

Mohammad Ala-Uddin, Ph.D.

School of Communication Studies | James Madison University, VA, USA

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INTERESTS

Global Communication & Social Change; Digital Media, Politics, & Culture; DEI Implication of Generative AI; Critical Algorithm/Data Studies; Discourse & Praxis of Gender Equity & Justice

APPOINTMENTS

- 2019- Present **James Madison University**, Harrisonburg, VA, USA
Lecturer & Graduate Instructor, School of Communication Studies
Faculty Affiliate, African, African American, and Diaspora Studies (AAAD)
Faculty Affiliate, Adult Degree Program (ADP)
- 2015-2019 **Bowling Green State University**, Bowling Green, OH, USA
Teaching Associate (TI), School of Communication Studies
- 2012-2014 **Ohio University**, Athens, OH, USA
Graduate Assistant, Center for International Studies
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Media and Communication**, Bowling Green State University, OH, USA
2022 Dissertation: *Reclaiming the "C" in ICT4D: A Critical Examination of Discursive (Un)Freedoms in Digital State Policy and News Media of Bangladesh and Norway.*
- M.A. International Affairs**, Ohio University, Athens, OH, USA
2014 Center for International Studies & Scripps College of Communication
- M.A. Journalism, Media and Communication**, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
2010 Thesis: *Right to Information Law in Bangladesh: Is Information Reachable?*
- B.A. Islamic History & Culture**, University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh
2008 Minors: Sociology, Political Science
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AWARDS

- 2022 **The HCTD 2022 Outstanding Dissertation Award**, The Human Communication and Technology Division (HCTD), National Communication Association (NCA)
- 2010 **NORAD Fellowship 2010** for Summer Graduate Program in Media Studies at the International Summer School, University of Oslo, Norway, by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD).
- 2008 **NOMA Fellowship 2008-2010**, NORAD's Programme for Master Studies (NOMA) Fellowship in Journalism, Media, and Communication, NORAD, Norway.

TRAINING

- 2023 **Computational Text Analysis in Python**, taught on [Learning Emu](#) by Dr. Naeemul Hassan, College of Journalism & College of Information Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 10 Weeks (Online Synchronous), Summer 2023
- 2021 **Java Programming**, *Dept of Computer Science, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, Spring 2021.*
- 2019 **Racial Equity Workshop: Understanding Racism in its Structural Form**, *Racial Equity Institute; Faith in Action, Center for Interfaith Engagement, Harrisonburg, VA*
- 2010 **New Media and Democratization**, *International Summer School, University of Oslo, Norway, Six Weeks, Jun – Aug 2010*
- 2009 **Journalism, Advertising and Public Relations**, *College of Journalism & Mass Communication, Kathmandu, Nepal, Four Weeks, April 2009.*

DIGITAL SKILLS

Text Mining & Analytics, Machine Learning, NLP: NLTK, spaCy, Netlytic, Python, R

Research Applications: NVivo; SPSS; Qualtrics

Digital Production: HTML/CSS/JavaScript, Dreamweaver, Photoshop, InDesign, Audacity

TEACHING

Lecturer, School of Communication Studies, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

- SCOM 471 Culture and Health Communication (Fall 2022, 2021; Sum 2023, 2021)
- SCOM 313 New Media and Health (Sum 2023 (Online); Winter (Online) 2023, 2022)
- SCOM 280 Introduction to Communication Research (Fall 2022; Spring 2023, 2022)
- SCOM 248 Intercultural Communication (Fall 2023, 2022 (Online), 2021)
- SCOM 122 Fundamentals of Human Communication- Individual (Fall 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020; Spring 2023, 2022, 2021)
- SCOM 123 Fundamentals of Human Communication- Group (Spring 2020; Fall 2019)

Instructor of Record (TI), Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, USA

- JOUR 1000 Introduction to Journalism in Democratic Society (Spring 2016)
- COMM 1020 Introduction to Public Speaking (Fall 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015; Spring 2019, 2018, 2017)

