

## SHAMAYETA BHATTACHARYA

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### EDUCATION

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- 2017 - 2022 **Ph.D.** in Geography, University of Connecticut, USA  
Dissertation Title: “**SHAKTHI**: Studying **H**ealthcare **A**ccessibility among **K**othi, **T**ransgender, **H**ijra **I**ndividuals”  
Certificates: Certificate in Women, Gender and Sexuality studies  
Certificate in Human Rights
- 2014-2016 **M.Sc.** in Geography, Presidency University, Kolkata, India  
Thesis Title: “Impact of beach walkability on Women’s Health”
- 2011-2014 **B.Sc.** in Geography, Presidency University, Kolkata India  
Minor in Sociology and Economics

### EMPLOYMENT

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- 2022 - Assistant Professor (tenure track)  
Department of Community Engagement, Point Park University, Pittsburgh, USA
- 2016-2017 Adjunct Faculty  
Department of Geography, Gokhale Memorial College, Kolkata, India
- 2016-2017 Adjunct Faculty  
Department of Geography, St. Xavier’s College, Burdwan, India

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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- 2022 **Bhattacharya, S.**, Ghosh, D., and Purkayastha, B. ‘Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act’ of India: An Analysis of Substantive Access to Rights of a Transgender Community, *Journal of Human Rights Practice*, 2022;  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/jhuman/huac004>
- 2021 **Bhattacharya, S.**, “Becoming an Ally and Understanding the Geographies of Gender Identity: Lessons from Fieldwork.” *The Geographical Bulletin* 62(2):  
<https://gammathetaupsilon.org/the-geographical-bulletin/2020s/volume62-2/A/article5.pdf>.
- 2021 Das, S. and **Bhattacharya, S.**, “Factors affecting beach walkability- Tourists’ perception study at selected beaches of West Bengal, India.” *Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism*. 35, 100423. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jort.2021.100423>
- 2020 **Bhattacharya, S.** and Ghosh, D. “Studying physical and mental health status among hijra, kothi and transgender community in Kolkata, India.” *Social Science and Medicine*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2020.113412>

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- 2017-2022 Ph. D. Dissertation Research  
**SHAKTHI**: Studying **H**ealthcare **A**ccessibility among **K**othi, **T**ransgender, **H**ijra **I**ndividuals
- This project identifies the barriers and facilitators of access to mental and physical healthcare among gender-diverse people using an intersectional lens.
  - Critically analyze the impact of the recent legislation and policies on gender-diverse people’s mental and overall health.
  - Analyze the impact of COVID-19 on the community’s alcohol and substance use,

- and how alcohol and substance use further impact their mental health.
- 2018-2019 Research Assistantship for University of Maryland  
[RHIAA](#): Religion and health among African American
- Geospatial and statistical analyses were conducted in R to understand the spatial pattern of cancer screening behavior among African American adults in the USA.
  - RHIAA survey data, American community survey (ACS) data, and National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) data were used to build a spatial probability risk model to understand disparities in black and white neighborhoods' health outcomes.
- 2014-2016 Master's Thesis Research  
 Factors affecting beach walkability and Tourist's health
- Beach walkability factors were found using exploratory factor analysis conducted in R on primary data collected using a semi-structured survey.
  - Identified factors were validated using reliability and validity tests.

## SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

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### External

- 2023 Jacques May thesis prize (for best dissertation) of Health and Medical Geography specialty group (\$250)
- 2022 Melinda Meade travel award of Health and Medical Geography specialty group (\$60)
- 2021 American Association of Geographer (AAG) dissertation grant (\$1000)
- 2021 Asian Geography specialty group of AAG graduate student paper award (\$250)
- 2021 Latinx geography of AAG student travel award (\$100)
- 2021 Queer and Trans Geography specialty Group of AAG student travel award (\$60)
- 2021 ESRI ArcGIS map competition finalist ([Finalist's story Map here](#))
- 2020 Race, Ethnicity, and Place, National conference Best Student Paper Award (\$100)
- 2020 Peter Gould Graduate Student Paper Award finalist of AAG
- 2017 Graduate Student Paper Award, NESTVAL Conference, Central Connecticut State University (\$350)
- 2015 Junior Research Fellowship National Eligibility Test (N.E.T.) conducted by the University Grants Commission (U.G.C.) of India (\$30,000). *\*Highly competitive national-level merit-based scholarship with full tuition waiver and stipend. Declined upon acceptance to University of Connecticut*

