gurdas Bhalla (d. 1636)*
- M.A., Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
- B.A., Religion, University of Rochester
Cum Laude, Honors, Certificate in the study of Politics

Languages

Punjabi, Hindi, Urdu, Sanskrit, Farsi, German

Course Offerings

First-Year Seminar on Religion – South Asian Thought (From the Indus Valley to the Mughals) – Conflict and Cooperation in Modern South Asia – Religion and Hip-Hop (Honors Seminar) – Sikh Tradition as a Case Study in Global Religions – Asian Religions in the United States (adult learning class) – Spirituality and the Arts – Advanced Punjabi Language

Books

- In-Process *Raghead: A Sikh-American's Search for Belonging*
- In-Process *Prophet of Punjab: Long Poems of Baba Nanak*
- 2017 *Drinking from Love's Cup: Selections from the Vārs of Bhai Gurdas Bhalla*, Oxford University Press (NY)

Other Peer-Reviewed Publications

- 2019 “Understanding Sikh Students on Campus,” *Educating about Religious Diversity and Interfaith Engagement: A Handbook for Student Affairs*, Stylus Press
- 2018 “‘Whatever Pleases the One’: Guru Nanak’s Response to Violence and Warfare,” *Words to Live By: Religious Resources for Interreligious Engagement*, Orbis Books
- 2018 “The Call of Death and the Depth of Our Callings: The Quality of Vocational Discernment,” *Hearing Vocation Differently: Meaning, Purpose, and Identity in the Multi-Faith Academy*, Oxford University Press
- 2017 "From Safe Spaces to Resilient Places: A Role for Interfaith Cooperation in Contentious Times," *Journal of College and Character*
- 2015 “Memory as Benevolence, Toward a Sikh Ethics of Liberation,” in *Memory and Hope*, Elijah Interfaith Institute and Lexington Press
- 2014 “Guru Gobind Singh,” and three other entries, Springer Encyclopedia of Indian Religions (10,000 total words)
- 2014 “The Works of Bhai Gurdas.” *Oxford Handbook of Sikh Studies*, Oxford University Press
- 2012 *Sikhism*, for Patheos.com (25,000-word, peer-reviewed introduction to Sikh life and heritage)
- 2010 “Punjabi-American Identity” and “Punjabi American Vernacular Speech and Manner,” *Encyclopedia of Asian American Folklore and Folklife*, ABC-CLIO
- 2005 “Sikh Religion and Holy People,” *Holy People of the World*, ABC-CLIO
- 2004 “The Folk Songs of Punjab,” with Dr. Nahar Singh (Panjab University), *Journal of Punjab Studies*

Selected Public Writings

- Mar. 2019 "Speaking for the Marginalized, Targets of Profiling," (Op-Ed) *VC Reporter*
- Nov. 2018 "From the Frontlines of a Civilizational Crisis," *Blog // Los Angeles Review of Books*
- Oct. 2017 "Black Threads in the Civic Quilt," *Los Angeles Review of Books*
- Jan. 2017 "Nikki Haley's Sikh-American Heritage," (Op-Ed) *Religion News Service*
- Oct. 2016 "What the Next President Should Do About College Unaffordability," *LinkedIn*
- Aug. 2016 "Hillary Clinton's Tuition Free Plan May Not Work, Unless..." *LinkedIn*
- July 2016 "There's Nothing 'Soft' About Soft Skills," *LinkedIn*
- June 2016 "Between Tamir Rice and Me, On His Birthday," *Huffington Post*
- Nov. 2015 "Talking Tough Turkey: How to Have Difficult Holiday Conversations," *Huffington Post*
- Nov. 2015 "About ISIS: To My Students, From Your Religion Professor," *Huffington Post*
- July 2015 "The Future of Sikhism in America," *Patheos*
- July 2015 "The Cost of a Lost Generation," *Huffington Post*
- Apr 2015 "Sikh Holiday, Christian Campus," *Huffington Post*
- Mar. 2015 "Islam, Atheism: Problems in Common," *Huffington Post*
- Feb. 2015 "Islam and Atheism, Problems in Common," *Huffington Post*
- Jan. 2015 "Does Religion Poison the Well? A Reflection for MLK Day," *Huffington Post*
- Jan. 2015 "Police shootings not just in Ferguson; Sikh man killed in Lodi," (Op-Ed) *San Francisco Chronicle*
- June 2014 "India's Incomplete Democracy," (Op-ed) *Los Angeles Times*
- Sep. 2014 "What Prabhjot Singh's attackers didn't know about him," (Op-ed) *On Faith*, www.washingtonpost.com
- Sep. 2014 "Flipping Out: A Sikh Response To a Traumatic World," *The Sikh Review*
- Aug. 2012 "Peaceful Religion a Target," (Op-Ed), *Ventura County Star*

