

Manisha Sinha, Ph.D.

Draper Chair in American History at University of Connecticut

Storrs, CT, US

Dr. Sinha is an expert in Civil War and Reconstruction

Biography

Manisha Sinha is professor and the James L. and Shirley A. Draper Chair in American History. She was born in India and received her Ph.D from Columbia University where her dissertation was nominated for the Bancroft prize. She was awarded the Chancellor's Medal, the highest honor bestowed on faculty and received the Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award in Recognition of Outstanding Graduate Teaching and Advising from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where she taught for over twenty years. Her recent book *The Slave's Cause* was reviewed by *The Times Literary Supplement*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Atlantic*, and *The Boston Globe*, among other newspapers and journals. It was featured as the Editor's Choice of the *New York Times Book Review*. It was named the book of the week by *Times Higher Education* in May, 2016 to coincide with its UK publication and one of three Great History Books for 2016 in *Bloomberg News*. Her first book, *The Counterrevolution of Slavery*, was named one of the ten best books on slavery in *Politico* in 2015. In 2017, she was named one of Top Twenty Five Women in Higher Education by the magazine *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*. Sinha's research interests lie in United States history, especially the transnational histories of slavery and abolition and the history of the Civil War and Reconstruction. She is a member of the Council of Advisors of the Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery at the Schomburg, New York Public Library, co-editor of the "Race and the Atlantic World, 1700-1900," series of the University of Georgia Press, and is on the editorial board of the *Journal of the Civil War Era*. She has written for *The New York Times*, *The New York Daily News*, *Time Magazine*, *CNN*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Washington Post*, and *The Huffington Post* and been interviewed by *The Times of London*, *The Boston Globe*, and *Slate*. She appeared on *Jon Stewart's The Daily Show* in 2014. She was an adviser and on-screen expert for the Emmy nominated PBS documentary, *The Abolitionists* (2013), which is a part of the NEH funded *Created Equal* film series. Professor Sinha is on leave for the 2016-2017 academic year working on her new book on abolition and the making of Radical Reconstruction.

Areas of Expertise

Feminism, Abolition, Slavery

Affiliations

Society of Historians of the Early American Republic, President (2024)

Education

Accomplishments

2022 Guggenheim Fellow

The 2022 fellowship class comprises artists and scholars from throughout the United States and Canada and includes those whose expertise varies from the natural sciences to social sciences, humanities to creative arts. Sinha is one of five to receive awards for research in U.S. history and was among nearly 2,500 fellowship applicants.

2021 Universität Heidelberg James W.C. Pennington Award

The Pennington Award is bestowed by the Heidelberg Center for American Studies and the Faculty of Theology. It commemorates the American pastor and former slave James W.C. Pennington, who received an honorary doctorate from the Ruperto Carola in 1849, making him the first African American to receive this academic honor from a European university.

Top 25 Women in Higher Education and Beyond

Diverse: Issues in Higher Education

[Please click here to view the full profile.](#)

This profile was created by [Expertfile.](#)