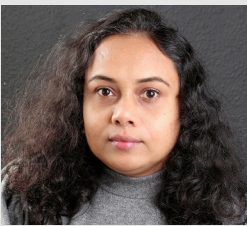




# WOMEN, LITERATURE, AND HUMAN RIGHTS: A CONVERSATION WITH SHARMILA SEYYID

MARCH 8, 2022 | 12:00-1:00 P.M. | VIRTUAL ([REGISTER HERE](#))

Please join us for a Human Rights Forum on International Women's Day for a conversation between UNO faculty, and author Sharmila Seyyid. Providing insights and interventions in the discourses of human rights, global literature, and feminism, Sharmila Seyyid's novel, *Ummath* (2018) asks its readers to pay attention to identities and issues that are easily obscured or ignored in dominant Western formations of the literary canon. In a discussion with the author, Drs. Tanushree Ghosh and Kristin Girten will explore the need for stories by and about women from the Global South, offering perspectives and contexts that complicate tropes of third-world victim-hood and highlight feminist thought and social justice actions. Discussion will be moderated by Dr. Laura Alexander



Sharmila Seyyid, Artist Protection Fund Fellow in residence at UNO, has dedicated her life to addressing the socio-economic vulnerability of women in Sri Lankan society through writing, activism, and social work. She was forced into exile when she was barely 30-years old as a result of her work. In addition to other human rights issues, her novels center on the multiple burdens that Tamil-speaking Muslim women in Sri Lanka face, especially in the wake of Sri Lanka's decades-long civil war. Seyyid has published both fiction and poetry, and her work has received awards including 'best novel of the year' for *Ummath*, which is available in English from HarperCollins. Two of her latest works will soon be published in English as well.



Dr. Tanushree Ghosh is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Her teaching and research interests range from nineteenth-century studies, visual culture and cinema studies, and postcolonial studies.



Dr. Kristin Girten is an Associate Professor of English and Assistant Vice Chancellor for the Arts and Humanities at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Her research focuses on intersections between literature, philosophy, and science in the British Enlightenment and the twenty-first century, giving special emphasis on how women and other marginalized groups contribute to and feel the effects of such intersections.

For more information:  
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