

NAFISA TANJEEM

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EMPLOYMENT

- 2017 – Present **Lesley University**
Assistant Professor of Gender, Race, and Sexuality Studies and Global Studies
- 2020 – 2021 **Northeastern University**
Visiting Scholar, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program
- 2010 – 2017 **Rutgers University**
Graduate Instructor, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies
- 2013 – 2016 **University of Dhaka**
Visiting Lecturer, Department of Women and Gender Studies
- 2009 – 2010 **Council of Agencies Serving South Asians, Toronto, Canada**
Community Organizer and Events Coordinator

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Transnational, postcolonial, and decolonial feminisms; critical race theory; globalization and feminist politics; critical community engagement; nonprofit industrial complex; critical university studies; and transnational social justice movements with a specific focus on the United States and South Asia.

EDUCATION

- 2017 **Rutgers – The State University of New Jersey, USA**
Ph.D. in Women’s and Gender Studies
Dissertation title: Can Workers of the World Unite? A Multi-Sited Ethnography of Transnational Labor Organizing Across the Apparel Commodity Network
Dissertation Committee: Dr. Mary Hawkesworth (Chair), Dr. Yana Rodgers, Dr. Carlos Decena, Dr. Ethel Brooks, and Dr. Dina Siddiqi
- 2009 **University of Toronto, Canada**
M.A. in Women and Gender Studies
Thesis title: “Space, Place, and Restaurants: The Making of the Bangladeshi Diaspora in Toronto”
Thesis advisor: Dr. Ashwini Tambe
- 2008 **University of Dhaka, Bangladesh**
B.S.S. in Women and Gender Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Book project

Tanjeem, Nafisa. *Can Workers of the World Unite? A Transnational Feminist Ethnography of Labor Organizing Across the Apparel Supply Chain* (In progress).

Chapters in peer-reviewed books

- 2020 Rodgers, Yana, and **Nafisa Tanjeem**. 2020. "[Women in the Asia Pacific](#)." In *Understanding Contemporary Asia Pacific (Second Edition)*, edited by Katherine Palmer Kaup, Boulder and London: Lynne Rienner Publishers. (Under contract - Forthcoming)
- 2018 **Tanjeem, Nafisa** and Aditi Sabur. 2018. "[Bangladesh: The Institutionalization of Women and Gender Studies in Higher Education](#)." In *Education in South Asia and the Indian Ocean Islands*, edited by Debotri Dhar and Hema Letchamanan, 29-46. London and New York: Bloomsbury Publishing.
- 2016 **Tanjeem, Nafisa**. 2016. "[Social Media and Conforming Voluntarism in the Neoliberal Era: The Case of Rana Plaza Collapse in Savar, Bangladesh](#)." In *Revealing Gender Inequalities and Perceptions in South Asian Countries through Discourse Analysis*, edited by Nazmunnessa Mahtab, Sara Parker, Farah Kabir, Tania Haque, Aditi Sabur and Abu Saleh Mohammad Sowad, 57-79. USA: Information Science Reference (IGI Global).
- 2012 **Tanjeem, Nafisa**. 2012. "[The Making of a "Home": Exploring the Space of Bangladeshi Diasporic Restaurants in Toronto](#)." In *Strangers in New Homelands: The Social Deconstruction and Reconstruction of "Home" among Immigrants in the Diaspora*, edited by Michael Baffoe, Maria Cheung, Lewis Asimeng-Boahene and Buster Ogbuagu, 78-90. UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
- 2010 **Tanjeem, Nafisa** and Ishrat Khan. 2010. *Impact of Hegemonic Masculinity at Workplace: An Analysis of Challenges Faced by Middle-Class Working Women in Bangladesh*. Dhaka: University of Dhaka, Department of Women and Gender Studies - Working Paper Series.

Book Review

- 2020 **Tanjeem, Nafisa**. 2020. "An Empire of Touch: Women's Political Labor and the Fabrication of East Bengal." *South Asian Review*, July, 1–4.

