

# “A POST-9/11 BROWN CRITIQUE OF U.S. EMPIRE: DESI RAPPERS BRIDGE INTER-MINORITY & INTERNATIONAL DIVISIONS THROUGH HIP HOP”

*a public lecture by*

## NITASHA TAMAR SHARMA

**Assistant Professor**

**African-American Studies & Asian-American Studies  
Northwestern University**



In this multimedia presentation, Dr. Sharma will draw upon her decade-long fieldwork on twenty-four South Asian American (desi) hip hop artists who invoke Black popular culture to critique inequalities. Focusing on the lives and lyrics of desi rappers, this talk highlights how these MCs use hip hop to articulate cross-racial connections between South Asians and Blacks. The second half of the talk features the recent music of these artists who express even broader and more inclusive--cross-national and cross-religious--identifications as they comment upon the struggles of youth in the recent revolutions in the Middle East and North Africa. Trained as an anthropologist, Dr. Sharma focuses on "unlikely encounters" among minority populations that illustrate the development of an expansive and progressive "global race consciousness."

**date/time** Monday, March 5th, 2012 at 4pm

**location** 220 Eggers Hall

