

# Rita Shah, PhD

(she/her/hers)

712 Pray Harrold  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
Office: (734) 487-9824  
E-mail: rshah9@emich.edu  
Website: ritashahphd.com

## EDUCATION

---

**University of California, Irvine, 2011**  
PhD, Criminology, Law, and Society

**University of California, Irvine, 2007**  
MA, Social Ecology

**American University, 2003**  
BA (with university honors), Communications, Legal Institutions, Economics and Government (CLEG)

## EMPLOYMENT

---

**Eastern Michigan University, 2017-present**  
*Assistant Professor of Criminology*

**Elizabethtown College, 2011-2017**  
*Assistant Professor of Sociology*

**University of California, Irvine, 2010- 2011**  
*Graduate Student Instructor, Criminology, Law & Society*

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### *Books*

\*Henne, H., and Shah, R. (Eds.). (Under contract). *The Routledge Handbook of Public Criminologies*. New York: Routledge.

Shah, R. (2017). *The meaning of rehabilitation and its impact on parole: There and back again in California*. New York: Routledge.

### *Peer Reviewed Publications*

Henne, K., and Shah, R. (2016). Feminist criminology and the visual. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Criminology and Criminal Justice*. New York: Oxford University Press. Available at <http://criminology.oxfordre.com/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780190264079.001.0001/acrefore-9780190264079-e-56>

Shah, R., and Kopko, K. C. (2016). Feminist pedagogy and the Socratic method: Partners in the classroom or a disaster waiting to happen? *Higher Education Studies*, 6(2). DOI: 10.5539/hes.v6n2p39

\*Henne, K. and Shah, R. (2015). Unveiling White logic in Criminological research: An intertextual analysis. *Contemporary Justice Review*, 18(2), 105-120.

†Speary, K., and Shah, R. (2015). "It's not illegal to be bizarre": Police decision-making process when coming in contact with persons with a mental illness. *Journal of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences*, 24(1), 22-32.

Shah, R. (2015). Expanding the community: An exploratory analysis of a parole office's location and its impact on parolees. *British Journal of Criminology*, 55(2), 321-340.

### *Public Criminology*

Shah, R. (2019, January 8). Without representation: Prison-based gerrymandering and felony disenfranchisement. *National Center for Institutional Diversity*. Available at:

Hayes, H. A., Hlavacik, M., Shah, R., Steudeman, M., and Terry, A. (2018, November 6). Citizen Critics live: Midterms 2018. *Citizen Critics*. Available at: <https://citizencritics.org/2018/11/citizen-critics-live-midterms-2018/>

Hayes, H. A., Hlavacik, M., Shah, R., Skinnell, R., and Steudeman, M. (2018, November 4). Critics chat: Democratic identity and the 2018 midterms. *Citizen Critics*. Available at: <https://citizencritics.org/2018/11/critics-chat-democratic-identity-and-the-2018-midterms/>

\*Newton, R., and Shah, R. (2018, August 8). Insider baseball: Sessions, the Bible, and approaches to law. *National Center for Institutional Diversity*. Available at: <https://medium.com/national-center-for-institutional-diversity/insider-baseball-sessions-the-bible-and-approaches-to-the-law-e70739d0fb20>

Shah, R. (2017, March 2). Executive branch signals return to tough on crime policies. *Citizen Critics*. Available at: <https://citizencritics.org/2017/03/executive-branch-signals-return-to-tough-on-crime-policies/>

### *Other Publications*

Shah, R. (2016). Book review: Visual, narrative and creative research methods: Application, reflection and ethics. *Visual Methodologies*, 4(2), p. I-III.

Shah, R. (2015). Film review: Conducting Hope. *Teaching Sociology*, 43(2), 172-175.

Shah, R. (2014). *Prison or slave castle? A photo exhibit examining the architecture of imprisonment*. Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA.

Shah, R. (2013). Photo cover: Ghanaian fishing boats. *PoLAR*, 36(1), issue cover.

\*Henne, K., & Shah, R. (2012). Reimagining the images of the crimino-legal complex: Toward a critical pedagogy. *The Critical Criminologist*, 21(1), 4-9.