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Op-eds

- 2020 **Tanjeem, Nafisa**. 2020. "[Beyond the Question of Choice, Motherhood, and Burqa](#)." The Daily Star. September 17, 2020.

- 2020 **Tanjeem, Nafisa**, and Michael J. Illuzzi. 2020. "[How COVID-19 Is Normalizing an eLearning-Industrial-Complex in US Higher Education](#)." Common Dreams. August 7, 2020.
- 2020 **Tanjeem, Nafisa**. 2020. "[Eclipsed Race and Class? Calling AOC a 'B*tch' Is Not Just About Sexism](#)." Common Dreams. July 26, 2020.
- 2020 **Tanjeem, Nafisa**. 2020. "[Despite Trump Reversal on Visas, Struggles of International Students Haven't Ended](#)." Common Dreams. July 16, 2020.
- 2020 Ahmed, Syed Ishtiaque, **Nafisa Tanjeem**, Ayesha Sania, and Md Ruhul Amin. 2020. "[COVID-19 and the Economisation of Life in Bangladesh](#)." *The Daily Star*, May 10, 2020.
- 2020 **Tanjeem, Nafisa**. 2020. "[From Rana Plaza to COVID-19 Pandemic: Spotlights of Transnational Labour Organising](#)." *New Age*, May 5, 2020.
- 2020 **Tanjeem, Nafisa**. 2020. "[Appropriation of Survival of Garment Workers](#)." *New Age*, April 14, 2020.
- 2017 **Tanjeem, Nafisa**. 2017. "[Thinking beyond Accord and Alliance](#)." *The Daily Star*, April 21, 2017.

Bangla publications

- 2020 Tanjeem, Nafisa. 2020. "[ব্যক্তিস্বাধীনতা, মাতৃত্ব আর বোরকার পরের প্রশ্ন](#) [Questions beyond Choice, Motherhood, and Borkha]." *The Daily Star Bangla*. September 19, 2020.
- 2020 Tanjeem, Nafisa. 2020. "[রানা প্লাজা থেকে করোনাকালঃ আন্তর্জাতিক শ্রম আন্দোলনের স্পটলাইট যা দেখিনি](#) [Rana Plaza to COVID-19: What the Spotlight of Transnational Labor Movement Missed]." *ঠোটকাটা* [Thotkata], May 8, 2020.
- 2020 Tanjeem, Nafisa. 2020. "[করোনা ভাইরাস, দুর্যোগকালীন পুঁজিবাদ এবং আমাদের গার্মেন্ট শ্রমিক](#) [Coronavirus, Disaster Capitalism, and Our Garment Workers]." *ঠোটকাটা* [Thotkata], April 13, 2020.
- 2015 Tanjeem, Nafisa. 2015. "[নারীবাদ প্রশ্ন সম্পর্কে নারিসা](#) [Nafisa on the Question of Feminism]." *ঠোটকাটা* [Thotkata], September 29, 2015.
- 2015 Tanjeem, Nafisa. 2015. "[হার্কিন্স বিল থেকে অ্যাকর্ড ও অ্যালায়েন্সঃ কর্পোরেটকেন্দ্রিক শ্রম আন্দোলনের সীমাবদ্ধতা](#) [From Harkin's Bill to Accord and Alliance: Limitations of Corporation-Centric Labor Movements]." *ঠোটকাটা* [Thotkata], June 10, 2015.
- 2015 Tanjeem, Nafisa. 2015. "[অ্যালায়েন্স ফর বাংলাদেশ ওয়ার্কাস স্ফটি: পোশাক শিল্পে কর্পোরেট গভর্নেন্সের নতুন সংযোজন](#) [Alliance for Bangladesh Workers Safety: A New Addition to Corporate Governance in the Garment Industry]." *ঠোটকাটা* [Thotkata], May 15, 2015.

