A "Culture-Bound Syndrome" is a mental disorder that is alleged to be found only in particular cultural contexts. The concept ought to be welcomed by those who believe that culture plays an important role in mental health and illness. Nevertheless, it has been roundly criticised from a variety of angles, including by advocates of cultural psychiatry. In this talk I summarise the concept and the various criticisms of it, and then defend it on the basis of my own fieldwork amongst "footpath pharmacists" in North India on a classic culture-bound syndrome: dhat syndrome or "semen loss anxiety."

**Tuesday, January 15**  
17:15-18:45  
Room Z10, South Asia Institute