Swati as a faculty advisor:

I Am Happy to Work with Students in the Following Genres/Areas: My favorite genre is YA, and I am interested in stories of any genre that are multicultural or contain an interaction of visual art with prose. So I am happy to work with YA, graphic novels, graphic memoirs, picture books, and multicultural pieces/ underrepresented voices in fiction.

Other Things to Know About Me as an Advisor: I believe that we learn best by leveraging our strengths to bolster our weaknesses. So, I tend to give a hearty helping of identifying both in my critiques, with an eye to emphasizing the strengths that will best develop the work and voice. I also thrive off of providing individual learning, so I am interested in giving feedback appropriate to where students are in both their writing development and their current project. I like to have at least one phone conversation per semester. I prefer to work electronically but only if documents are submitted as word docs so I can use track changes to "scribble" in the margins. I will also provide a very detailed letter containing 4 of the 5 following sections: description of the work so that the writer can more easily see what is on the page, questions to explore, strengths, concerns, and suggestions. Additionally, I might provide some writing exercises during the term to keep the pen moving and support exploration "outside of the story".

In addition to Hamline, I've also taught at creative writing and literature at The University of Minnesota, The Loft Literary Center, Anoka-Ramsey Community College and Normandale Community College.

Books of Mine I Recommend That You Read: Of the vast quantity of novels I have published, I'd say... Split. If you are interested in multiple POVs or multicultural fiction, take a look at my short story, "Swallow" published in Water~Stone Review.