- 2015 Tanjeem, Nafisa. 2015. “অ্যাকর্ড কোন ম্যাজিক বুলেট নয়: বাংলাদেশের পোশাক শিল্পের উন্নয়নে সাম্প্রতিক কর্পোরেট কোড [Accord Is Not a Magic Bullet: Recent Corporate Codes for Improvement of the Garment Industry in Bangladesh].” *ঠোঁটকাটা* [Thotkata], May 9, 2015.
- 2015 Tanjeem, Nafisa. 2015. “পোশাক শিল্পে শিশুশ্রম নিরসনের রাজনীতি: নব্বইয়ের দশকের কর্পোরেটকেন্দ্রিক শ্রম অধিকার উদ্যোগ [The Politics of Ending Child Labor in the Garment Industry: The Corporation-Centric Labor Rights Organizing in the 1990s].” *ঠোঁটকাটা* [Thotkata], April 30, 2015.

Professor’s Prologues

- 2019 **Tanjeem, Nafisa.** 2019. “[Professor’s Prologue: Bryan Stevenson.](#)” Lesley University. February 27, 2019.
- 2018 **Tanjeem, Nafisa.** 2018. “[Professor’s Prologue: Paul Nicklen.](#)” Lesley University. May 2, 2018.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2019 “Solidarity as an Experiment: How Can We Think about Workers’ Resistance?” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference 2019*, San Francisco, CA (15 November 2019)
- 2019 “Collaboration or Industry Complex? Transnational Feminist Narratives of University-Nonprofit Relations in Neoliberal Times,” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference 2019*, San Francisco, CA (16 November 2019)
- 2019 “Corporate accountability, labor rights, and reimagining global labor solidarity,” *Labor and Working-Class History Association Conference 2019*, Duke University, Durham, NC (1 June 2019)
- 2019 “Transnational Feminist Narratives of Progress: A Critical Look at the Bangladeshi Garment Workers’ Organizing,” *Bangladesh Development Initiative 2019 Conference*, Yale University, Connecticut, CA (23 March 2019)
- 2018 “Who can be a Transnational Feminist Activist? Exploring the Politics of Access, Language, and Funding,” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference 2018*, Atlanta, GA (9 November 2018)
- 2018 “Accord, Alliance, and the Question of Workplace Safety of Women Garment Workers in Bangladesh,” *International Association for Feminist Economics Annual Conference 2018*, SUNY – New Paltz, New Paltz, NY (20 June 2018)

- 2018 “Conformist or Transformative? Virtual Labor Activism in a Neoliberal Era,” *Gender and the Global South: A New Scholars Symposium*, Bates College, Lewiston, ME (27 April 2018)
- 2017 “Can Social Media Transform Labor Activism? Exploring the Case of Women Garment Workers’ Organizing in Bangladesh,” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference 2017*, Baltimore, MD (18 November 2017)
- 2017 “Global Labor Migration: Contemporary Perspectives,” *Labor and Working-Class History Association Conference 2017*, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (24 June 2017)
- 2017 [“Bangladeshi Garment Labor Organizing: Where Transnational Solidarity Collides with Grass-root Resistance,”](#) *South Asia Conference: Inequality in South Asia*, Institute for Public Knowledge, New York University, New York, NY (25 February 2017)
- 2016 “Can Workers of the World Unite? Disjuncture in Transnational Labor Organizing and Possibilities of Radical Coalitional Practices in a ‘Post-Rana Plaza’ World,” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference 2016*, Montreal, QC, Canada (12 November 2016)
- 2016 “North-South Dialogues: Decolonizing Women’s Studies Pedagogies and Practices,” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference 2016*, Montreal, QC, Canada (12 November 2016)
- 2016 “Local Grief, Global Response: Transnational Labor Organizing in Neoliberal Times,” *The 45th Annual Conference of South Asia*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI (22 October 2016)
- 2015 “Social Media and Conformist Voluntarism in the Neoliberal Era: The Case of Rana Plaza Collapse in Savar, Bangladesh,” *Development and Democracy in Bangladesh: Problems and Prospects*, University of California – Berkeley, Berkeley, CA (7 November 2015)
- 2015 “Academy-Industrial Complex and the Future of Women’s and Gender Studies in Bangladesh,” *International Conference on Knowledge and Politics in Gender and Women’s Studies*, Ankara, Turkey (10 October 2015)
- 2014 “The Rana Plaza Collapse and Transnational Digital Activism,” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference 2014*, San Juan, PR (14 November 2014)
- 2014 “Gender, Social Media, and Labor Activism: A Transnational Feminist Analysis of the Case of Rana Plaza Collapse in Saver, Bangladesh,” *Thinking Transnational Feminisms Summer Institute 2014*, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (7 July 2014)
- 2013 “Mapping Transnational Organizing using a Feminist Commodity Chain Analysis,” *International Association for Feminist Economics Annual Conference 2013*, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA (12 July 2013)