Shah, R. (2012). Occupy: The Harrisburg Edition (photo editorial). *The Critical Criminologist*, 20(3), 27-31.

\* Denotes 50/50 authorship

† Denotes publication with current or former students

## GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

---

**Ronald W. Collins Distinguished Faculty Awards Teaching I (Nominated)**, Eastern Michigan University, January 2019

**Teaching Award**, American Society of Criminology's Division on Critical Criminology and Social Justice, November 2018

**Provost's Research Support Award**, Eastern Michigan University, July 2018-August 2019 (\$1,100)

**Faculty Research/Creative Activity Fellowship**, Eastern Michigan University, Fall 2018 (100% course release; \$3,000)

**Summer Research/Creative Activity Award**, Eastern Michigan University, Summer 2018 (\$12,000)

**Praxis Award**, American Society of Criminology's Division on Critical Criminology, November 2016

**Interfaith Leadership and Service Award**, Elizabethtown College, April 2016

**Kreider Prize for Teaching Excellence (Nominated)**, Elizabethtown College, February 2016

**Praxis Award (Honorable Mention)**, American Society of Criminology's Division on Critical Criminology, November 2015

**Junior Sabbatical**, Elizabethtown College, July 2015-December 2015 (semester salary and benefits)

**Faculty Research Grant**, Elizabethtown College, July 2015-June 2017 (\$3,000)

## CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

---

### **American Society of Criminology**

Hidden in Plain Sight: Criminological Apparatuses as Public Secrets, Co-Session Organizer and Co-Chair, November 2018

Sub-Area Chair, "Healthcare and Prisons," November 2016

Justice matters: A focus on pedagogy, Session organizer and Chair, November 2015

Author Meets Critic: *Testing for Athlete Citizenship: Regulating Doping and Sex in Sport*, Session organizer and Chair, November 2015

Implementing and evaluating an Inside-Out Class, Session organizer and Chair, November 2010

The Inside-Out Program: Lessons that go beyond the classroom, Session Organizer and Chair, November 2009

### **Centering the Margins: A Critical Criminology Conference**

Chair, 2018-2019

Juggling Scholarship, Activism, and University Expectations, Co-organizer and Co-leader, April 2019

Pathways to the Future, Session Leader, April 2019

### **Elizabethtown College Social Justice Week**

Social Justice Week Committee, Chair, 2012-2017

Social Justice Debate, Facilitator and Organizer, September 2014

UgandaSpeaks Panel, Faculty Advisor and Co-Organizer, October 2012  
 Gun Violence Discussion, Faculty Advisor and Co-Organizer, October 2012  
 Slam Poetry, Faculty Advisor and Co-Organizer, October 2012  
 Model UN: Addressing Syria, Organizer, October 2012  
 Social Justice Debate, Facilitator and Organizer, October 2012  
 Social Justice in Action, Faculty Advisor, Co-organizer, and Panelist, October 2012

## PRESENTATIONS

### *Conference Papers*

Shah, R. (2018). *Hidden in plain sight: Architectures of community corrections*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, November 14-17.

Shah, R. (2017). *Author meets critics: The meaning of rehabilitation and its impact on parole: There and back again in California*. Panel discussant at the American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, May 15-18.

Shah, R. (2017). *Critical teaching: Moving criminology "toward justice."* Panel discussant at the American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, May 15-18.

Henne, K., and Shah, R. (2017). *Bringing together feminist and visual criminology to (re)imagine invisible injuries*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, November, 15-18.

Shah, R., and Henne, K. (2017). *Can there be a feminist visual criminology? Representational politics, injury, and victimhood*. Paper presented at the Critical Criminology/Representing Justice Conference, Ottawa, ONT, May 4-5.

Shah, R. (2017). *Wither the withering of criminal justice? Reforming a discipline*. Paper presented at the Critical Intersections of Crime and Social Justice Conference, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA, April 7-8.

Shah, R. (2016). *Students-Meets-Scholars: Social justice in academia and practice*. Panel discussant at the American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, November 16-19.

Shah, R. (2015). *Teaching/ Advising/ Mentoring undergraduates at the interaction of social and criminal justice*. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Washington, DC, November 18-21.

