

Tkach, Colleen

From: Inform
Subject: EM: Professor Koul Spring 2026 Literature Courses: LIT 148 & LIT 154

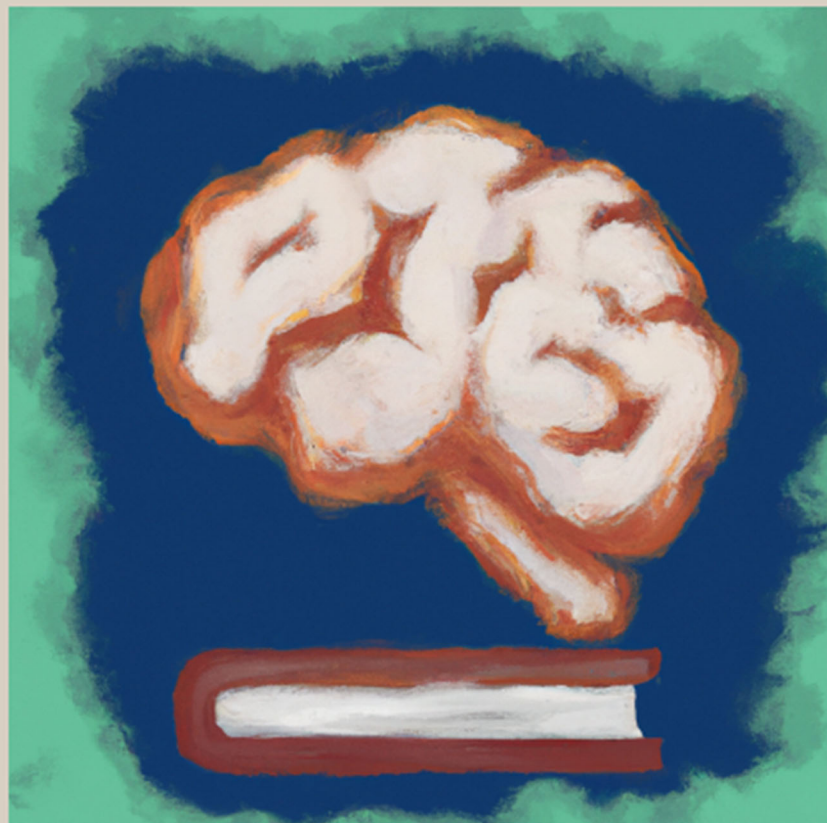
Sent on Behalf of Professor Koul

LIT 148: Literature & the Brain:
Spring 2026: CMC Roberts South 102
MW 4:15 pm-5.30 pm

Reading and writing literature have always been predicated on beliefs and assumptions about how literature plays with the human mind. With recent developments in neuroscience and experimental psychology, scholars now have unprecedented access into the human brain, with many questions yet to be answered about how its operations yield “the mind.” How should emerging research in cognitive and neuroscience inform our understanding of the nature and function of literary texts? What does literature do to us? And how does literature itself illuminate the functioning of the human mind? Students from all intellectual backgrounds welcome.

LIT 154: Europe/India: Literatures in Conversation
Spring 2026: CMC Bauer Center 23
MW 1:15 pm-2.30 pm

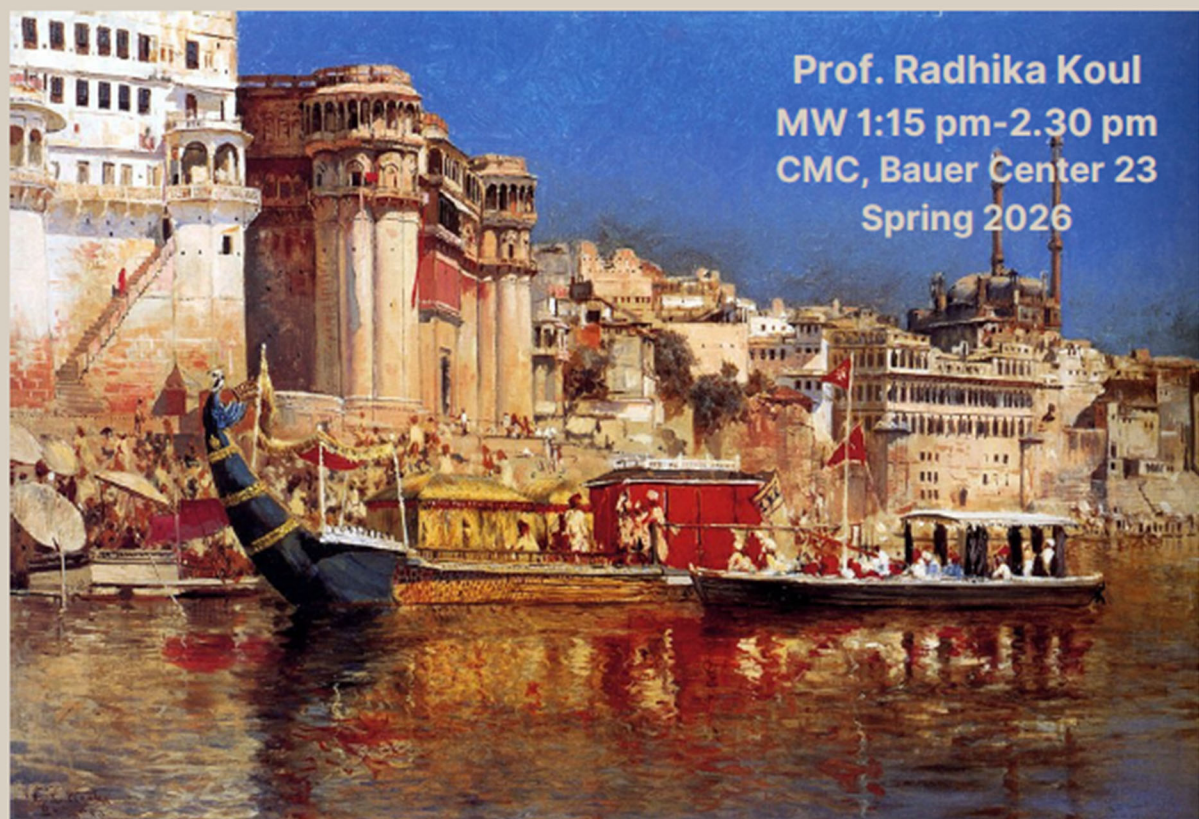
This course is concerned with the core questions we ask of literature: Why do we read stories? What do they do to us? How do they reflect and probe the human condition? In developing a cross-cultural understanding of the same general problems, the course poses a question that has even greater stakes in our globalizing world: how can we make cultures converse with each other? Topics of particular interest will be conceptualizations of the “world” itself, the reception of tradition, the status of translation, and the aftermaths of imperialism. Authors include Aristotle, Sappho, Rushdie and Bacchan.



Prof. Radhika Koul
MW 4:15 pm-5.30 pm
CMC, Roberts South 102
Spring 2026

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