- 2011 “Resisting Monsanto: A Gendered Cartography of Bangladeshi Women’s Experience,” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference 2011*, Atlanta, GA (12 November 2011)
- 2011 “The Making of a ‘Home’: Exploring the Space of Bangladeshi Diasporic Restaurants in Toronto, Canada,” *4th Annual Graduate Forum on Race and Ethnicity*, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ (25 February 2011)
- 2010 “The Politics of National Purification: Exploration of the Case of a Bangladeshi ‘Rehabilitation’ Campaign,” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference 2010*, Denver, CO (13 November 2010)
- 2010 “Slumdog Millionaire: A Transnational Imperial Project,” *Women’s and Gender Studies Annual Conference for Graduate Students at Rutgers*, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ (28 October 2010)
- 2009 “Flying while Muslim: Exploring the Relationship between Race and Space beyond the Nation-State,” *Thinking beyond the Nation-State: A Symposium on Empires, Diasporas and Indigeneity*, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY (20 November 2009)
- 2009 “Negotiating Identities: An Exploration of Stateless Bihari Women’s Politics of Memoirs in Bangladesh,” *National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) Conference 2009*, Atlanta, GA (13 November 2009)

INVITED TALKS

- 2020 “COVID-19 Crisis and Global Inequalities,” University of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA (8 September 2020)
- 2020 “[Gender Sensitivity: Online Live Workshop](#),” Gen Lab and U.S. Department of State (28 August 2020)
- 2020 “[The Labor of Fashion, the Global COVID-19 Crisis, and the Politics of Resistance in Bangladesh](#),” The Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (12 June 2020)
- 2019 “Pakistani porters in K-2 expeditions: Race, class, and gender in neoliberal tourism - A reflection on the film *K-2 and Invisible Footman*,” *Women Take the Reel Film Festival*, Lesley University, Cambridge, MA (27 March 2019)
- 2018 “Solidarity with Whom? Negotiating Neoliberal Solidarity in Transnational Organizing Spaces,” Women’s Studies Research Center, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA (1 November 2018)
- 2018 “Garment Labor Organizing: A Contested Territory,” [Organizing and Resistance across Borders: Bangladeshi Garment Workers’ Experiences](#), Lesley University, Cambridge, MA (21 September 2018)

