

# CASI Seminar Series

## Spring 2025

**April 17**  
**(12pm)**

# Rethinking Social Safety Nets in a Changing Society:

## Evidence from India Human Development Survey

**Sonalde Desai** (University of Maryland)

In partnership with the South Asia Center & Dept of Sociology

Sonalde Desai is Distinguished University Professor Emerita in the Department of Sociology, University of Maryland. She is a demographer whose work deals primarily with social inequalities in developing countries with a particular focus on gender and class inequalities. She studies inequalities in education, employment, and maternal and child health outcomes by locating them within the region's political economy. She has published articles in a wide range of sociological and demographic journals, including *American Sociological Review*, *Demography*, *Population and Development Review*, and *Feminist Studies*. Professor Desai is currently examining changes in the nature and composition of Indian middle classes in the context of India's movement from state-capitalism to market-capitalism and increasing involvement in the global economy. She is the principal investigator for the India Human Development Survey (IHDS), India's first nationwide panel survey of over 40,000 households, the data of which is publicly available and being utilized by more than 11,000 users worldwide.

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Light refreshments will be served