



# ECU Religious Studies Program

## 30th Distinguished Lecture on Religion and Culture

Featuring Dr. Leela Prasad presenting:  
**Possession, Place, and Pact in Making a Generous World**

**Thursday, October 26, 2023**  
**at 7:00 p.m.**  
**ECU Hendrix Theatre**



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How might ancient and medieval Indian traditions of sculpture, song, and story speak generosity into the ethics and poetics of a troubled modern world? I'll show how these old traditions can have relevance, bringing life to our times through claiming ownership of space and things and through spoken and unspoken agreements that dwell between us.

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Dr. Prasad is an expert in several areas, including colonialism and decoloniality, Gandhi, religion and modernity, and the intersections of religion, anthropology, history, and literature. She authored *Poetics of Conduct: Narrative and Moral Being in a South Indian Town* (Columbia University Press, 2007), which was awarded the “Best First Book in the History of Religions Prize” by the American Academy of Religion. She also authored *The Audacious Raconteur: Sovereignty and Storytelling in Colonial India* (Cornell University Press, 2020). In 2019, Leela was awarded the Dean’s Award for Excellence in Mentoring by Duke’s Graduate School. She is Vice-President of the American Academy of Religion and will serve as its President in 2024-25.

Read more about her here: <https://scholars.duke.edu/person/leela>

**Free tickets. Register here.**

The 30th Distinguished Lecture of Religion and Culture is co-sponsored by the ECU Religious Studies Program and the J. Woolard and Hellen Peel Distinguished Chair in Religious Studies.

Please direct any questions to Dr. Mary Nyangweso at 252-737-2422 or visit the Religious Studies website at <https://religionprogram.ecu.edu/about/lecture/> for more details about the lecture series.

*Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252-737-1016 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours before the event.*



[go.ecu.edu/religious-studies-lecture](https://go.ecu.edu/religious-studies-lecture)