- 2018 “The Present and Future of Gender Studies in Bangladesh,” *The Present and Future of Bengal Studies: Prospects and Problems*, Boston University, Boston, MA (14 September 2018)
- 2018 “Negotiating Homonormativity in the film ‘Pariah,’” *Women Take the Reel Film Festival*, Lesley University, Cambridge, MA (6 March 2018)
- 2017 “Understanding the Apparel Supply Chain from the Retail Side: Experiences of Bangladeshi Immigrant Women Wal-Mart Workers,” *Global Labor Migration Network: Inaugural Workshop*, Center for Global Migration Studies, University of Maryland – College Park, College Park, MD (20 April 2017)
- 2017 “Comments on the Documentary ‘Sramik Awaz: Workers’ Voices,’” *Layered Gaze: Feminist Film Festival*, Sister Diaspora for Liberation, New York, NY (26 March 2017)
- 2017 “Gender Equality: Women in Army and Transgender Experiences in ‘Bathroom Bills,’” Hammarskjold Middle School, East Brunswick, NJ (2 March 2017)
- 2016 “Can Workers of the World Unite? Disjuncture in Transnational Labor Organizing and Possibilities of Radical Coalitional Practices,” Department of Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies, University of Massachusetts – Boston, Boston, MA (3 October 2016)
- 2016 “Can Workers of the World Unite? Insights from an Ethnography of Transnational Organizing in a Post-Rana Plaza World,” Fashion Literacy Project, Department of Women and Gender Studies, Hunter College, New York, NY (30 March 2016)
- 2016 “Transnational Organizing in the Bangladeshi Garment Industry,” Labor Resource Center, University of Massachusetts – Boston, Boston, MA (22 March 2016)
- 2015 “Alternative Pedagogies and Digital Technologies,” Office of Instructional and Research Technology (OIRT) Annual Showcase, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ (4 December 2015)
- 2014 “New Social Media, New Labor Movements: Understanding Networked Activism in a Globalizing World using a Feminist Commodity Chain Analysis,” Sufia Kamal Lecture Series, Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh (15 May 2014)
- 2013 “The Online Certificate Program in Women’s Global Health Leadership,” Digital Humanities Showcase, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ (29 January 2013)
- 2013 “What is Feminism?” Rutgers Speakers Bureau, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ (25 January 2013)
- 2012 “Global Feminism: Challenges in Local Context,” Latin American Women’s Organization, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ (28 March 2012)

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, GRANTS

2020-2021	Davis Grant , Lesley University
2020-2021	Faculty Development Grant , Lesley University
2020 (Spring)	Center for Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship Mini Grant , Lesley University
2018-2019	Global Education Fellowship , Lesley University
2018-2019	Faculty Development Grant , Lesley University
2017 (Fall)	Center for Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship Grant , Lesley University
2017 – 2018	Annette and Hugh Gragg Postdoctoral Fellowship in Chao Center for Asian Studies , Rice University - Declined
2016 – 2017	Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis Graduate Fellowship , Rutgers University
2015 & 2016	TA/GA Professional Development Fund Awards , Rutgers University
2010 – 2016	Pre-Dissertation Travel Award and Conference travel support , Graduate School-New Brunswick, Rutgers University
2014 – 2015	Rutgers University Excellence Fellowship , Rutgers University
2014	Linda Rothman Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching, Rutgers University
2014	Hybrid Course Conversion Grant , Rutgers University
2013	Sweden-Bangladesh Trust Fund Travel Grant , Bangladesh
2012 – 2013	Pre-Doctoral Leadership Fellowship , Rutgers University
2013	IAFFE – Conference Travel Grant , International Association for Feminist Economics
2011 & 2016	NWSA Travel Grants , National Women’s Studies Association
2008 & 2010	International Peace Scholarship , P.E.O International Peace Scholarship Fund, USA
2008-2009	University of Toronto Graduate Fellowship , Canada
2009	Dean’s Award for Academic Excellence , University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
2004-2006	Japan International Cooperation Foundation Scholarship awarded to top twenty incoming undergraduate students of University of Dhaka by Japan International Cooperation Foundation, Japan
2002-2003	Top incoming student of the Faculty of Arts and Social Science at University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses taught

