

# PHD APPLICATION SERVICE

## ELEMENT TWO



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support@oxbridgeessays.com

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# PHD TITLES & RATIONALES

*3 x original PhD Titles & Rationales for the topic identified in the Zoom call.*

## **Multicultural Intimacies: Memory, Displacement and Identity in Contemporary British South Asian Fiction**

This title focuses on contemporary British-South Asian fiction, which is Sarah's specific research interest, and will address issues of class, race and identity, building on research conducted for her MA dissertation, with a focus on reaching an understanding of intimacy. It will focus on as-to-now critically overlooked authors, such as Kamila Shamsie, Sunjeev Sahota, and Preti Taneja, identified by Sarah as being some of the writers that interest her.

## **Beyond Multiculturalism: Postcolonial Feminism and the Reimagining of British Literary Identity in Twenty-First Century Fiction**

This title focuses on contemporary debates concerning British multicultural identities, moving beyond the limiting notion of multiculturalism to a more complex understanding of identity, community and home. By focusing on twenty-first century fiction, it includes contemporary novels, which suits Sarah's background. It builds on Sarah's research interest in gender and postcolonialism by adopting an intersectional lens.

## **Intimate Cartographies: Domestic Space, Agency and Memory in the Contemporary Postcolonial British Novel**

This title reflects Sarah's interest in domesticity in the social construction of home and identity, which her MA thesis touched on. It builds on Sarah's interest in feminist spatial theory and uses this to propose a theoretical framework that connects personal geographies with larger cultural and global geographies. It would give Sarah the opportunity to make a unique contribution to the field as it addresses a gap in research.