Teaching Assistant (TA), Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, USA

- MDIA 3600 Mass Media Research, Instructor: Dr. Srinivas Melkote
- COMM 4060 Dark Side of Intimate Relationships, Instructor: Dr. Laura Stafford
- JOUR 1000 Journalism in Democratic Society, Instructor: Dr. Katherine Cassara
- TCOM 3600 Mass Media Research, Instructor: Dr. Srinivas Melkote

PUBLICATIONS

- Journal Articles** **Ala-Uddin, M.** (2019). "Sustainable" discourse: A critical analysis of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development. *Asia Pacific Media Educator*, 29(2), 2019, 1-11. DOI: [10.1177/1326365X19881515](https://doi.org/10.1177/1326365X19881515).
***Special Issue: Media and Communication in Development and Social Change**
***Lead Article**
- Ala-Uddin, M.** (2019). Review Essay of *Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D)* [Richard Heeks (Ed.)]. *Asia Pacific Media Educator*, 29(2), 2019, 1-4. DOI: [10.1177/1326365X19886979](https://doi.org/10.1177/1326365X19886979).
- Flournoy, D., Roth, S. & **Ala-Uddin, M.** (2014). From uranium enrichment to renewable energy: Conversion of the US-DOE's former Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS) in Piketon, Ohio into a clean energy production facility within a decade. *Online Journal of Space Communication*, 10(17), 15.
<https://ohioopen.library.ohio.edu/spacejournal/vol10/iss17/15>
***Turned into a \$19m proposal**
- Book Chapters** Shahin, S., **Ala-Uddin, M.**, Verma, T., & Matanji, F.B. (forthcoming). Dial M for money: Transnational narratives of mobile money in the global south. In D.K. Thussu & S. Roy (Eds.), *Handbook of Communication and Media in the Global South*. London: Routledge
- Ala-Uddin, M.** (2021). The paradox in discourse and praxis of gender equality: A communicative framework for sustainable development. In M. J. Yusha'u & J. Servaes (Eds.). *The Palgrave Handbook of International Communication and Sustainable Development* (pp 235-257). Palgrave Macmillan DOI: [10.1007/978-3-030-69770-9_11](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-69770-9_11)
- Ala-Uddin, M.** (2013). Qualitative Interviewing. In Greiner, K.P. (Ed.). *Research Handbook for Communication and Development* (p.10-15). OH, USA: Community Research Alliance.
- Manuscripts in Progress** **Ala-Uddin, M.** Digitalization or Electronic Colonization? Unpacking Intercultural Dynamics of "Digital Bangladesh" in the Context of Globalization. [Manuscript in preparation for] *New Media & Society*.
- Ala-Uddin, M.** Computational-critical discourse analysis (C-CDA): Toward a "profound" reading of data. [Manuscript in preparation for] *Communication Methods and Measures*.
- Ala-Uddin, M.** Rethinking Communication as critical freedom: Toward an equilibrium of power in the 21st century. [Manuscript in preparation for] *Journal of Communication*.
- Ala-Uddin, M.** Toward future pandemic preparation and response: A transcultural analysis of Twitter conversation on social distancing during COVID-19 pandemic. [In preparation for] *ICA Annual Convention 2024*.