Selected Academic Presentations

- Nov. 2019 "The Ante-Colonial, Anti Imperial Sikh Tradition" (Reflections on the 550th Anniversary of Guru Nanak's Birth), Institute for South Asia Studies, University of California, Berkeley
- Feb. 2017 Keynote, "Drinking from Love's Cup: Bhai Gurdas and the Radical Sikh Tradition," Jakara Sikholars Conference, Palo Alto (CA)
- Nov. 2016 "Rabbi Heschel: A Sikh Perspective," Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning, St. John's University and St. Thomas University (MN)
- Oct. 2016 "The Resilient Sikh Tradition," Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley (CA)
- Nov. 2015 "In Comparison a Power Dwells: Rethinking Communal Taxonomy in Early Sikh Literature," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (Atlanta, GA)
- Mar. 2015 Panelist, "New Approaches to Teaching Sikhism," Sikh Foundation Conference, Stanford University (Palo Alto, CA)
- Nov. 2014 "Teaching Sikh Tradition through Service Learning: Reflections and Best Practices," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (San Diego, CA)
- May 2014 "Memory as Benevolence: Towards a Sikh Ethics of Liberation," Elijah Interfaith Institute Conference (Munich, Germany)
- May 2014 "Re-reading Gurdas Bhalla," International Sikh Studies Conference, University of California (Santa Barbara)
- Nov. 2013 Panelist, "Scholar-Activists: Academics Making a Difference in the Public Sphere," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (Baltimore, MD)
- Oct. 2014 "Anti-Sikh Programs of 1984 – Beyond the Trauma," University of California, Santa Cruz
- Oct. 2013 "A Sikh Case for Peace," Claremont Lincoln University, (Claremont, CA)
- Sep. 2013 "Guru Nanak and This American Moment," Guru Granth Sahib Conference (San Jose, CA)
- April 2012 "Religion and Culture in the Sikh Tradition," California State University (Fresno)
- Nov. 2011 "Sikh and Punjabi Language and Literature: A Response to Christopher Shackle," Sikh and Punjabi Studies Conference: Achievements and New Directions, University of California (Santa Cruz)

- Oct. 2011 "Locating Braj in Sikh Literature," Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin (Madison)
- Mar. 2010 "The Geography of Seventeenth Century Sikh Congregations," American Academy of Religion Western Regional Conference (Tempe, AZ)
- Nov. 2009 "The Linguistic Choices of Bhai Gurdas Bhalla," Conference on Sikh History, University of California (Santa Barbara, CA)
- Mar. 2009 "Revisiting the Career of Bhai Gurdas Bhalla," Guru Nanak Dev University, (Amritsar, India)
- Dec. 2008 "Tracing the History of the Concept of 'Guru Granth,' " International Conference in Sikh Studies, University of California (Riverside)
- Nov. 2008 "Opening the Key: Towards a New Perspective on an Early Sikh Commentator," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL)
- May 2003 "The Public Faces of Sikhism in Caruthers and Los Angeles, California," Conference on Religious Pluralism in Southern California, University of California (Santa Barbara)

