Farhana Shahid

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Research Interests

I am a Human-Computer Interaction researcher examining online harms, trust, and safety issues in the Global Majority through the lenses of coloniality, power, and control. I take a culturally-sensitive approach to reimagine alternative content moderation futures for Global users.

Education

Ph.D. in Information Science   *2021 – Present*
Cornell University   *Advisor: Aditya Vashistha*

M.Sc. in Information Science   *2021 – 2024*
Cornell University   *Advisor: Aditya Vashistha*

M.Sc. in Computer Science and Engineering   *2017 – 2019*
Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology   *Advisor: A. B. M. Alim Al Islam*

B.Sc. in Computer Science and Engineering   *2013 – 2017*
Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology   *Advisor: A. B. M. Alim Al Islam*

Appointments

Center for Democracy and Technology   *Washington DC*
Research Intern   *Jun 2024 – Aug 2024*

Brac University   *Dhaka, Bangladesh*
Lecturer   *May 2018 – May 2021*

Eastern University   *Dhaka, Bangladesh*
Lecturer   *Sep 2017 – Apr 2018*

Academic Awards and Honors

2024   **Best Student Paper**, Social Media and Society in India
2024   **Outstanding PhD Service Award**, Cornell Information Science
2024   **Outstanding Teaching Award**, Cornell Information Science
2022   **Finalist: HCI - Social Media, People, and Society**, Meta PhD Research Fellowship
2020   **Honorable Mention Award (Top 5%)**, CSCW2020
2019   **Distinguished Paper Award (Top 3%)**, IMWUT Volume 3
2016   **University Merit Scholarship**, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
2015   **Dean's List Award**, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
2015   **First runner up: Poster Presentation Session**, Esonance, Islamic University of Technology
2012   **Champion: Science Olympiad**, Inter College Science Festival, Holy Cross College
2011   **First runner up**, 4th Bangladesh Chemistry Olympiad
2011   **Secondary School Merit Scholarship**, Education Board of Dhaka

Publications

Refereed Conference and Journal Publications[†]

1. **Farhana Shahid**, Mona Elswah, and Aditya Vashistha. Think Outside the Data: Colonial Biases and Systemic Issues in Automated Moderation Pipelines for Low-Resource Languages. In *Eighth AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society* (AIES 2025).

2. **Farhana Shahid**, Maximilian Dittgen, Mor Naaman, and Aditya Vashistha. Examining Human-AI Collaboration for Co-Writing Constructive Comments Online. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*. Vol. 9, No. 7, Article 410 (CSCW 2025).

[†]An asterisk* indicates equal contribution.

3. **Farhana Shahid**, Dhruv Agarwal and Aditya Vashistha. One Style Does Not Regulate All: Moderation Practices in Public and Private WhatsApp Groups. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*. Vol. 9, No. CSCW2, Article 144 (CSCW 2025). 🏆 **SMSI Best Student Paper**

4. Dhruv Agarwal, **Farhana Shahid**, and Aditya Vashistha. Conversational Agents to Facilitate Deliberation on Harmful Content in WhatsApp Groups. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*. Vol. 8, No. CSCW2, Article 491 (CSCW 2024).

5. **Farhana Shahid** and Aditya Vashistha. Decolonizing Content Moderation: Does Uniform Global Community Standard Resemble Utopian Equality or Western Power Hegemony? In *CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (CHI 2023).

6. **Farhana Shahid***, Srujana Kamath*, Annie Sidotam, Vivian Jiang, Alexa Batino, and Aditya Vashistha. "It Matches My Worldview": Examining Perceptions and Attitudes Around Fake Videos. In *CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (CHI 2022).

7. **Farhana Shahid**, Shrirang Mare, and Aditya Vashistha. Examining Source Effects on Perceptions of Fake News in Rural India. 2022. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*. Vol. 6, No. CSCW1, Article 89 (CSCW 2022).

8. **Farhana Shahid**, Wasifur Rahman, Mohammad Saifur Rahman, Sharmin Akther Purabi, Ayesha Seddiqa, Moin Mostakim, Farhan Feroz, Tanjir Rashid Soron, Fahmida Hossain, Nabila Khan, Anika Binte Islam, Nipi Paul, Ehsan Hoque, and A. B. M. Alim Al Islam. Leveraging Free-Hand Sketches for Potential Screening of PTSD. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies*. Vol. 4, No. 3, Article 94 (UbiComp 2020).

9. **Farhana Shahid**, Shahinul Hoque Ony, Takrim Rahman Albi, Sriram Chellappan, Aditya Vashistha, and A. B. M. Alim Al Islam. Learning from Tweets: Opportunities and Challenges to Inform Policy Making During Dengue Epidemic. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*. Vol. 4, No. CSCW1, Article 65 (CSCW 2020). 🏆 **CSCW Honorable Mention Award (Top 5%)**

10. **Farhana Shahid**, Wasifur Rahman, Anika Binte Islam, Nipi Paul, Nabila Khan, Mohammad Saifur Rahman, Md Munirul Haque, and A. B. M. Alim Al Islam. Two Tell-tale Perspectives of PTSD: Neurobiological Abnormalities and Bayesian Regulatory Network of the Underlying Disorder in a Refugee Context. In *Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies*. Vol. 3, No. 3, Article 101 (UbiComp 2019). 🏆 **IMWUT Distinguished Paper Award (Top 3%)**

Under Review

1. **Farhana Shahid***, Hellina Hailu Nigatu*, Vishal Sharma, Abigail Oppong, Michaelanne Thomas, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. 2025. UnWEIRDing Peer Review in Human-Computer Interaction.