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 2024 **Ala-Uddin, M.** Platform Panopticon and “Digital Governmentality”: Growing Censorship by Social Media Giants and Shifting Techniques of Power. Submitted to present at the *2024 ICA’s Annual Conference* (Communication Law & Policy Division).
- 2023 **Ala-Uddin, M.** & Ittefaq, M. Crisis of Authenticity in Digital Freedom: Understanding Cybersecurity Policy and Surveillance Practices in South Asia. *The 2023 ICA’s Annual Conference* (Communication Law and Policy Division).
- 2022 **Ala-Uddin, M.** From Digitalization to Development Paradox: A Critical Reflection on Bangladeshi National ICT Policy and Practice. *The 108th NCA Convention*, New Orleans, LA, Nov 17-20
- 2019 **Ala-Uddin, M.** (Mis)Communicating Student Protest for Road Safety in Bangladesh: A Critical Evaluation of State Response. *NCA Convention*, Baltimore, MD, Nov 14-18.
- 2019 Shahin, S., **Ala-Uddin, M.**, Varma, T., & Matanji, F. Dial M for Money: Transnational Narratives of Mobile Money in the Global South. *The 69th International Communication Association (ICA) Conference*, Washington, D.C., May 24-28
- 2018 **Ala-Uddin, M.** Digitalizing public services and the rising development paradox: A critical reflection on the Bangladeshi National ICT Policy and the Digital Security Act. *IAMCR Conference*, University of Oregon, Oregon, Jun 20-24
- 2018 **Ala-Uddin, M.** The paradox at the declarations of intent and the practical action to improve gender equality and justice: A conceptual framework for the role of communication for Sustainable Development Goal 5. *IAMCR Conference*, University of Oregon, OR, Jun 20-24
- 2017 **Ala-Uddin, M.** Advancing Social Justice for Women within Islamic Framework: A South Asian Case. *6th Annual Graduate Communication Association (GCA) Conference*, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, April 13-14.
- 2017 **Ala-Uddin, M.** “Tables are Turned”: A Pursuit of Gender Justice in Sultana’s Dream. *6th Annual Graduate Communication Association (GCA) Conference*, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, April 13-14.
- 2017 **Ala-Uddin, M.** “Digital Bangladesh”: Discourse and Deconstruction. *Central States Communication Association Annual Conference*, Minneapolis, MN, Mar 16-18
- 2016 **Ala-Uddin, M.** Transforming Our World,” and the Paradox of Global Partnership in SDGs: A Conceptual Framework for Social Justice and Empowerment. *IAMCR Conference*, University of Leicester, U.K., Jul 27-31
- 2013 **Ala-Uddin, M.** Semiotic Cellphone in the Construction of a Social Self. *The International Education Week 2013 at Ohio University*, Athens, OH, Nov 12-16
- 2013 **Ala-Uddin, M.** Defying Bangladeshi Gender Stereotypes: A Social Semiology of BBC Janala. *Annual Meeting of Semiotic Society of America*, Dayton, OH, Oct 24-27
- 2013 **Ala-Uddin, M.** Migrants, Mobiles, and Modernity: A Chemistry of Capitalism. *Global Fusion Conference*, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, Oct 4-7

- 2013 **Ala-Uddin, M.** Representation of Gender in BBC Janala. *25th Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference*, Cedarville University, Cedarville, OH, Jun 6-7
- 2011 **Ala-Uddin, M.** Freedom of Information Law in Bangladesh: Is Information Reachable? *International Seminar on Freedom of Expression*, Dhaka University, Bangladesh, May 21.

Guest Lectures

- 2022 Digital Advocacy and Transnational Activism. Class: SCOM 500: Introduction to Advocacy Studies, Instructor: Peter K. Bsumek, School of Communication Studies, James Madison U.
- 2018 Media Research Ethics. Class: MDIA 3600: Mass Media Research, Instructor: Dr. Srinivas Melkote, School of Media and Communication, Bowling Green State U.
- 2018 ICT for Development and Capabilities Approach. Class: MC 7630: Global Communication and Social Change, Instructor: Dr. Srinivas Melkote, School of Media and Communication, Bowling Green State University.
- 2018 Scientific Methods and Key Epistemologies. Class: MDIA 3600: Mass Media Research, Instructor: Dr. Srinivas Melkote, School of Media and Communication, Bowling Green State University.
- 2018 Qualitative Interviewing. Class: MDIA 3600: Media Research, Instructor: Ruonan Zhang, Media Production and Studies Program, Bowling Green State U
- 2017 Global Media and Inequalities in Bangladeshi Contexts. Class: COMM 2100: Communicating in Global Context, Instructor: Emi Kanemoto. School of Media and Communication, Bowling Green State University.
- 2016 Research Strategies for Reliable Sources. Class: COMM 1020, Instructor: Mohammad Abuljadail, Bowling Green State University
- 2016 History and Political Trajectory of Bangladesh. Class: ASIA 4800, Instructor: Dr. Gi Woong Yun, Asian Studies Program, Bowling Green State University.
- 2014 Turning Class Projects into Presentable Works. Class: MDIA 6082: Methods in Communication & Development Studies, Dr. Jenny Nelson, Ohio University.

