

# 2021

## UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE GRADUATE SCHOOL ALUMNI FELLOW

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**SHYAM SHARMA**  
'08, '12



### Alumni:

10:00am-11:00am	Interview w/Shyam
11:00am-12:30pm	Workshop w/grad students
12:30-1:15pm	Lunch w/students
1:15-1:45pm	Break
1:45pm-2:45pm	Session w/faculty

**While a student, he helped develop professional development programs for graduate students that have won national attention for UofL.**

### Humanities 300:

#### **Nodes of Kindness: Attracting, Retaining, and Supporting International Students**

The United States has been an uncontested leader in international higher education since the middle of the last century, in spite of increasingly concerning jolts to the system in the past two decades. Starting with a brief, thematic synopsis of the history (from his upcoming book) and highlights of current trajectories (global numbers and mobility, pandemic's disruption, geopolitical shifts), Dr. Sharma will share practical strategies used by universities across the US in recruiting, retaining, and enhancing the academic success of international students (his last book). The talk will invite faculty and staff members interested in the institutional and programmatic missions of recruiting and supporting international students a shared mission, helping them explore how their local actions are (and can best be) connected to institutional mission and national/global dynamics.

#### **Leveraging Opportunities as a Graduate Student and Beyond**

Feeling lost, frustrated, even angry? "That is a potential sign of an international student starting to find a way out for themselves," says Dr. Shyam Sharma, who felt the same way when he arrived at UofL fifteen plus years ago. "It could also be the beginning of that student contributing to the wellbeing and success of other students." Join this workshop to explore how you can develop strategies to tackle challenges as an international student, using the strategies to also contribute to an environment of mutual support and shared opportunities. As Graduate Alumni Fellow of the Year, we've also asked Shyam to share his story at UofL, and he's going to draw some lessons from his experiences that will inspire you. He will integrate discussions and practical activities, including a thought-provoking "future CV" exercise along the way.