

VIDYA SARVESWARAN
Curriculum Vitae

Education

Name of Degree	Institution/School	University	Year	Class	Prizes
PhD in English	IIT Madras. Fulbright Fellow		2006-2011 2008-2009		
M.A. in Mass Communication	School of Distance Education.	Madurai Kamaraj University.	1998-2000	I	
M. Phil in English	The Ethiraj College for Women	Madras University.	1995-1996	I	I (Awarded a silver medal)
M.A. in English	The Ethiraj College for Women.	Madras University.	1992-1994	University I Rank	I (Awarded 5 gold medals)
B.A. in English	The Ethiraj College for Women.	Madras University.	1989-1992	University I Rank	I (Awarded 3 gold medals)
Schooling	Sacred Heart High School, Presentation Convent, Church Park.	Directorate of Public Education.	1988-1989	School I in the Liberal Arts Division	School I in the Liberal Arts Division

Academic Positions

Assistant Professor of English, IIT Jodhpur	2012- present
Lecturer of English, Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai	1995-2007

Teaching Experience

Six years in IIT Jodhpur as an Assistant Professor (2012- present).

Thirteen years of teaching experience at the Ethiraj College for Women (1995-2007) as a Lecturer in the Department of English

Responsibilities include under graduate and postgraduate level teaching

Area of Specialization

American Literary Studies - (Specialization in Literature and Environment) at the doctoral level. The title of the dissertation reads *The Integrated Mosaic: An Ecocritical Study of the Writings of Terry Tempest Williams*.

Specialization in American fiction at the MPhil level and the dissertation is titled, *The Role of Children in Autobiographical Minority American Fiction*. The writers worked on include Maya Angelou, Betty Smith and Scott N. Momaday.

Teaching Interests

Environmental Humanities

American Literature (Poetry, Drama and Fiction)

British Literature (Poetry, Drama and Fiction)

Regional Literatures in English (Poetry, Drama and Fiction)

Literature for Engineers

Literature and Environment

English and Communication Skills

Research Interests

Environmental Humanities – Narratives of fiction, nonfiction and film revolving around Environment and Culture, Cultural Heritage, Natural Disasters (Water Narratives in particular).

Creative Interests:

Script writing for Documentaries, Creative Writing – Fiction and Creative Nonfiction

Awards, Grants and Fellowships

Name of the Award	Year	Description
*The Public Outreach Grant to make a documentary film from the Deutches Museum and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Germany.	2017	Grant amount of 1500 Euros.
The Rachel Carson Center Writing Fellowship from the Ludwig Maxmillans-Universtat Munchen and Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society , University of Munich, Germany for a period of three months between March 2016- June 2016)	2015-2016	(31 Fellowships were awarded from around the world).
The Fulbright Fellowship for a period of nine months (August 2008-May 2009) in the Doctoral and Professional Research Category.	2008 – 2009	(43 Fulbright Fellowships from India were awarded in the year)
I Rank holder in the M.Phil degree in college.	1995 -1996	Professor KunhIRaman Silver Medal for securing the highest marks in the University Examinations in the year 1995.
Sri.V.L.Ethiraj Merit Scholarship at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.	1989-1992(UG) 1992-1994 (PG)	Cash prize

		GOLD MEDALS AND ENDOWMENT PRIZES
I Rank in the M.A.Degree Examination held in (1993-94) and winner of the following gold medals and endowment prizes.	1992-1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The T.N.Nair Memorial Gold Medal. • The Grigg Memorial Medal. • The Rama Rao Medal. • The Rao Bahadur Srinivasachari Gold Medal. • The Lord Pentland Prize. • The Christian College Medal.
Two medals in the M.A. class for proficiency in English.	1992-1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annama Mathew Medal • Vatsala Raman Medal
Endowment prize for securing the highest marks in the M.A. English class.	1992-1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaveri Ammal Endowment prize
I Rank at the B.A. Degree Examinations (1992-92) conducted by the University of Madras in Part II General English.	1989-1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian College Medal. • The Henry Stone Medal. • The Cordoza Prize. • The Akkamagaru Medal. • The Koravanda Deviah Appiah Prize.
Proficiency in the B.A. Degree Class	1989-1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T.N.Krishanaswamy Silver Medal in college for proficiency in the B.A. degree class.

