TEXAS STATE VITA

I. Academic/Professional Background

A. **Name:** Nithya Sivashankar **Title:** Dr.

B. Educational Background

Degree	*Year*	*University*	*Major*	*Thesis/ Dissertation*
Ph.D.	2020	The Ohio State University	Literature for Children and Young Adults, Teaching and Learning	"'A line of humans like ants crossing the desert': Empathy and the Ethics of Representation in Picturebooks about Displacement and Refugee Experiences"
MA	2013	University of Central Lancashire	Writing for Children	"Looking for the 'Contemporary Indian Girl': An Analysis of the Representation of Female Protagonists in English-Language Indian Illustrated Texts"
B.Tech	2010	P.S.G. College of Technology, Anna University	Biotechnology	"Screening of Phytosterols For Their Role as 5-Alpha Reductase Inhibitors"

C. University Experience

2021-Present Assistant Professor, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX, USA.

2020 Graduate Teaching Associate, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.

2019 Junior Summer Institute Instructor (Immigration), Young Scholars Program, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.

2015-2019 Graduate Teaching Associate, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.

2017 Graduate Teaching Associate Training Facilitator, University Center for the Advancement of Teaching, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.

E. Other Professional Credentials (licensure, certification, etc.)

- Minor in English, The Ohio State University
- Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in South Asian Studies, The Ohio State University

II. TEACHING

A. Teaching Honors and Awards:

2017 & 2018 Two-time Graduate Associate Teaching Award Nominee, University Center for the Advancement of Teaching, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.

B. Courses Taught:

The following courses were taught at Texas State University

Course Number	*Title of the Course*
ENG 2340	World Literature Since 1600
ENG 3301	Critical Approaches for English Majors
ENG 3385	Children's Literature
ENG 3386	Adolescent Literature
ENG 4385	Advanced Studies in Children's or Adolescent Literature
ENG 5388	Studies in Literature for Children or Adolescents

C. Directed Student Learning:

MA Literature Theses
Committee Member and Reader, Jubril Badmus, Fall 2025
Committee Member and Reader, Charmaine Denison-George, Fall 2023-Spring 2024

Committee Member and Reader, Bailey J Stephens, Fall 2022-Spring 2023
Thesis Advisor, Animate Mazurek, Spring 2022-Fall 2022
Committee Member and Reader, Juan Flores, Fall 2021

MA Area Exam Supervisor
Marisa Rivas, Spring 2024
Shravani Karna, Spring 2024
Esra Nizami, Fall 2023
Jennifer Ramirez, Spring 2023

BA Honors Theses
Thesis Advisor, Tori Shumate, Fall 2022 (Incomplete)

III. SCHOLARLY/CREATIVE

A. Works in Print (including works accepted, forthcoming, in press):

1. Books:

Chapters in Books:

Forthcoming Sivashankar, Nithya. "Rethinking the Application of Narrative Theory to Children's Literature." *Routledge Handbook of Research on Diversity in Children's and Young Adult Literature*. Eds. Patricia Enciso, Sarah Park Dahlen & Ebony Elizabeth Thomas. **(Invited).**

Forthcoming Degener, Rebekah, Nithya Sivashankar & Sarah E. Jackson. "Love, Land, and Restoration: Prioritizing Peritext in Picturebooks about the Natural World." *Literacy for Earthlings: Children's Literature, Climate Crises and the Classroom.* Eds. Ben Screech and Nick Kleese. Brill.

2020 Sivashankar, Nithya. ""I Would Not Be a Pilgrim": Examining the Construction of the Muslim Child in *The Peacock Garden*." *Literary Cultures and Twentieth Century Childhoods*. Eds. Rachel Conrad and Brown Kennedy. Palgrave Macmillan. **(Invited).**

2019 Sivashankar, Nithya. "Creating Worlds from Wordlessness in *The Arrival*: A Dramatic Dialogic Inquiry Approach to Immigration with Pre-Service Teachers." *Immigrant Experiences: Expanding the School-Home-Community Dialogue.* Eds. Ruth McKoy Lowery, Mary Ellen Oslick and Rose M. Pringle. Rowman & Littlefield. **(Invited).**

2019 Enciso, Patricia, **Nithya Sivashankar** & Sarah Fletcher. "Dramatizing the Social Mind in *Out of Darkness*." *Engaging Critically with Multicultural Young Adult Literature in the Secondary Classroom*. Eds. Ricki Ginsberg and Wendy J. Glenn. Routledge.

