

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Second *South Asian Women and Girls* Conference
October 3rd through 5th 2019 at Loyola University Chicago
On the Theme of *Roles and Relationships of Working Women*

The Planning Committee for the second South Asian Women and Girls Conference invites submissions for presentations on scholarship, practice, policies, and creative works focusing on the lives of South Asian women and girls. The conference will take place over the course of three days – Thursday October 3rd, Friday October 4th and Saturday October 5th – at Loyola University Chicago’s Lake Shore Campus. The conference will consist of two keynote presentations, panel presentations, and a reception and performance night.

The conference theme – *Roles and Relationships of Working Women* – aims to bring together researchers, practitioners, and scholars who are engaging with questions of the role of working women and girls in South Asia living in both South Asian countries and immigrant communities in Chicago and other parts of the US. How is the work that they are doing impacting the lives of their families, other women and girls in South Asian society, and globally? Are the cultural responsibilities of women changing as women enter the work force? And finally, how do we define work as a culture?

The conference seeks to highlight interdisciplinary scholarship, research, and collaboration within a university setting as well as work being done by practitioners in the fields of South Asian Studies, International Relations, Social Work, Women’s Studies and Gender Studies, Media and Film, Arts and Literature, Public Health, Anthropology, Philosophy, Clinical Psychology, and other similar fields to look at the innovative research and theoretical scholarship being produced about the opportunities, challenges, and worldviews of women and girls throughout South Asian communities. We also wish to highlight creative and visual work being done by, about, or in recognition of the traditions of South Asian communities, such as documentaries and performance pieces.

The paper panels at the conference will focus on original research that has implications for practice or policy, as well as on practice-based findings and policy papers from field-based practitioners working with South Asian women and girls either in South Asia or in Chicagoland communities. Creators of performance and media pieces such as audio- or visual documentaries related to the conference theme are also to submit their work for presentation at the conference. Abstracts are encouraged from undergraduates with a thesis, academics, Master’s and Ph.D. candidates, and practitioners in all substantive areas. Work must be current and contain either local (Chicagoland) or global implications and focus.

Paper Categories:

1. Academic Research or Policy-Based Paper Presentations
2. Media or Performance Pieces
3. New Ideas, Practices, Consultations, or Social Advocacy Proposals and Discussion Topics

Submission Instructions:

1. An **abstract** of 500-1000 words summarizing the paper or performance, including the project's *purpose, key arguments or themes*, and any relevant *supporting evidence*. Media and performance pieces should include a description of the medium, and any technological considerations, equipment, or space considerations that the project would require as well as the length. All abstracts should highlight the way the project is connected to or explores the theme of South Asian womanhood and/or girlhood. References are not required and work should not be based on research previously published elsewhere.
2. A brief 50 word **bio** of the submitter.
3. An indication of whether or not the submitter will be willing to **moderate** a panel at the conference.

Submission Process:

All proposals must be submitted via email to Professor Shweta Singh, Conference Committee Chair, at ssingh9@luc.edu. Abstracts and bios should be attached to the email as a PDF file.

Review Process and Decision Dates:

A committee of peer reviewers will be used to select submissions based upon relevance to the topic of South Asian women and girls, technical merit, and importance of findings. A committee will review the creative and visual submissions and make selections based on relevance to the theme of the conference, creativity, and form/style. Selected candidates will be notified by the beginning of September.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 11:59pm on Friday, July 15, 2019
We look forward to seeing you in Chicago, IL!