National and State Level Test for Teaching

The National Educational Test for Lecturership conducted by the UGC of India and the *State Level Educational Test* conducted by Bharathidasan University, both in the year 1997.

Courses taught at the Ethria College for Women

1. Shakespeare
2. British Victorian Drama.
3. British Poetry from the Romantics to the Contemporaries.
4. British Fiction.
5. American Fiction.
6. American Poetry.
7. American Drama.
8. Indian Literatures in Translation. - Poetry, Fiction and Drama.
9. Twentieth Century Literature – Poetry and Drama.
10. English for Communication.
11. Composition.

Modules taught in IIT Madras as a Teaching Assistant

1. Literature and Values. (2006, 2007, 2010, 2011)
2. Literature and the Environment. (2006, 2007, 2010, 2011)
3. Literature and Life. (2006, 2007, 2010, 2011)
4. Prep Course. (2006, 2007, 2010, 2011)

Courses taught in IIT Jodhpur

1. English and Communication skills. (2012-Present) (Single Instructor – UG)
2. Technical Communication. (2012, 2013) (Two Instructors – M.Tech and PhD)
3. An Introduction to Popular Classics. (2012 – Present) (Single Instructor- UG) .
4. Culture, Art and Heritage. (2015- Present) (Single Instructor-UG) (Some guest lecture modules)

Courses Designed

1. English and Communication skills. (2012-Present)
2. Technical Communication. . (2012, 2013)
3. An Introduction to Popular Classics. (2012 – Present)
4. Culture, Art and Heritage. (2015- Present)

Publications

Peer Reviewed Book Chapter

Sarveswaran, Vidya. "The Ground of Our Being: Dear Governor Cuomo as a Planetary Narrative". *Ecocultural Ethics: Critical Essays*. USA: Lexington Press, Maryland USA, 2017. pp- 111-121.

Peer Reviewed Journal Papers

Sarveswaran, Vidya. "An Elephant in the Desert". *Trumpeter – A Journal of Ecophilosophy*. Athabasca University Press, Canada. April 2015.

Sarveswaran, Vidya. "Diseased Environments and Healing Gaia" in the Benjamin Franklin American Studies Research Institute, *CLYMA Series*, University of Alcalá, Spain April 2015.

Sarveswaran, Vidya. Commentary on "Homework" in the *Restoration Earth: An Interdisciplinary Journal for the Study of Nature and Civilization* published online From The Ocean Seminary Institute New Jersey. Vol.1.1 November 2011. pg. 42-43.

Sarveswaran, Vidya and Swarnalatha Rangarajan. "Ground Truthing - A study of Ecological Scapes in Terry Tempest Williams's *Unspoken Hunger: Stories from the Field* in *Contemporary Discourse*.1.1 (July) 2010: 7-12.

Sarveswaran, Vidya. "Interbeing- An Interview with Terry Tempest Williams" in the *Journal of American Studies of Turkey*. Fall 30 (2009):17-28. (PEER - REVIEWED INTERVIEW)

Sarveswaran, Vidya and Swarnalatha Rangarajan. "Gestalt ontology as a planetary culture in Terry Tempest Williams's *Finding Beauty in a Broken World*", Jadavpur University. *Journal of English Studies*. 23.1(April) 2009:35-46.

Sarveswaran, Vidya and Swarnalatha Rangarajan. "A perspective of Engagement: An Ecological Renaissance into 'The Garden of Earthly Delights' in Terry Tempest Williams's *Leap*", in the *Journal of the School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies*. Jawaharlal Nehru University. Spring (2009):33-40.

Sarveswaran, Vidya and Swarnalatha Rangarajan. "The Open Space of Democracy- Partnership ethics in Terry Tempest Williams's *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place*" in the *Scholastic International Research Journal of Language and Literature*, 1(September) 2009:128-139.

Sarveswaran, Vidya. "The Forest as a Sacramentalized Ecosystem in *Aranyak: Of the Forest*" in the *Indian Journal of Ecocriticism*, 1(August) 2008:83-92.