### *Invited Talks and Guest Lectures*

**Socio-legal approaches to intersectionality Workshop**, June 2018

Invited discussant for the Law and Society Emerging Research (LaSER) Lab, University of Waterloo

**Corrections: A constructed and constructing space**, November 2016

Invited talk for the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology, Eastern Michigan University

**Social identities and creative writing**, November 2016

Invited lecturer for Prof. Tyler Grimm, *FYS: Psychology and Creative Writing*, Elizabethtown, PA

**The death penalty and The West Wing**, November 2016

Invited panelist for Dr. Richard Newton, *Signifying religion: An African-American worldview*, Elizabethtown, PA

Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdxJJqbel3w>

**Intersectionality and you**, October 2016

Invited lecturer for Dr. Bruce Lynch, *Diversity Awareness*, Elizabethtown, PA

**Understanding the election**, September 2016

Invited lecturer for Dr. Sara Atwood, *Engineering Fall Seminar*, Elizabethtown, PA

**Constitutional implications of the 2016 election**, September 2016

Invited panelist for Constitution Day sponsored by Politics, Philosophy, and Legal Studies, Elizabethtown, PA

**School-to-prison pipeline**, April 2016

Invited lecturer for Dr. Joseph Mahoney, *Community Psychology*, Elizabethtown, PA

**Social identities and marketing**, February 2016; October 2017

Invited lecturer for Dr. Bryan Greenberg, *Contemporary Issues in Marketing*, Elizabethtown, PA

**The impact of MLK**, January 2016

Invited panelist for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Week Committee, Elizabethtown College, PA

**Incarceration nation**, April 2015

Invited presenter for Young Americans for Liberty at Elizabethtown College, PA

**Prison or slave castle? A photo exhibit examining the architecture of imprisonment**, Fall 2014-Spring 2015

Invited lecturer for Professor Tyler Grimm, *FYS: The Psychology of Creativity*, Elizabethtown, PA

Invited lecturer for Dr. Richard Newton, *Signifying Religion: An African American Worldview*, Elizabethtown, PA

Invited lecturer, Elizabethtown Area High School, Honor's Program, Elizabethtown, PA

---

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Architectures of Community Corrections**, September 2018-present

*Principal Investigator*

Funded by: Eastern Michigan University Internal Research Awards

Eastern Michigan University Office of the Provost

Eastern Michigan University Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology

**International Visual Methods Seminar**, University of Antwerp, August-September 2015

*Seminar Participant; Workshop: Visually-rich scholarly articles*

Funded by: Elizabethtown College Faculty Research Grant

Elizabethtown College Office of the Dean

Elizabethtown College Honors Program

**Unveiling White logic in Criminological research: An intertextual analysis**, February 2013-April 2015

*Co-Principal Investigator with Dr. Kathryn Henne*

**Re-imagining the bodies and boundaries of the crimino-legal complex**, June 2011-September 2012

*Co-Principal Investigator with Dr. Kathryn Henne and Dr. Nina Billone Prieur*

Funded by: University of Denver Institute for Digital Humanities (with funding from the NEH)

**There and back again: The role of rehabilitation within California corrections and its impact on parole,** September 2009-July 2011

*Principal Investigator*

Funded by: National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship  
University of California, Irvine Center for Organizational Research

**Visualizing Governing Through Crime,** December 2009-December 2010

*Collaborator and Website Developer*

Principal Investigators: Mona Lynch, PhD; Jonathan Simon, PhD

Project title: Governance or freedom? Understanding parole through the lens of governing through crime

Funded by: University of California Humanities Research Institute

---

## RESEARCH SUPERVISION

### *Masters and PhD*

**Troubled teens and total institutions: Construction of the rehabilitated selves,** September 2017-present

*Heather Mooney, Wayne State University, Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology*

Doctoral dissertation, Committee Member

**Black Feminist Criminology and Criminological Understandings,** January 2019-present

*Chanice Canady, Eastern Michigan University, Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice*

Non-master's thesis paper, First Reader

**Measures of Religiosity and Recidivism in Determining the Effectiveness of Prison Fellowship Ministry and Recidivism Rates: Article Reviews and Methodological Critiques,** January 2018-present