Introduction to Gender, Race, Sexuality (face-to-face, hybrid, and online)
Politicizing Sex, Gender, and Race: Transnational Perspectives
Introduction to Feminist Theories
Feminist Theory and Writings: Selected Readings from the Early to Contemporary Periods
Feminist Debates and Discourses
Gender and Development
Gender and Globalization
Gender and Consumption
Transnational Digital Activism (face-to-face and online)
Social Media and Social Movements (online)
Doing Good or Looking Good: Decolonizing Community Engagement
Global Issues and Challenges

Research Methods

Internship and Seminar: The Non-profit Industrial Complex and Social Justice Organizing
Senior Capstone Seminar: Global Social Change

Courses taught as Graduate Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Women and Gender Studies
Immigrant States – Jersey’s Global Routes
War – Critical Perspectives
Impacts of Economic Inequality on Women’s Health (Online)
Women’s Global Health Movements (Online)
Health Consequences of Global Pharmaceutical Industry (Online)

Doctoral advisement

Member, Dissertation Committee: Cheri Sullivan, “A Portrait of Women Taking Charge: Building Capacity during a Substance Misuse Crisis.” Lesley University 2018-Present

Member, Dissertation Committee: Cynthia Roy, “Role of Grassroots Educational Leaders in Bringing Equitable Institutional Change.” Lesley University 2019-Present

Master’s advisement

Member, Dissertation Committee, Trishia Nashtaran, “Third Space Feminism: Exploring the Potentials of Digital Third Spaces in Co-Creating Gender Inclusive Sustainable Futures in Bangladesh.” OCAD University, Canada 2018-2019

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

2020	Reviewer, Journal of South Asian Development (peer-reviewed journal) , California: SAGE Journals.
2020	Reviewer, Contemporary South Asia (peer-reviewed journal) , UK: Taylor & Francis Online.
2019	Reviewer, Journal of Bangladesh Studies (peer-reviewed journal) , USA: Journal of Bangladesh Studies
2018 – Present	Editorial Board Member, Journal of Pedagogy, Pluralism, and Practice , Lesley University
2018 – 2020	Award Committee Member, Kingston-Mann Student Achievement Award
2018	Reviewer, National Women’s Studies Association Conference
2017	Reviewer, Asian Women (peer-reviewed journal) , South Korea: Research Institute of Asian Women, Sookmyung Women’s University
2016	Reviewer, Feminist Economics (peer-reviewed journal) , USA: Routledge
2014	Reviewer, Journal of Workplace Rights (peer-reviewed journal) , USA: Baywood
2011 – 2013	Judge, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 12th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium , Rutgers University
2012	Conference Coordinator, Transnational Hispaniola II , Rutgers University, USA
2010 – 2011	Researcher & Organizer, The Lucrece Project , New York University, USA
2010	Reviewer, Women’s & Gender Studies Graduate Research Conference , Rutgers University, USA

- 2009 Reviewer, **The 9th Annual Dean's Graduate Student Research Conference**, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto, Canada (2009)
- 2006 – 2007 Feature Reporter, **Daily Prothom-Alo** (one of the leading Bangladeshi daily newspapers), Bangladesh (2006-2007)
- 2005 Exchange student, Participated in a **Student Exchange Program** at the Department of Gender and Development Studies, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand (2005)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2020 – Present Assistant Director, **CLAS – Honors Program**, Lesley University
- 2019 – Present Steward, **Lesley University Core Faculty Union**, Lesley University
- 2019 – Present Member, **CLAS - Honors Advisory Committee**, College of Liberal Arts and Science, Lesley University
- 2018 – 2020 Member, **Curriculum Committee**, College of Liberal Arts and Science, Lesley University
- 2018 – 2019 Member, **Search Committee** for the Sociology and Social Change position
- 2017 – Present Member, **Global Studies Program Committee**, Lesley University
- 2017 – Present Member, **South Asia Forum**, Lesley University

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- 2011 – Present **Organizer**, Meye (Women) – A feminist activist network, Bangladesh
- 2014 **Organizer**, United Students against Sweatshop, Rutgers University Chapter, NJ

LANGUAGE SKILL

Bengali (fluent)