Sarveswaran, Vidya. "The Ground of Our Being - A study of Eroded scapes in the novel *Refuge* by Terry Tempest Williams" in the *ICFAI Journal of English Studies*, 2.3 (August) 2006:74-80.

Invited Review

Sarveswaran, Vidya. Review of *Mythologizing the Ecospace: An Analysis of the Tirumangai Alwar's Singavezh Kundram* in the *Trumpeter- A Journal of Ecophilosophy*, Athabasca University Press, Canada. June 2012.

Books:

Ecocriticism, Community and Development: Towards a Politicized Ecocriticism. Published by Lexington Press, Maryland, USA. Edited by Scott Slovic, Swarnalatha Rangarajan and Vidya Sarveswaran.2014.

Ecocriticism of the Global South. Published by Lexington Press, Maryland, USA. Edited by Scott Slovic, Swarnalatha Rangarajan and Vidya Sarveswaran, 2015.

Book in Progress:

Ecocriticism and Environmental Communication. Published by Routledge, USA 2018.

With Scott Slovic and Swarnalatha Rangarajan.

Other Publications

Critical Analysis of "Realities in the Fantasy of J.K.Rowling" with specific reference to the *Prisoner of Azkaban*, in the *Harry Potter Monograph* published by the Department of English, The Ethiraj College for Women.

Critical Appreciation of the collective fiction of Roald Dahl in the in-house journal published by the Department of English, The Ethiraj College for Women.

Sponsored Research Project

1. A Book Project titled, "Where the Bougainvillea Blooms: Stories of Place from a Resilient Landscape" from O.M.A.R. Foundation.(2014). The O.M.A.R Foundation works with OUP and funds Regional Literatures in English/Translation.
2. The Public Outreach Grant to make a documentary film from the Deutches Museum and the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society in Germany for the year 2017-2018.

Papers presented at National and International Conferences

Sarveswaran,Vidya. "From Gaia to Google Earth: The Urban and the Sacred in the Age of the Anthropocene".The 7th South and South East Asian Conference on Culture and Religion. Minh Dang Quang Dharma Institute. Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. July 2017. Conference Presentation.

---. Sarveswaran, Vidya. "The Ground Beneath their feet. Of People, Peacocks, Trees and Antelopes: The Bishnois of Rajasthan. International Interdisciplinary Conference on Environmental Justice, Ecocriticism and Literature". University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. August 2015. Conference Presentation.

---. "Sustainable Narratives and Terry Tempest Williams." A conference on Sustainability and Green Studies held in Nanyang Technological Institute, Singapore. July 2014. Conference Presentation.

---. "*Diseased Environments in Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place*" in the National Conference titled "*Rethinking Nature: The Relevance of Contemporary Green Studies, National Conference*". Ravenshaw University Bhubaneswar, Orissa. January 2013. Conference Presentation.

---. "The tree as a postcolonial trope in Perumal Murugan's *"Seasons of the Palm."*"Fifth Tamkang International Conference on Ecological Discourse." Taipei, Taiwan, 12-18 December 2010. Conference Presentation.

---. "Gestalt as the Mosaic in Terry Tempest Williams's *Finding Beauty in a Broken World"*. The Parliament of World Religions, Melbourne, Australia. 6-10 December 2009. Conference Presentation.

---."The Integrated scapes in Terry Tempest Williams's *Finding Beauty in a BrokenWorld"*. National Conference of Natural Resources - A Multi-religious Approach, Panayur, Chennai. 14-16 October 2009. Conference Presentation.

---. "A Perspective of Engagement: An Ecological Reconnaissance in The Garden of Earthly Delights in Terry Tempest Williams' *Leap*. The third International Conference, OSLE- India, Hyderabad. January 1-3 2008. Conference Presentation.

---. "Stewardship as a trope in Bibutibhushan Bandyopadhyaya's novel *Aranyak*." Second International Conference, OSLE-India. Bangalore, June 12-15 2007. Conference Presentation.

Research Advisor

Name of the Student: ABHRA PAUL. Ecocritical Analysis of the writings of Barbara Kingsolver (Ongoing)

Student Internships

Ecology and Sustainability: Tridibesh Dey from L'Ecole Polytechnique, Integrated Master's and Doctoral Degree, France.(April - August 2015).