*Chanice Canady, Eastern Michigan University, Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice*

Non-master's thesis paper, Second Reader

**Existing Lifetime Electronic Monitoring Laws are Detrimental,** September 2017-April 2018

*Tara Lapham, Eastern Michigan University, Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice*

Non-master's thesis paper, First Reader

**The Politics of Victimization Revisited: The Case of Sex Trafficking and the Obstacles to Preventing Victimization,** January 2018-April 2018

*Tara Lapham, Eastern Michigan University, Master of Arts in Criminology and Criminal Justice*

Non-master's thesis paper, Second Reader

### *Undergraduate*

**Bias in the American Press? Global Warming and "Balance" Reporting,** January 2018-April 2018

*Jaymes Dempsey, Eastern Michigan University, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology*

Undergraduate Research Symposium, Faculty Co-Mentor with Dr. Kimberly Barrett

**Portraying LGBTQ experiences: Reducing bias through exposure to fictional LGBTQ characters,**

August 2016-May 2017

*Katelyn Gebbia, Elizabethton College, Department of English*

College Honor's Thesis, Chair

**The good, the bad, and the huh? Perceptions of the anti-hero in US crime shows,** August 2016-May 2017*Emily Soltys, Elizabethtown College, Department of Sociology and Anthropology*

Honor's Thesis in Sociology/Anthropology with a concentration in Criminology and Criminal justice, Chair

**Mediating perceptions of race and criminal justice in America,** May 2016*Emily Soltys, Elizabethtown College, Department of Sociology and Anthropology*Submission for Sowing the Seed: <https://sowingtheseed.org/2016/10/17/mediating-perceptions-of-race-and-criminal-justice-in-america/>**The stereotype of criminal blackness,** May 2016*Matthew Kuraska, Elizabethtown College, Department of English*Submission for Sowing the Seed: <https://sowingtheseed.org/2016/10/10/the-stereotype-of-criminal-blackness/>**Magical ministries: An analysis of fantasy governments and legal structures,** August 2015-May 2016*Erin Krause, Elizabethtown College, Department of Politics, Philosophy, and Legal Studies*

Honor's Thesis in Political Science and English, Committee Member

---

## COURSES TAUGHT

Community Corrections

Crime and Justice

Media, Crime, and Justice (Graduate)

Crime, Society, and Interpretation

Criminology

Joss Whedon: Friend or Foe? (First Year Seminar)

Law and Literature

Law and Social Change

Race, Class, and Gender in the CJ System

Social Justice

Theories of Criminal Behavior (Graduate)

The U.S. Criminal Justice System

---

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Division on Women and Crime's Visionary Training Workshop,** American Society of Criminology Annual Conference, November 2018**Writing Across the Curriculum,** Eastern Michigan University, May 2018**New Faculty Learning Community,** Eastern Michigan University, 2017-2018**Disciplinary Literacies,** Eastern Michigan University, 2017-2018**Difficult Dialogues After the Election,** Elizabethtown College, 2016**Embodying Intersectionality in the Classroom with Sharon Lettman-Hicks (National Black Justice Coalition),** Elizabethtown College, 2015

## SERVICE

*Public*

**Editor, Criminal Justice Desk**, Citizen Critics, January 2017-present, [citizencritics.org](http://citizencritics.org)

**Discussant**, Sowing the Seed Podcast, *Episode 7—Law and Order*, November 2016, <https://soundcloud.com/sowingtheseed/broadcast-seeding-episode-7>

**Discussant**, WTF's *Smart Talk: A special Smart Talk on police shootings and racial mistrust*, July 2016, <http://www.witf.org/smart-talk/2016/07/a-special-smart-talk-on-police-shootings-and-racial-mistrust.php>

**Discussant**, Elizabethtown Area High School, Honor's program presentation of *It's a girl!*, April 2015

**Discussant**, WTF's *Smart Talk: What's behind the dramatic increase in women prison inmates?*, February 2015, <http://www.witf.org/smart-talk/2015/02/smart-talk-whats-behind-the-dramatic-increase-in-women-prison-inmates.php>