2. Articles:

Refereed Journal Articles:

2025 Viswanath, Tharini & **Nithya Sivashankar.** "'I'd really really like a boyfriend': A Narratological Examination of Adolescence, Ideology, and Subjectivity in Indian/Indian American YA Netflix Romances." *Journal of Popular Romance Studies.*

2025 Degener, Rebekah May, **Nithya Sivashankar** & Sarah E. Jackson. "Critical Peritextual Analysis: Critical Possibilities of Peritext in Books for Young Readers." *Research on Diversity in Youth Literature*, vol. 6, no.2, pp.1-27.

2024 Sivashankar, Nithya. "'Tell Pebble All About It': Displacement and Distancing in Contemporary Picturebooks about Arab Refugees" *Bookbird*, vol. 62, no. 1, pp. 13-21.

2022 Sarah E. Jackson, Rebekah Degener and **Nithya Sivashankar**. "The Roots Beneath the Fruit: Reading for Justice and Action in Picturebooks about Food." *Journal of Children's Literature*.

2021 **Sivashankar, Nithya** & Tharini Viswanath. "Beyond Bollywood: Identifying and Analyzing Problematic Stereotypes in Indian American Young Adult Novels." *The ALAN Review*.

2019 **Sivashankar, Nithya**, Sarah E. Jackson & Rebekah May Degener. "Centering the Margins: Investigating Relationships, Power, and Culture through Critical Peritextual Analysis." *Children's Literature in Education*.

2019 Sivashankar, Nithya. "Religion, Riots and Rift: Representations of the Partition of 1947 in English-Language Illustrated Books." *Research on Diversity in Youth Literature*, vol. 1, no. 2, pp.1-30.

2016 Enciso, Patricia, Brian Edmiston, Alison Volz, Bridget Lee & **Nithya Sivashankar**. ""I'm Trying to Save Some Lives Here!": Critical Dramatic Inquiry in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina." *English Teaching: Practice & Critique* 15.3.

Non-refereed Articles:

2026 Sivashankar, Nithya. "Beyond Research: Sharing Stories from Diverse Communities." *Ethics, Practicing Children's Literature Studies: Conducting Research and Building a Career* (**Invited section in a book chapter**).

2020 Sivashankar, Nithya. "2020 CaldeNotts." *Calling Caldecott: The Horn Book Inc.* **(Invited).**

2018 Sivashankar, Nithya. “Building Relationships with Students.” *Imagination and Inquiry: Teaching Children’s and Young Adult Literature at the University.*

6. Book Reviews:

2020 Sivashankar, Nithya. Review of *Global Perspectives on Death in Children’s Literature* by Lesley D. Clement and Leyli Jamali (Eds.). *The Lion and the Unicorn.*

2020 Sivashankar, Nithya. Review of *Children’s Literature from Asia in Today’s Classrooms: Towards Culturally Authentic Interpretations* by Yukari Takimoto Amos and Daniel Miles Amos. *Research on Diversity in Youth Literature.* (**Invited)**.

2019 Sivashankar, Nithya. Review of *The Night Diary* by Veera Hiranandani. *WOW Review: Reading Across Cultures* 11.3.

2019 Sivashankar, Nithya. Review of *Amal Unbound* by Aisha Saeed. *WOW Review: Reading Across Cultures* 11.2.

7. Essays:

2014 Sivashankar, Nithya. “Sami Culture.” *Life Beneath the Northern Lights* Ed. Lizzy Pattison. Preston: UCLan Publishing, 2014.