Conferences Attended

International Conference of ASLE –India on Nature- Land, Landscape and Cultural Constructions of the Environment held on 21-23rd September 2006 at Pondicherry University.

National Conference on Globalization organized by the department of Humanities and Social Sciences held on November 2007 at IIT Madras.

National Conference on E-Governance held at the Ethiraj College for Women, February 2006.

State Level Conference on Environmental Sensitization and Disaster Management on January 2006.

Invited Talks, Lectures, Jury

Invited Speaker for the United States-based Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE), and the Edward M. Kennedy Center for Public Service and the Arts, Dhaka, at the International Interdisciplinary Conference on Ecocriticism, Environmental Justice and Literature on 07-08 August, 2015.

Invited Speaker for the Fulbright Orientation conducted by the United States Educational Foundation for the year 2010-2011.

Invited speaker for the ACCESS foundation program for educational institutions, an American Embassy venture, in July 2011.

Core Member of Jury for the Institute Blues committee at IIT Jodhpur 2013.

Member for the Intra, Inter – IIT festival Varchas and Ignus respectively at IIT Jodhpur 2012-2013.

Member of Jury for SOCH – a state wide essay writing competition conducted on behalf of Parivartan at IIT Jodhpur 2013.

Member of the Jury for “Short and Sweet”, the Chennai Theater Festival organized by the Prakriti Foundation and *The Hindu* group of papers. **2010.**

Resource person for a children’s film workshop organized by Satyam Cinemas in the year July 2007.

Resource person for a two week intensive visual communication program, organized by the Department of Visual Communication, Loyola College April - May 2003.

Short term courses, Workshops, Seminars

Was awarded the GIAN grant to conduct a workshop with Professor Scott Slovic from the University of Idaho, Moscow, USA IN 2016. The program is deferred to the next year.

One of the three conveners of the Faculty Development Program organized for faculty members at IIT Jodhpur, December 2014.

Co-Convener of the three day International workshop on Art, Culture and Heritage “Synthesizing Creative Spaces - From the Aesthetic to the Scientific” in December 2012 at IIT Jodhpur.

Coordinator of the Orientation program at IIT Jodhpur and organizer of the Popular Lecture series in June 2012.

Member of the Organizing Committee of the International Quantum Biology workshop at IIT Jodhpur, January 2013.

Member of the Organizing Committee for the Taj Conclave IIT Jodhpur workshop on Entrepreneurship - Low Cost Solutions on January 2013.

Worked as the student coordinator for the International Conference on Globalization at IIT Madras, held in the year 2006.

Co-coordinator of the committee for the UGC NAAC visit in Ethiraj College 2005.

The coordinator of the Placement Cell of the College organized a Fulbright orientation workshop with the USIEF for faculty and students at Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai in the year 2005.

Coordinator of the College Placement cell was one of the organizers (from a team of three) for a two day career fair (for students) named “**Bhavishya**” for two consecutive years (2004, 2005).

Organized a one day workshop by (Katha - A translation workshop) for faculty members in April 1995 at the Ethiraj College for Women.

Film Scripts

As a freelance script writer the candidate has scripted three documentaries and several corporate films.

A film commissioned by the **NFDC** of India called Oru Izhaiyin Payanam - ‘The journey of a thread’- on handlooms produced in 2008 for the Department of Handlooms, Government of India.

The second documentary on the life of the great Indian and International educationist Kuruville Jacob was screened for the Kuruville Jacob centenary celebrations held in August 2005.

The documentary on Vijay Amritraj, the United Nations Ambassador for Peace was screened for an international audience in America in the year 2000.

News Articles:

Contributor to the New **Indian Express school edition - The Express Group of Papers.**

Translation:

Translation of a poem by Shiv.K.Kumar from English to Tamil in a vernacular literary journal called Kanaiyazhi. (2001)

Other Academic Positions :

Student editor of the Indian Journal of Ecocriticism (IJE), a refereed international annual journal of ecocriticism for three issues. (2008-2011)

Copy editor for the *Trumpeter- An International Journal on Ecosophy*, Athabasca Press, Canada. (2006-2008)

Ad-hoc Reviewer for the *The Trumpeter- An International Journal on Ecosophy*, Athabasca Press, Canada.