Awards

- 2019 University Faculty Research and Creative Works Grant (\$5,000)
- 2018 Hewlett Research Grant, California Lutheran University (\$1000)
- 2016 Interfaith Youth Core Interfaith Studies Curriculum Development Grant (\$1,000)
- 2015 Sabbatical Research Grant (\$1250), Cal Lutheran University (plus sabbatical salary)
- 2014 Teagle Foundation grant (\$8,000, with Dr. Colleen Windham-Hughes), administered by Interfaith Youth Core, to incorporate interfaith pedagogical strategies more deeply in the Religion curriculum
- 2013 University Diversity Professor of the Year
- 2013 Research in Service of Community Grant (\$10,000), CLU Center for Equality and Justice
- 2013 Hewlett Research Grant, California Lutheran University (\$1000)
- 2012 University Faculty Research and Creative Works Grant (\$5,000)

- 2012 Community Leaders Association Grant for Global Religions Research (\$1200)
- 2011 Hewlett Research Grant, California Lutheran University (\$1000)
- 2011 University Diversity Professor of the Year
- 2010 Hewlett Research Grant, California Lutheran University (\$1000)
- 2008 UCSB Bhai Gurdas Research Fellowship, Center for Sikh and Punjab Studies (\$2000)
- 2002-07 University Doctoral Scholars Fellowship, University of California (full fees and stipend)
- 2001 Barth-Crapsey Research Fellowship, University of Rochester

Leadership and Service

- 2018-19 Mentor, Instructor of Record, CHESS-grant (Title V) Male Initiative to enhance the college of experience of men of color, first-generation college students, and low-income college students (CLU)
- 2018-19 Task Force Chair, Foundations of Belonging -- University-wide Diversity Training Program (CLU)
- 2017-19 Council Member, All-University Equity Leadership Council (CLU)
- 2017-18 Equity Associate, Entrepreneurship search, Cal Lutheran Graduate School of Management
- 2015-17 Evidence Team Member, Center for Urban Education (CUE) and Cal Lutheran University
- 2016-19 Consultant, Inter-Religious Task Force, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- 2016-18 Curriculum Director, Camp Khanda (Syracuse, NY)
- 2016-17 Content Review Expert, History–Social Science Adoption, California Department of Education
- 2015-17 NetVUE Scholar, Resources Project, Council of Independent Colleges
- 2015-17 Consultant, BRIDGE Curriculum Committee, Interfaith Youth Core

- 2014-16 Co-Director, Misl Los Angeles, Jakara Movement
- 2014 Host, New Books In Religion (www.newbooksinreligion.com)
- 2013-14 Advisor, Claremont Lincoln University Center for Sikh Studies
- 2012-15 Faculty Mentor, CLU Interfaith Allies (Interfaith Youth Core)
- 2011-14 Participant, Religion and Foreign Policy Initiative, Council On Foreign Relations
- 2011-15 Consultant, UCSB Summer Institute for American Religious Pluralism
- 2010-15 Editorial Advisor, *Journal of Punjab Studies*
- 2011-12 Founding Coordinator, Asian Studies Program, CLU

Selected Public Lectures and Panels

- May 2019 “The Struggle is Too Real,” “When Hate Comes to Campus” (with Time Wise), “Cultivating Resilience” (with Ericka Huggins and SHIFT), National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education, Portland (OR)
- Mar. 2019 Annual Interfaith Address, Center for Faith and Spirituality, Carthage College (WI)
- Mar. 2019 “Dear Brown America,” Multi-Cultural Student Services, Bucknell University (PA)
- Feb. 2019 “Finding Your Way on a College Campus,” Muskingham University (OH)
- Oct. 2018 “The Struggle is Too Real,” Morgan State University (MD)
- Oct. 2018 “Who Are ‘We?’ A Sikh Perspective on Vocation, Justice, and Death,” Christensen Symposium Visiting Scholar, Augsburg University (MN)
- Aug. 2018 Keynote, “*Do the Right Things: Inclusion, Resilience, and the Vocation of a University,*” Pacific Lutheran University (WA)
- July 2018 Institute Faculty, American Association of Colleges and Universities Summer Institute on Interfaith Excellence, Boston University
- May 2018 “The Struggle Is Too Real: Developing a Resilient Spirit for the Long Haul of Higher Ed Leadership,” “Psychologies of Oppression: Post-Traumatic Slave Syndrome, the Death of Empathy & the Assimilation Blues” (with Time Wise and Joy Degruy) National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education, New Orleans (LA)

