



# INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL STUDIES GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

## Spring 2017 Faculty Speaker Series

### Imperiled South Asian Muslim Girlhood and the Multicultural Imagination: Memorializing the Victims of 'Honour Killings' in Canada

by Prof. Eve Haque (Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics at York University in Toronto)



**Professor Haque**



Wednesday,  
April 19



12 noon–1:15pm

**Burns Hall 2118**

**Abstract:** With Islamophobia on the rise and violence against Muslim women most frequently invoked as a rationale for Islamophobia, this presentation will contribute to the discussion that examines the connection between gendered Orientalism and white settler nationalism, specifically in Canada (Zine, 2006; Razack, 2007; Jiwani, 2010). This presentation will examine the memorialization in Pelham – a small town in rural Southern Ontario – of an 'honour killing' which took place in Mississauga, Ontario back in 2007. On September 18th, 2009 at the town square in front of Pelham town hall, a granite memorial bench donated by local business Kirkpatrick Monuments was dedicated to Aqsa Parvez, a 16 year old Canadian Mississauga high school student murdered by her father and older brother on December 10, 2007. This presentation will examine the specific events and rationales that led to the town's decision to create and dedicate a memorial to Aqsa Parvez, even though there had never been any personal connection between Aqsa, her family and the town of Pelham, Ontario. This presentation will examine how discourses of multicultural tolerance – and the stated limit thereof – are a central strategy in the articulation of forms of exclusion such as Islamophobia and concrete assertions of white settler national identity and solidarity, with the pernicious outcome of preventing effective anti-violence programming for such incidents of racialized gendered violence.

**Bio:** Eve Haque's research and teaching interests include language policy and planning, ethnolinguistic nationalism, multiculturalism and immigrant language training. She has published in such journals as *Social Identities*, *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development* and *Pedagogy, Culture and Society*, among others. She is also the author of *Multiculturalism within a bilingual framework: Language, race and belonging in Canada* (University of Toronto Press, 2012).

Note: This talk is held in conjunction with the Center for South Asian Studies' Annual Symposium (from April 19-21, 2017) with funding from the Rama Watumull Collaborative Lecture Series Fund of the Center for South Asian Studies (CSAS).

Please Also Attend: **Spring 2017 Capstone Forum**

Details to be announced.

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