

TAHSEEN SHAMS

Department of Sociology, University of Toronto
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

- 2018 – Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Toronto - St. George
- Cross-Appointed Faculty, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy
 - Faculty Affiliate, Institute of Islamic Studies, University of Toronto
 - Faculty Affiliate, School of Cities, University of Toronto
- 2020-21 Bissell-Heyd Research Fellow
Centre for the Study of the United States, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

EDUCATION

- 2018 Ph.D. Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles
2014 M.A. Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles
2012 B.S. Sociology (*Summa Cum Laude*), University of Southern Mississippi

RESEARCH AREAS

International Migration, Race/Ethnicity, Globalization, Nationalism, Muslims, South Asian Americans

BOOK

- 2020 Here, There, and Elsewhere: The Making of Immigrant Identities in a Globalized World
(Stanford University Press)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2019 Shams, Tahseen. "Successful yet Precarious: South Asian Muslim Americans, Islamophobia, and the Model Minority Myth." *Sociological Perspectives*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0731121419895006>.
- *Honorable Mention, Best Scholarly Article Award 2020, Global and Transnational Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association*
- 2018 Shams, Tahseen. "Visibility as Resistance by Muslim Americans in a Surveillance and Security Atmosphere." *Sociological Forum* 33(1): 73-94.
- 2017 Shams, Tahseen. "Mirrored Boundaries: How Ongoing Homeland-Hostland Contexts Shape Bangladeshi Immigrant Collective Identity Formation." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 40(4): 713-731.
- 2015 Shams, Tahseen. "Bangladeshi Muslims in Mississippi: Impression Management Based on the Intersectionality of Religion, Ethnicity, and Gender." *Cultural Dynamics* 27(3): 379-397.

- 2015 Shams, Tahseen. "The Declining Significance of Race or the Persistent Racialization of Blacks?: A Conceptual, Empirical, and Methodological Review of Today's Race Debate in America." *Journal of Black Studies* 46(3): 282-296.
- 2013 Reid, Julie and Tahseen Shams. "Gender and Multigenerational Global Human Development." *Sociology Compass* 7/8: 612-629.

ARTICLE MANUSCRIPT IN PROGRESS

Shams, Tahseen. "Homeland and Heartland: Reconceptualizing the 'Muslim' 'Diaspora'" (Under Review)

Shams, Tahseen and John O'Brien. "What Kind of Category is 'Muslim' Anyway?: Muslimness in Race, Religion, and Migration Scholarship" (In preparation)

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

"Searching for Halal Love: Race, Religion, and Romance in Interracial and Interfaith Relationships in the United States and Canada" (book project; grant for preliminary fieldwork received)

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- 2019 Connaught New Researcher Award, University of Toronto (\$19,700)
- 2017 Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA (\$20,000)
- 2017 Institute of American Cultures Graduate/Pre-doctoral Fellowship, UCLA (\$6,000)
- 2016 Graduate Division Award, UCLA (\$18,000)
- 2014 Department of Sociology Summer Conference Travel Grant, UCLA
- 2013 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (\$102,000)
- 2013 Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship, UCLA (\$6,000)
- 2012 Graduate Division Award, UCLA (\$17,000)
- 2012 Best Paper Dealing with an International or Transnational Issue, USM (\$500)
- 2012 Best Paper Dealing with an Issue of Race/Ethnicity, 2nd Place, USM (\$250)
- 2012 Outstanding Service Award, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, USM
- 2011 Best Oral Delivery Award, USM (\$250)
- 2011 Best Paper Using Interviews as Primary Source, USM (\$500)
- 2009-12 President's List, USM
- 2011 Sociology Student of the Year, USM
- 2011 Alpha Kappa Delta Best Sociology Paper of the Year, USM
- 2011 Outstanding Service Award, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, USM

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 Panelist. "South Asian Muslim Americans: A Successful yet Precarious Model Minority." Conference on "Middle-class Nation-building Through Immigration? Human Capital and Ethnic Diversity at Times of Social Polarization." Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University. (Postponed for Covid -19 pandemic)