- Oct. 2017 "Beyond Tolerance: Engaging Diverse Worldviews in Your Organization," Society for Human Resources Management D & I Conference, San Francisco (CA)
- Oct. 2017 "A Personal Journey Through Intercultural Conflict," Miami University (OH)
- Sept. 2017 "Interfaith Cooperation for Social Justice: Orienting, Intersecting, and Transforming," Davidson College (NC)
- Sept. 2017 "Radical Roots of the Sikh Tradition," Gurdwara Sahib Charlotte Sikh Community (NC)
- May 2017 "Faith Without Work: The Intersections of Spirituality, Religious Practice, and Social Justice," National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education (TX)
- March 2017 "Interfaith Understanding for a Stronger America," Thousand Oaks (CA) Rotary Club
- March 2017 "Finding Your People: Expanding Buy-In for Interfaith Initiatives," Webinar, Interfaith Youth Core
- Feb. 2017 "Sikh-American Experiences," University of Southern California Office for Religious Life
- March 2017 "Interfaith Learning," Council of Independent Colleges NetVUE Conference (Charlotte, NC)
- Nov. 2016 "Personal Dimensions of Interfaith Conflict," Southern California Multi-Faith Conference
- Nov. 2016 "From Diversity to Pluralism," University of St. Thomas (MN)
- Nov. 2016 "This American Moment," Chapel Address, Augsburg College (MN)
- Sep. 2016 "From Diversity to Pluralism" and "Beyond Tolerance," Shenandoah University (VA)
- Sep. 2016 "A Different Kind of Doctor: Reflections of a Sikh Scholar," Annual Meeting of the North American Sikh Medical and Dental Association, Ft. Lauderdale (FL)
- Aug. 2016 "Cultivating Your Network of Mentors, Sponsors & Collaborators," Webinar for the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity
- June 2016 "From Diversity to Pluralism," Annual Meeting of American Theological Librarians Association, Long Beach (CA)

- May 2016 Baccalaureate Address, University of LaVerne (CA)
- Sept 2015 “Writing and Time Management” and “Writing, Procrastination, and Resistance,” Virginia Tech University on behalf of the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity
- July 2015 Panelist, “The Civic Presence of Religion and Preparing Tomorrow's Civic Leaders,” Caruso Catholic Center at University of Southern California
- May 2015 “Sacred Intersections: Finding Meaning in All Moments,” ELCA Southwest Synod Assembly (Westlake Village, CA)
- Mar. 2015 “Who Was Baba Nanak, Really?” Khalsa Care Foundation, Pacoima (CA)
- Feb. 2015 “From Geography to Theology,” International Day of Service Address, CLU
- Aug. 2014 “Sikh-American Youth Leadership,” Workshop and public remarks hosted by United Sikhs, Washington DC
- Nov. 2013 "Engaging the Future, Remembering the Past," A webinar hosted by the Sikh Research Institute
- Oct. 2013 “Living in God’s Garden: Creation, Land, and Sustainable Food,” workshop for the Southwest California Synod of the ELCA, Santa Barbara, CA
- Oct. 2013 “Sikh Peacemaking Tradition,” presentation at the Chardi Kalaa Foundation, San Jose, CA
- Sep. 2013 “The Sikh Case for Interfaith” webinar presentation hosted by Interfaith Youth Core
- June 2013 “Sikh Resilience in America After Oak Creek,” US Department of State Study of US Institute: Religious Pluralism and Public Presence (UCSB)
- Feb. 2013 "Meeting the Sikhs: Shedding Light After Darkness," Santa Barbara Interfaith Initiative
- April 2012 “Religion, Identity, and the France Turban Issue,” United Nations Church Center (NY)
- June 2012 “Sikh Community in Ventura County,” US Department of State Study of US Institute: Religious Pluralism and Public Presence (UCSB)
- June 2011 “Sikh Tradition and the American Religious Experiment,” US Department of State Study of US Institute: Religious Pluralism and Public Presence (UCSB)