### Internal

- 2021 Human Rights Institute Dissertation writing fellowship, UConn (\$5000)
- 2021 UConn President's email congratulating for outstanding research
- 2021 Doctoral travel fellowship, UConn (\$750)
- 2021 3-minute thesis competition finalist, UConn
- 2021 Collaborative to Advance Equity through Research on Women & Girls of Color African institute, UConn (\$3000)
- 2020 Doctoral Dissertation Award, UConn Graduate School (\$2000)
- 2020 100 years of Women's Scholarship, Women's Center, UConn (\$750)
- 2020 Feminist Praxis Award, Women's Gender, and Sexuality Institute, UConn (\$250)
- 2019 Summer Fellowship, Department of Geography, UConn (\$2000)
- 2018 Summer Fellowship Women's Gender and Sexuality Institute, UConn (\$500)
- 2018 Wood/Raith Living Trust summer fellowship (\$4000)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Teaching

**Department of Community Engagement, Point Park University**

Spring 2023	Instructor	Quantitative Research Methods [Grad course, Hybrid Format]
Fall 2022	Instructor	Qualitative Research Methods [Grad Course, Hybrid Format]

#### **Department of Geography, University of Connecticut**

2021	Teaching Assistant	Cities in Western Tradition [UG Class Size 250]
2020	Teaching Assistant	World regional Geography [UG, Class Size 300]
2018	Teaching Assistant	Globalization [Class Size 150]
2017	Teaching Assistant	Introduction to Geography [Class Size 70]

#### **Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, University of Connecticut**

2019	Discussion Leader	Gender and Globalization [2 sections of 25 students each]
2018	Discussion Leader	Gender and Sexuality in Everyday Life [same as above]

#### **Department of Geography, Gokhale Memorial Girls College, Kolkata, India**

2017	Adjunct Faculty	Scales and Map Projection [Class Size 55]
2017	Adjunct Faculty	Cultural Geography [Class Size 55]

#### **Department of Geography, St. Xavier's College, Burdwan, India**

2017	Adjunct Faculty	Social Geography [Class Size 15]
2016	Adjunct Faculty	Introduction to GIS [Class Size 150]

#### Invited Lectures, UConn

2022	Guest Lecturer	GEOG 5000: Research Design
2021	Guest Lecturer	WGSS 2255: Sexualities, Activism, and Globalization
2020	Guest Lecturer	GEOG 3240: Medical Health Care Geography
2020	Guest Lecturer	SOCI 3222: Asian Indian Women, Activism and Social Change

#### Selected Teaching Preparations

2021	Student	Feminist Pedagogy (prepared a full course as a class requirement)
2021	Participant	VoiceThread: Asynchronous Presentation and Engagement Tool
2020	Participant	Effective Use of Small Group Instruction
2019	Participant	Specification grading: an alternate means of assessing learning
2018	Participant	Dialogue in the Classroom: Strategies for Building Engagement and Empathy
2018	Student	Practicum in College Teaching (Developed syllabus for big class)

#### **INVITED TALKS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

2023	<b>Bhattacharya, S.</b> and Ghosh, D. "Barriers and facilitator in accessing healthcare among gender diverse people using a critical accessibility framework." <i>Annual American Association of Geographers Meeting. (Denver)</i>
2022	<b>Bhattacharya, S.</b> " <u>SHAKTHI</u> : <u>Studying Healthcare Accessibility</u> among <u>Kothi</u> , <u>Transgender</u> , and <u>Hijra Individuals</u> " Invited Talk, <i>University of Wisconsin-Madison</i> .
2022	<b>Bhattacharya, S.</b> " <u>SHAKTHI</u> : <u>Studying Healthcare Accessibility</u> among <u>Kothi</u> , <u>Transgender</u> , and <u>Hijra Individuals</u> " Invited Talk, <i>Point Park University</i> .
2022	<b>Bhattacharya, S.</b> and Ghosh, D. "Barriers and facilitator in accessing healthcare among gender diverse people using a critical accessibility framework." <i>Annual American Association of Geographers Meeting. (Virtual)</i> <b>Session Chair</b>
2022	<b>Bhattacharya, S.</b> " <u>SHAKTHI</u> : <u>Studying Healthcare Accessibility</u> among <u>Kothi</u> , <u>Transgender</u> , and <u>Hijra Individuals</u> " Invited Talk, <i>University of Oklahoma. (Virtual)</i> .
2021	<b>Bhattacharya, S.</b> and Ghosh, D. "Understanding healthcare access among gender diverse people using a critical accessibility framework." <i>Race Ethnicity and Place conference. (Virtual)</i> .
2021	<b>Bhattacharya, S.</b> and Ghosh, D. "Emerging direction in trans studies, geography and beyond: A review of progress in trans scholarships in South Asia." <i>Annual American</i>

