

CASI Seminar Series Spring 2024

Expert Disenchantment: The Affective Consequences of the Scientific Pursuit of Quality in Postcolonial Markets

In partnership with the South Asia Center

Thursday, January 25 | 12 pm (In-person)

Amrita Kurian is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania. She has a Ph.D. in Sociocultural Anthropology from UC San Diego and an M.Phil in Sociology from the Delhi School of Economics. Her ethnographic research is based in the Flue-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco sector in rural Andhra Pradesh, India, where she studies experts' scientific and affective mediation of markets and agrarian relations of production. Her articles titled "Flowers of Deception," "Expert Disenchantment," and "Progressive Farmers" are at various stages of review in *Cultural Anthropology*, *Science, Technology, and Human Values*, and *Geoforum*. Her essay "Accusations of Corruption: A Cautionary Tale from Indian Tobacco Auctions" was published in *India in Transition* and *Scroll.in*.

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Light refreshments will be served