Member, Editorial Board of the journal *Restoration Earth: An Interdisciplinary Study of Nature and Civilization*, Canada.

Administrative Responsibilities:

Head of the Humanities and Social Sciences Department and has conducted two Selection Committees for faculty recruitment at IIT Jodhpur. 2014-present

Senate Member of IIT Jodhpur. 2013 - Present

Chairperson for the **Distinguished Lecture Series in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.** 2014- Present

Chairperson of the Extra-Mural Lecture Committee at IIT Jodhpur. 2014-2015.

Editorial member for the News Letter of IIT Jodhpur.2013- Present.

Member of the core committee for the MHRD visit at IIT Jodhpur .2013.

Coordinator for the student activities for the MHRD team visit at IIT Jodhpur 2013.

Member of the core committee for the Convocation of IIT Jodhpur 2013.

Co-coordinator of the Orientation Program organized in June 2012 at IIT Jodhpur.

Officer in-charge of Foreign Students Affairs at IIT Jodhpur.2012.

Member of the Institute Annual Report Committee at IIT Jodhpur.2012

Core member of the Institute Governance Structure Committee at IIT Jodhpur.

Co-coordinator of the Student Counseling services at IIT Jodhpur.2102'

Coordinator of the Placement Cell in The Ethiraj College for Women for over a period of five years from 2000-2005.

Coordinator of the English Literary and Dramatics club in The Ethiraj College for Women from 1995- 2000.

Member of the presentation committee for the NAAC evaluation at the Ethiraj College for Women. 2005.

Member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Ethiraj College Magazine for the year 2005.

Languages: Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, English, Fench

Professional Memberships:

American Society for Literature and Environment (ASLE)

United State Educational Federation of India (USEFI)

The Fulbright Fellows Association of India.

The Rachel Carson Fellows Association, Munich, Germany.

Achievements in the field of extra-curriular activities in College:

Served as the **Secretary of the Literary and Dramatics club. 1992-95**

Editor of the College Campus paper "The Scrambler". 1991-92

Winner of the best-published article in "The Scrambler"1992

Member of the *college quiz team* and has won several prizes at both intra-college and inter-college levels including the prestigious:

Inter-collegiate quiz conducted by the Rotary Club of Madras. 1992.

The Gandhi Memorial Cup from the JBAS College for Women.1993.

Several quizzes conducted by the All India Radio.(1989-1995)

Won several awards at poetry reading and poetry writing competitions at Inter-collegiate level. (1992-95).

An active participant in dramatics and has won the" *"Best Actress"* award for four consecutive years. (1990, 1991, 1992, 1993).

Member of the College *Western and Indian Music Choir* and has performed at Inter-Collegiate Levels.(1989-1995)

Winner of the Second Prize at the certificate course in *Journalism* conducted by the College. (1992).

Produced programs for All India Radio- Youth slot in English.(1991-1995)

Compered programs within college and outside including YWCA and ISHRAE. (1994)

Worked as a *Translator* for a Madras University Project.(1994)

Worked as a *Reporter* for '*Side Walker*', a free city mailer. (1992)

Worked as a *Customer Care officer* for 'Cruise One Tours' a company based in Washington D.C. on their *tour of China*. (2000)

Sports

Has represented the college (University of Madras) at the zonal level in table tennis.

Academic Achievements in School

Winner of Certificate of Merit for Proficiency and the prize for the 'Best Effort' in Academics in School. (1987).

Stood first in the school in the Higher Secondary Examinations in the Liberal Arts Division. (1989).

Achievements in the field of Extra-Curricular activities in School

Member of the Student Union and has served as the *House Captain*. (1992).

Member of the *School quiz team*.(1986-1989).

President of the Literary and Debating Society in School.(1988-1989)

Member of the *Road Safety Patrol*.(1986-1987)

Member of the School *Indian and Western Music Choir*.(1985-1989)

Winner of several Essay and Poetry writing competitions at inter-school level.

Secured the *First Rank in school in the United Nations* Examination held by the United Indian School Organization. (1992).