How did poetry in Hindi, the national language of India, change once the classical erotic mode of srngara was deemed “obscene”?

How did realist claims of biological truths help justify srngara’s erotic literary past?

How do claims of cultural authenticity impinge upon literary depictions of women?

Join Dr. Ritter as she examines early twentieth-century Hindi authors’ criticisms of classically-styled erotic poetry and the related turn to realist “scenes of nature” in modern literature.

Dr. Ritter is an Assistant Professor in the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. Her research has focused on late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Hindi poetry and poetics, and their post-colonial interpretations.