*Association of Geographers Meeting. (Virtual)*

- 2020 **Bhattacharya, S.** Purkayastha, B. and Ghosh, D. "Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act of India: A critical analysis by trans people." *Race Ethnicity and Place conference. (Virtual).* *Won student paper award*
- 2020 **Bhattacharya, S.** and Ghosh, D. Studying physical and mental health issues among Hijra, Kothi, and Transgender community in urban India. *Annual American Association of Geographers Meeting. (Virtual)*
- 2019 Ghosh, D. and **Bhattacharya, S.** Spatial relative probability pattern of cancer-screening behavior among African Americans in the United States. *Annual American Association of Geographers Meeting. Washington D.C.*
- 2018 Das, S. and **Bhattacharya, S.** Exploring walkability and Tourists' health. *Annual American Association of Geographers Meeting. New Orleans*
- 2017 **Bhattacharya, S.** and Das, S. "Factors affecting beach walkability: A Tourists' perception study". *The New England-St. Lawrence Valley Geographical Society (NESTVAL). Central Connecticut State University.* *Won student paper award*
- 2016 **Bhattacharya, S.** and Banerjee, P. "Unveiling the cultural imprint and present social position of the Anglo-Indian of Kolkata", *23<sup>rd</sup> West Bengal State Science Congress Kolkata, India*
- 2016 **Bhattacharya, S.** and Banerjee, P. "Determinants of Souvenir Purchase: Ideology, Product and Store." *23<sup>rd</sup> West Bengal State Science Congress Kolkata, India*
- 2014 **Bhattacharya, S.** and Banerjee, P. "Human- Resource Management through Transgenderism: A case study on South-Kolkata's transgender community" at Institute of Landscape, Ecology, and Ekistics (ILEE) International Seminar on *Environmental Perspectives and Resource Management, Kolkata, West Bengal*

## SOFTWARE SKILLS

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GIS and Mapping Software	ArcGIS Pro, ArcMap, ArcGIS online, MapInfo
Statistical Software	SPSS with Amos; R
Other Software	Qualtrics, Atlas Ti, Miro, Python (beginner)

## FIELDWORK AND DATA COLLECTION

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- 2019-2020 Conducted interviews (N=120), focus groups (N=20), and Respondent Driven Sampling surveys (N=110) with the Hijra, Kothi, and Transgender people in Kolkata, India
- 2017 Assisted in conducting a focus group discussion and skill-building workshop with the LGBTQI community members in Kolkata, India
- 2016 Surveyed 250 adult women tourists, for master's dissertation on beach tourism along the East Midnapore beaches, India
- 2015 Surveyed 100 adult women tourists in Shantiniketan, India for 5 weeks about their shopping behavior for my MS degree summer project.
- 2013 Interviewed only self-identified Hijra individuals for 5 weeks in summer about their socio-economic status and culture for my undergraduate thesis

## COMMUNITY ENGAGED SERVICES

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- 2019-Present Co-created Kolkata Anandam, a trans people's NGO in Kolkata, India. Assisted community members in developing social media pages and translating the group's mission statement into English.
- 2019-Present Worked with Samobhabona, a Kolkata-based NGO, and assisted the trans community leaders in notetaking on evaluation of the newly passed laws and bills.

## LEADERSHIP AND AFFILIATION

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2017-Present	Member of the American Association of Geographers (AAG)
2023-2025	<b>Board Member at Large</b> of Health and Medical Geography Specialty group
2022-2024	<b>Faculty Board Member</b> of Asian Geography Specialty Group of AAG
2021-2023	<b>Graduate Representative</b> of Mental Health Affinity Group of the AAG
2021-2023	<b>Awards Committee Chair</b> of Queer and Trans Geography Affinity group of the AAG
2020-2022	<b>Graduate Student Representative</b> of Health and Medical Geography Specialty group
2019-2020	<b>President</b> of 'Tarang' University of Connecticut's South Asian Student association

## SERVICES

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2021	<b>Judge</b> on the awards review committee of 100 years of women's scholarship
2021	<b>Panelist</b> for AAG session on 'Networking for International Fellows'
2021	<b>Panelist</b> for 'Writing from Qualitative Data' during AAG
2020 - present	<b>Reviewer</b> for 'The Journal of Homosexuality' (x1); Geospatial Technology for Human Well-Being and Health (x2); 'Gender, Place, and Culture'(x1)
2020	<b>Judge</b> for HMGSG Health Data Visualization Award
2020	<b>Organizer</b> of Health and Medical Geography Specialty Group Jacques May Thesis Award

## LANGUAGES

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- English (Proficient)
- Hindi (Fluent)
- Bengali (Native)

## MEDIA COVERAGE

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2021	Webb, Alyssa (May 26, 2021). <u>Human Rights Writing Fellowships</u> , <i>UConn Today</i>
2021	Song, Amanda (November 10, 2021). <u>Scholars Highlight Gaps in Research About Women and Girls of Color in STEM and Public Health Fields</u> , <i>UConn Today</i>