Public Scholarship

- 2021 Invited Speaker. Lessons of Social Justice from Prophet Mohammad. *Remembrance of the Prophet: The Life of the Prophet Mohammad*, The Interfaith Association (IFA) and Valley Muslim Community Foundation (VMCF), Harrisonburg, VA, USA. Nov 4
- 2017 Invited Speaker. Self-development through Community Engagement. *Self and Professional Development Education Camp*, Muslim Ummah of North America (MUNA), Ohio Chapter, USA.
- 2016 Invited *Speaker*. Being a Muslim in America w/Mohammad Abuljadail & Mohammad Ala-Uddin. Ep 4, *Comm(Unity) Podcast*, WFAL Falcon Radio, Bowling Green State University, OH, USA.

- 2012 Invited *Speaker*. Delivered a talk on professional development to the recipients of the Genius Scholarship at the *CZM Capacity Building Initiative*, organized by the Centre for Zakat Management (CZM), Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 2011 Invited *Participant*. Religiosity, Free Expression, and Modernity. "*Religious Thoughts*" program on *Diganta Television*, a Dhaka-based national T.V. station.
- 2010 Invited *Speaker*. State of Press Freedom in Bangladesh. *Nordic Summer Camp*, Jyvaskyla, Finland.

Other Conference Participation

- 2018 NCA 104th Annual Convention. Salt Lake City, UT, Nov 8-11
- 2016 NCA 102nd Annual Convention. Philadelphia, PA, Nov 10-13
- 2010 Nordic Summer Camp, Islamic Forum of Europe, Jyvaskyla, Finland, Aug 1-4
- 2009 Seoul International Conference on Creativity. Seoul, Korea, August 11-12
- 2009 Harvard Project for Asian & International Relations (HPAIR) 2009 Academic Conference, Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul, Korea, 13-17 Aug 2009

GRANTS & FUNDS

Funded Projects

- 2020 *VIVA Course Redesign Mini-Grant*. Period: Fall 2020. (Virtual Library of Virginia, VIVA, P.I.: Dr. Timothy Ball, James Madison University. Funded: \$500.
- 2018 "*Improving Agricultural Extension through Communication for Dev.*" Worked with Dr. S. Melkote (School of Media and Communication, BGSU), Partner for project, (Agency: USAID, P.I.: Dr. Robert Agunga, Ohio State U). Funded: \$8,000.

Competitive Professional Development Grants

- 2016-2018 GSS Funds for Professional Development, Bowling Green State U. Funded: \$340
- 2016 Travel Grant by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway to support a paper presented at the 2016 IAMCR Conference in Leicester, U.K. Funded: US\$ 1,415
- 2009 Travel Grant by Norwegian Dialogue Project for Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations Academic Conference in Seoul, Korea. Funded: US\$ 1,050
- 2009 Vice-Chancellor Travel Grant, University of Dhaka, to support participation at the International Conference on Creativity, Seoul, Korea. Funded: U.S. \$150
- 2009 IBN SINA Trust Travel Grant for Seoul International Conference on Creativity in Seoul, Korea. Funded: US \$150
- 2005 Islami Bank Foundation (Merit & Need-based) Scholarship awarded by Islami Bank Bangladesh Ltd to support undergraduate studies. Funded: US \$565 (est.)