2. **Farhana Shahid**, Stella Zhang, and Aditya Vashistha. 2025. LLMs Homogenize Values When Facilitating Constructive Arguments on Value-Laden Topics.

3. Gauri Nayak, **Farhana Shahid**, Kiran Garimella, and Aditya Vashistha. 2025. Creating Group Rules with AI: Human-AI Collaboration in WhatsApp Moderation.

Reports

1. **Farhana Shahid**. 2024. Colonialism in Content Moderation Research: The Struggles of Scholars in the Majority World. CDT Research.

2. Rahul Majethia, Shreya Ghosh, Hannah R. Nolasco, **Farhana Shahid**, Varun Viswanath, Ibrahim Shehi Shehu, and Yiran Zhao. 2022. Stepping Into the Next Decade of Ubiquitous and Pervasive Computing: UbiComp and ISWC 2021. In *IEEE Pervasive Computing*, Vol. 21, Issue 2.

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant

- Technology for Underserved Communities (Spring 2023)
- Computing and Global Development (Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024, Fall 2022, Fall 2021)

Course Instructor

- Computer Graphics (Spring 2021, Fall 2020, Summer 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Summer 2019, Spring 2019, Spring 2018)
- Pattern Recognition (Fall 2020, Summer 2020)
- Artificial Intelligence (Spring 2020, Fall 2019)
- Object Oriented Programming (Fall 2019, Summer 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Summer 2018)
- Digital Logic Design (Spring 2020, Summer 2018)
- Algorithms (Summer 2019, Fall 2019, Summer 2018)
- Data Structures (Summer 2019, Summer 2018)
- Operating Systems (Spring 2018, Fall 2017)
- Mathematical Analysis for Computer Science (Fall 2017)

Mentoring

- Stella Zhang (Cornell University)
- Sophia Pan (Cornell University)
- Maximilian Dittgen (Cornell University)
- Alif Abdullah (Cornell University)
- Juju Jean-Jacques (Cornell University)
- Richlove Nkansah (Cornell University)

- Shahinul Hoque Ony (Brac University)
- Takrim Rahman Albi (Brac University)

Invited Talks and Panels

TALKS

Coloniality and Systemic Issues in Content Moderation Infrastructures

2025	ICT & Global Development, Georgia Tech
2025	Cornell-Syracuse South Asia Consortium

Human-AI Collaboration to Contest Harmful Content Across Diverse Cultures and Group Dynamics

2025	Design Lab, University of California, San Diego
2025	Security and Privacy Seminar, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2025	HCI Seminar, Columbia University

Unpacking Platform-Led and User-Led Moderation on Meta's Platforms Through the Experiences of Global Majority Users

2024	Social Computing Research Lab, University of Michigan
2024	HCI Graduate Seminar, University of California, Berkeley
2024	Antisocial Computing, University of California, San Diego

PANELS

2024	Language Support, Tooling, and Content Moderation Roundtable, TrustCon
2024	Due Process in Content Moderation, Institute for Research on Internet and Society

Professional Development

2025	Human-AI Complementarity for Decision Making Workshop, Carnegie Mellon University
2025	Majority-Minority Politics and Democracy in South Asia Workshop, Cornell University
2025	Doctoral Consortium, COMPASS
2025	Doctoral Consortium, FAccT
2025	Consortium for the Science of Sociotechnical Systems (CSST), Syracuse
2024	Doctoral Consortium, CSCW
2024	Social Media Moderation Summit, New Jersey Institute of Technology
2024	Doctoral Consortium, Northeast HCI
2023	Human-Computer Interaction Consortium (HCIC)

Services

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2024–25	Mentor at Cornell Graduate Students Mentoring Undergraduates (GSMU) Program
2024–25	Student Representative in Faculty Hiring, Cornell Information Science
2023–25	Coordinator of Cornell CIS Archive of Fellowship and Job Market Materials
2022–24	Coordinator of Cornell Information Science PhD Seminar
2021–22	Vice President of Cornell Information Science Graduate Student Association

REVIEWER

2023–24	**Special recognition for outstanding reviews in CSCW and CHI**
2020–25	ACM Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
2021–25	ACM Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)
2022–25	ACM SIGCAS Computing and Sustainable Societies (COMPASS)
2025	AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society (AIES)
2022–23	ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (TOCHI)
2020	ACM Transactions on Computing for Healthcare

Workshop Organizer

2025	SIG: Evaluating Research From and About the Global Majority (CSCW)
2025	Writing for Interdisciplinary Computing Audiences (COMPASS)

Organizing Committee

2024–25	Program Committee, ACM COMPASS
2021-22, 24	Student Volunteer Social Co-chair, CSCW and CHI
2022	Publicity Co-chair, ACM COMPASS
2018	5ᵗʰ Eastern University Math Olympiad, Eastern University

Student Volunteer

2025	ACM FAccT, Thought Summit: LLMs and Society
2023–24	Cornell Association of Computer Science Undergraduates' Research Night
2021–24	CHI, CSCW
2021	UbiComp, Asia-Ocenia Accessibility Workshop
2015	Bangladesh National High School Programming Contest

Media Coverage

2025	Alternate Methodologies and Future of Research in South Asia, Syracuse South Asia Center Newsletter
2024	Protection and Safeguarding meet Trust and Safety, The MERL Tech Initiative
2023	One-size-fits-all content moderation fails the Global South, Cornell Chronicle
2020	Decoding the Unspoken Ways We Communicate, National Academics