*Professional***American Society of Criminology**

2016 Program Committee, Sub-Area Chair, 2015-2016

Minority Affairs Committee, Committee Member, 2012-2013

Division on Critical Criminology and Social Justice

Committee to Incorporate the Principles of Social Justice, Chair, September-November 2017

Secretary/Treasurer, November 2011-November 2013

**Editorial Boards**

*Visual Methodologies: A Postdisciplinary Journal*

**Indiana State University**

Social Justice Advisory Board, 2016-present

**Manuscript Reviewer**

*American Journal of Criminal Justice*

*Crime, Media, and Culture*

*Critical Criminology*

*Current Sociology*

*Justice Quarterly*

*Oxford Encyclopedia of Crime, Media, and Popular Culture*

Rowan and Littlefield

Routledge Press

*Social Justice*

*Sociology Compass*

**Society for the Study of Social Problems**

Kathleen S. Lowney Mentoring Award Committee, Rotating Member, 2018-present

Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Fellowship Committee, Rotating Member, 2012-present

*University/College***Eastern Michigan University**

President's Initiative for Campus Climate Assessment, Qualitative Research Group, Committee Member, 2019

CAS Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Alternate, 2018-2019



**Elizabethtown College**

## Councils and Committees

Personnel Council, Fall 2013-Spring 2017

Institutional Review Board, Prisoner Representative, 2012-2017

## Curricular

Department of Politics, Philosophy, and Legal Studies

Legal Studies Major, Curriculum Revision, Fall 2012-Spring 2013

Pre-Law Advising Committee (PLAC), 2011- 2017

Explore the Core, Presentation on *Crime, Society, and Interpretation*, 2015-2017

Momentum, Presentation on Sociology and Criminology, 2014-2017

## Diversity and Inclusion

Teach-in, Unpacking the knapsack: Understanding white privilege—even if you don't think you have any, January 2015

Freedom Seder, Reader, 2013-2017

## Hiring Committees

Chemistry Analytical Chemist, New Faculty Peer Consultant, Fall 2016

Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Spring 2016

## Student Organizations

Students Advocating for Gender Equality (SAGE), Faculty Advisor, Fall 2013-Spring 2015

Panelist for *Pink Ribbons, Inc.* documentary screening, October 2014

Panelist for *Sin by Silence* documentary screening, March 2014

Take Back the Night, Faculty Advisor, April 2013

“Safer” House Student Directed Learning Community, Faculty Advisor, Fall 2012-Spring 2013

## Other

Melanie Snyder Lecture, Introducer of Speaker, October 2016

Interfaith Civil Rights Service Trip, Faculty Facilitator and Mentor, March 2016

WARE Lecture with Tawakkol Karman, Introducer of Speaker, April 2014

Campus Security External Review, Faculty Input Provider, March 2013

Called to Lead

Undergraduate Fellows in Leadership for Justice and Peace, Faculty Mentor, 2013- 2017

*Leadership and Social Issues: Prisoners' re-entry into society*, Invited Talk, February 2012

*Departmental***Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminology, Eastern Michigan University**

*Assistant Professor of Criminology, 2017-present*

Graduate Curriculum Committee, September 2018-present

Criminology Curriculum Committee, Member, September 2017-present

**Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Elizabethtown College**

*Assistant Professor of Sociology, 2011-2017*

Mid-Atlantic Undergraduate Research Conference, Faculty Moderator, March 2016

Departmental self-evaluation, May 2015-June 2017

Academic Advisor, 2012-June 2017

Criminal Justice Major, Curriculum Revision, Fall 2012-Spring 2013

Sociology and Anthropology Major, Curriculum Revision, Fall 2012-Spring 2013

Honors in the Discipline Committee Member, 2011-2017

SAN330 Methods Proposals Defense Committee Member, 2011-2017

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

---

American Society of Criminology (ASC), member since 2005

Division on Corrections and Sentencing, member since 2005

Division on Critical Criminology and Social Justice, member since 2006

Division on People of Color and Crime

Division on Women and Crime, member since 2006

International Visual Sociology Association, member since 2015

Society for the Study of Social Problems, member since 2010

Division of Community Research and Development, member since 2010

Division of Crime and Juvenile Delinquency, member since 2010

Division of Law and Society, member since 2010

Division of Teaching Social Problems, member since 2010