Graduate Assistantships

- 2015-2018 Graduate Teaching Assistantship, School of Media and Communication, Bowling Green State University. Funded: US \$47,250 plus a tuition scholarship
- 2013-2014 Graduate Research Assistantship, Communication & Development Studies Program, Ohio University Funded: US \$12,330 plus tuition waiver
- 2012-2013 Graduate Recruitment Scholarship (GRS), Communication & Development Program, Ohio University. Funded: US \$1,800 plus tuition waiver
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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Researcher** Algorithms, Big Data, & Culture (ABDC) [Research Group], Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, USA. Project: *Mobile Money Narratives in Kenya, Bangladesh, and India*. Dr. Saif Shahin (now at Tilburg University, Netherlands)
2017- 2019
- Research Assistant** School of Media and Communication, Bowling Green State University, OH, USA. Projects: *Coding and analysis of restaurant customer reviews on Yelp*, Supervisor: Dr. Ilyoung Ju, Assistant Professor; *Documentary Website Research & Redesign Project*, Dr. Thomas Mascaro, Professor
2016-2018
- Research Assistant** School of Media Arts & Studies, Scripps College of Communication. Ohio University, Athens, OH, USA. Projects: *Creative Visualization of Solar Power Satellite (SPS)*, Supervisor: Dr. Don Flournoy, Professor; *Digital Divide: A Study on American County Website*, Dr. Lawrence Wood, Associate Professor
2012-2014
- Research Analyst** Institute for Research and Development (IRD), Dhaka, Bangladesh. Project: *Media, Secularization, and Religious Freedom in Bangladesh*. Reviewed literature & assisted research design.
2012
- Research Associate** Brooks World Poverty Institute (BWPI), University of Manchester, U.K. Project: *Social pension scheme and poverty reduction in urban Bangladesh*.
2011-2012 Administered 32 family interviews; organized/ moderated focus groups (FGDs) in slum communities. Transcribed 30 hours of recorded data.
- Research Assistant** Bangladesh National Cadet Corps (BNCC), Dhaka, Bangladesh. Project: *Holding Tax Survey Using Self-Reported Method*. Collected survey data from city dwellers; conducted face-to-face interviews.
2005
- Field Investigator** The Innovators- Unnayan Onneshan, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Project: *Disability in Bangladesh: Prevalence, Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices*. Worked in a team-based environment; executed survey questionnaires in villages; mobilized villagers for focus group discussions; moderated FGDs.
2004
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ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

- International Communication Association (ICA)
International Association for Media & Communication Research (IAMCR)
National Communication Association (NCA)
Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Ad Hoc Manuscript Reviewer

*New Media and Society; Asia Pacific Media Educator; Journal of Creative Communication
Asian Journal of Social Science; Culture and Society in South Asia*

Conference Paper Reviewer

ICA 2023, reviewed papers for Global Communication and Social Change Division and Computational Methods Division at International Communication Association's 2023 Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada.

ICA 2021, Reviewed papers for Global Communication and Social Change Division, *International Communication Association 2021 Conference*, Paris, France.

ICA 2020, Reviewed papers for Computational Methods, Intercultural Communication Division, Global Communication, and Social Change Division, and Communication Law and Policy Division, *International Communication Association 2020 Conference*, Gold Coast, Australia.

ICA 2019, Reviewed papers for Global Communication and Social Change Division, International Communication Association 2019 Conference, Washington, DC.

NCA 2019, Reviewed for Activism and Social Justice and Critical and Cultural Studies, National Communication Association (NCA) 2019 Convention, Baltimore, MD, USA.

Session Chair

Sustainable Development: Paradoxes, Promises and Challenges for Women in News Media [Parallel Session, Gender and Communication Section], International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) Conference 2019.

