

**Buffett Undergraduate Research Fellowship Opportunity**

*Delhi Painters in the Shadow of Empire*

**Faculty Mentor:** Yuthika Sharma, Assistant Professor, Art History (Evanston campus)

**Project Synopsis:** Delhi Painters in the Shadow of Empire 1739-1911

My monograph sheds light on a little known group of painters who changed the course of Mughal painting in the 18th and 19th centuries as Indian society grappled with the rising dominance of British colonial power and waning Mughal sovereignty. Through an analysis of the visual culture of this period as reflected in the paintings, manuscripts and fashion accessories – the book tackles questions of modernity and indigeneity through a study of the role of Indian painters working for both the Mughal court and British East India Company merchants in the capital city of Delhi. Their artistic vision was to have long standing consequences for the rise of the genre of architectural drawing and portraiture, giving rise to a nationalist vocabulary of painting in India at the turn of the 19th century.

**Project Term:** Summer + academic year, Summer 2024, Fall 2024, Winter 2025

**Project Location:** Hybrid, in person and remote. There may be some library work involved which may require travel to US and UK museums.

**Ideal Applicant:** The research assistant will be an important part of the process for the finalization of the manuscript: they will have an opportunity to learn about art historical methods, visual analysis, proof reading, and preparing notes and a bibliography. A significant responsibility will be securing image permissions from repositories and museums worldwide and acting as an interface with these international institutions. There may be a travel component involved to US and UK museums. Where needed, the student may be asked to conduct research on primary and secondary sources for the book. Having experience in Hindi-Urdu (written) will be an additional asset but is not necessary for this position. This will be an opportunity to hone skills in scholarly writing and research, work with digital tools, and be part of this exciting project. If you are someone who loves research and writing and has an eye for detail, this is the position for you!

**Number of Available Positions:** One