- 2020 Panelist. "Multiculturalism, Religious Accommodation and Muslims in the West." Canadian Sociological Association Annual Meeting, London, Ontario. (Cancelled for pandemic)
- 2019 Main Speaker, "Here, There, and Elsewhere: The Making of Immigrant Identities in a Globalized World" Public Lecture Co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology, Egyptology, and Anthropology and the Center for Migration and Refugee Studies at The American University in Cairo, Egypt. December 8.
- 2019 Main Presenter, "Transnationalism and Territorialization: *Ummatic* Solidarity Across State Borders," Institute of Islamic Studies, University of Toronto. November 21.
- 2019 Invited Panel Organizer and Chair, "Islamophobia in Higher Education: Challenges and Prevention." Conference on Sexual, Racial and (Trans)Gender Based Violence in Higher Education: Possibilities and Limitations. Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto. November 1.
- 2019 Consultant, Discussion with Statistics Canada on the Muslim question in Canadian census, Institute of Islamic Studies, University of Toronto. August 15.
- 2019 Main Presenter, "Muslims in Danger Here Based on Conflicts Elsewhere: Navigating the Transnational Dimensions of Muslim-ness," Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Guelph. March 13.
- 2019 Discussant, The Munk School of Global Affairs 12th Annual Ethnic and Pluralism Studies Graduate Research Conference, University of Toronto. February 1.
- 2018 Main Presenter, "Echoes of Conflict and Solidarity in Cyberspace: How Social Media Shapes Immigrant Identity-Making," Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, University of Toronto. November 29.
- 2018 Discussant, The Toronto Theory Working Group Paper Workshop, Department of Sociology, University of Toronto, St. George. November 21.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 "Religion, Global Geopolitics, and the Making of Immigrant Identities." International Sociological Association, Porto Alegre, Brazil. (Cancelled for pandemic).
- 2019 "The Precariousness of South Asian Muslim Americans: Geopolitics, Islamophobia, and the Model Minority Myth." American Sociological Association, New York.
- 2019 "Studying Diasporic Identities Beyond the Homeland-Hostland Paradigm: Social Media, Transnationalism, and Global Geopolitics." Canadian Sociological Association, Vancouver.
- 2018 "Homeland, Hostland, and Elsewhere: A Multicentered Relational Framework for Immigrant Identity Formation," American Sociological Association, Philadelphia.
- 2014 "Mirrored Boundaries: The Intersection of Ongoing Homeland-Hostland Contexts in Bangladeshi Immigrants' Boundary-Work in Los Angeles," American Sociological Association, San Francisco.

- 2012 “Being Muslim in Mississippi: An Exploratory Study of the Intersectionality of Religion, Race, Gender, and Nationality of First-Generation Bangladeshi Muslim Immigrants in Mississippi,” Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans.
- 2012 “Representation of Food in Korean Dramas,” Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans.
- 2011 “From Cradle to Daycare: How First-Generation Bangladeshi Immigrant Mothers View Daycare/Preschool in Hattiesburg, Mississippi,” Southern Sociological Society, Jacksonville.

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

- 2020 Shams, Tahseen. [“Immigrants are not to blame for global epidemics: insights from past and present.”](#) Invited Publication in *Pandemic Borders*, June 8.
- 2020 Interviewed for [“Shame Stopped Me from Learning Hindi as a Kid: Love and Loss Changed That.”](#) HuffPost, January 3.
- 2015 Shams, Tahseen. [“Religion and Nationhood in South Asia.”](#) Invited Publication in *Al-Talib Magazine*, October 20.

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

At University of Toronto, St. George:

Sociology of Race and Ethnicity

Introduction to Qualitative Methods

Deconstructing “Muslim American”: Race, Nationalism, and Globalization

At University of California, Los Angeles:

Introduction to Cultural Geography (Teaching Assistant; UCLA Academic Advancement Program)

GRADUATE TEACHING

Ethnicity I (core course in Immigration, Ethnicity, and Race cluster at the University of Toronto)

GRADUATE STUDENT MENTORING AND RESEARCH SUPERVISION

At University of Toronto, St. George:

2020 Research Practicum Supervisor for Jessica Stallone, doctoral student in Sociology

2019 Internal Examiner for Sarah Shah, Ph.D. in sociology, University of Toronto

2018-Present Ph.D. Committee Member for Asma Khalil, doctoral student in Kinesiology

At University of California, Los Angeles:

2015-2018 Consultant, UCLA Graduate Writing Center

(Developed research workshops; mentored Ph.D. and M.A. students on conducting and writing research)

POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR SUPERVISION

2020-2022 James (Jay) G. Johnson (Ph.D., UCLA)
University of Toronto Arts and Science and Max Planck Institute for Religious and
Ethnic Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY

2020-2022 Member of the Tri-Campus Departmental Speaker Series Committee
Winter 2020 Member of the Chair Search Committee for the Department of Sociology, St. George
Winter 2020 Member of the Advisory Committee for Faculty Appointment Proposals, St. George
2018-2021 Committee Member and Area Examiner for Immigration, Race, and Ethnicity Cluster

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS

2019-2020 Roundtables Co-organizer for the 2020 American Sociological Association Annual
Meeting International Migration Section

2019-2020 Co-organizer, Chair, and Discussant of the 2020 Canadian Sociological Association
Annual Meeting International Migration Section. "Diasporic Reflections and Resistance
in a Postcolonial World." (Cancelled for pandemic)

Reviewer: *Ethnic and Racial Studies, American Sociological Review, Sociological Perspectives,*
Social Problems, Sociological Focus, Sociological Forum, Identities, Sociology of
Religion

Member: American Sociological Association, Canadian Sociological Association, American
Studies Association

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Bangla Native Proficiency
Hindi Full Professional Proficiency
Urdu Professional Working Proficiency

REFERENCES

Dr. Roger Waldinger
Distinguished Professor of Sociology, UCLA
Email: waldinger@soc.ucla.edu

Dr. Rogers Brubaker
Distinguished Professor of Sociology;
UCLA Foundation Chair
Email: brubaker@soc.ucla.edu

Dr. Rubén Hernández-León
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Dr. Nile Green
Professor and Ibn Khaldun Endowed Chair of
World History, UCLA
Email: green@history.ucla.edu