Conference Volunteer

104th National Communication Association Convention, 2018

102nd National Communication Association Convention, 2016

SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY

James Madison University

Member, President's Special Task Force on Generative AI, 2023-2024

Member, Research Committee, School of Communication Studies, 2023-2024

Faculty Adviser, Muslim Students Association (MSA) at James Madison University

Reviewer, GEC Collaborative Development Grants 2023, General Education Council

Member, Outreach, Engagement, and Diversity Committee, School of Communication Studies, 2021-2022

Member at the JMU Faculty Senate, 2019 - Present

Member, Search Committee for Lecturer of Communication Studies, Summer 2021

Contributed to review and redesign of the GenEd communication OER textbook, 2020

Judged at Virginia is for Lovers Tournament, School of Communication Studies

Bowling Green State University

Volunteered at the NCA 2018 Graduate School Open House, School of Media and Comm, BGSU

Judged Parliamentary Debate at the 75th Annual Falcon Classic 2018 [tournament], hosted by BGSU Falcon Forensics & Debate Team

Vice President, Graduate Communication Association (GCA), 2016-2017

Judged Recitations at the 73rd Annual Falcon Classic 2016 [tournament], hosted by BGSU Falcon Forensics & Debate Team

Member, Graduate Student Senate (GSS), 2015 – Present

Member, Graduate Communication Association (GCA), 2015 – 2019

Treasurer, Muslim Students Association (MSA) at BGSU, 2016

Ohio University

Member, Communication & Development (CommDev) Studies Students Association,

Student Adviser, Muslim Students Association (MSA) at O.U.

University of Oslo

Executive Member, Student Council, International Summer School 2010

Representative to Student Council, International Summer School 2010

University of Dhaka

Director of Programs & Communication in charge, Centre for Debate & Public Communication (CDPC), Faculty of Social Science

President & Country Delegate, Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations Dhaka University Club (HPAIRDUC), 2009 –2010

Moderator, English Debate, House of Debaters (DOH), Jahurula Haque Hall, 2005

Executive Member, English Debate, Dhaka University Debating Society, 2003-2008

Moderator, English Speakers' Forum, Dept. of Islamic History & Culture, 2003-2007

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

Member of Core Team representing [Valley Muslim Community Foundation](#) (VMCF) at the [Valley Interfaith Action](#) (VIA), Harrisonburg, VA

Volunteer Communication Adviser, Speaker & Resource Person, *Valley Muslim Community Foundation* (VMCF), Harrisonburg, VA, 2022-Present

Speaker & Resource Person, *Islamic Association of Shenandoah Valley* (IASV), Harrisonburg, VA, 2020-2022

Graduate Adviser & Friday Speaker, *Muslim Students Association*, BGSU, Bowling Green, OH, 2016-2019

Communication & Outreach Coordinator, Noor Islamic Cultural Center (NICC), Dublin, OH. *NICC-Homeland Security Muslim Community Engagement Event*, 2014

Vice President, Debate Bangladesh, 2008-2010

President & Campaign Leader, Community Service Family (CSF), Dhaka, Bangladesh, Project: *Campaign for Higher Education Campaign*, 2008-2009

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Communications & Outreach Coordinator (Jul 2011 — Jun 2012)

Bangladesh Youth Environmental Initiative, Dhaka, Bangladesh. *Project: Earth Champion Program (ECP), supported by U.S. State Department.*

Sub-Editor, International Desk (Nov 2007—Sep 2010)

The Daily Jajaidin, Dhaka, Bangladesh. *Assignments: International News Desk/ Central Desk.*

Guest Contributor (2010)

Perspective, a Dhaka-based monthly magazine. *Area: Development Communication.* Topic: "Community Radio in Bangladesh: Giving Voice to the Voiceless."

Feature Writer (Oct 2006—Sept 2008)

The Daily Jajaidin, Dhaka, Bangladesh. *Areas: Infotainment, technology, and humanitarian issues.* Recognized for writing special features on international and humanitarian affairs

Communication in charge (Jan 2008 – Jun 2008)

Centre for Debate & Public Communication (CDPC), Dhaka, Bangladesh. *Project: Capacity Building Initiative for Educational Institutions*, supported by IDEA, UK & Netherlands.

LANGUAGES

Bengali – Native; **English** – Fluent; **Arabic** – Working Knowledge; **Urdu** – Basic