

**From:** [webteam@langara.ca](mailto:webteam@langara.ca) <[webteam@langara.ca](mailto:webteam@langara.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 9, 2022 5:31 PM  
**To:** Scholarly Activity <[scholarlyactivity@langara.ca](mailto:scholarlyactivity@langara.ca)>  
**Subject:** New submission from ARC Award Final Report

**Name of Researcher**

Gagun S. Chhina

**Department/Faculty**

Sociology

**Position in Department/Faculty**

Lecturer

**Project Title**

Attitudes and Intentions: Thoughts of Education and Learning Among South Asian Students

**Term of Project**

2017 Fall

**Please introduce yourself – include pertinent background information relating to the topic of your research project.**

My name is Dr. Gagun S. Chhina. I am a lecturer in the department of Sociology and Anthropology at Langara college. My specialty is race and ethnicity, globalisation, south asia and technology.

**Please discuss your educational background and your work experience that led you to taking on this research project. If possible, include a quote that helps define your interest in this project.**

PhD Sociology University of Manchester  
Research: My thesis critically interrogates the role of cultural and social conditions in the adoption and interpretation of technology and practices in India. During my PhD I conducted field research in India for a period of 4 ½ months in Chandigarh.

Masters of Sociology: Policy and Applied Social Research  
Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia  
Research: I examined the social aspects of video game play. My research strongly suggested that virtual community members create strong and lasting interactions that unite them.

Bachelors with Honours in Sociology  
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

**Please summarize your project in plain language that others not in your field could understand.**

This study critically examines how international South Asian students attending Langara college view education. The intention of this work is to understand the academic and behavioural rationale of South Asian international students.

**Identify the project goals and objectives. Explain how the results may be used to solve a problem or inform further research in the field.**

This research directly contributes to the enhancement of student learning as it attempts to examine the motivations of international South Asian students at Langara college. Through the understanding of the

motives and rationale of international South Asian students we hope to provide some contribution to the enhancement of student learning at the college. My aspiration is that this research provides both communicative knowledge for instructors about their rapidly changing student body informing modes of teaching which may better serve both our instructors and students while simultaneously facilitating the understanding of how the college institution can more effectively deploy its resources to enhance student experience.

### **Briefly explain the steps taken (methods used) to conduct the research, and describe the key findings.**

The research project was conducted firstly by recruiting student participants across various disciplines (e.g. business administration, chemistry, computer science, economics, nursing). Students were informed that participation in this research was strictly voluntary. A small number of students were also video recorded. The interviews were conducted in English, however, occasionally Hindi or Punjabi was used when there were communication difficulties.

The second step entailed a verbatim transcribing of the student audio interviews. Finally, all interviews were imported into the software NVIVO for data management which allowed me to more easily code and organise the transcripts. I developed a coding framework using thematic analysis based upon multiple readings. The purpose of thematic coding is to identify themes and categories that emerge from the data through readings of the transcripts. I highlighted the emerging themes in NVIVO which generated multiple separate documents based upon the thematic categories. The generated documents were analysed for both frequency of the themes occurrence and the conversational context in which the theme was stated.

### **Who was involved in this project (eg. faculty, students, community partners)? How did their involvement contribute to the project's success? Were there any challenges to overcome?**

I hired two SWAP students to help with the participant recruitment. The recruitment process would have been impossible without their help. A company was also hired to complete the transcription. Christy Leung was also hired as a research assistant.

### **Please share any personal stories that made this research experience memorable/valuable.**

Sorry, no, I do not have any personal stories.

However, I seemed to have underestimated the amount of work that this project required. My advice for future researchers is to take more breaks to avoid burnout.

### **What are the next steps for this project and for you as a researcher?**

After I complete this project I would like to write several academic articles based upon the research. I have uploaded a draft of a submitted article. I hope to submit two articles for publication. I am currently working on my second article.

### **Please upload any images that will help to showcase your project.**

- [We-are-Brown-Money-Bags-Indian-Int-Students-Submission-Draft.pdf](#)

### **Langara Institutional Repository Consent**

By submitting, I consent to uploading my ARC Fund final report to the Langara Institutional Repository (The LaIR).