

Shahid Alvi, PhD

Professor, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities at University of Ontario Institute of Technology
Oshawa, ON, CA

Moving the metre on hard-hitting social justice and equality issues affecting vulnerable populations

Seeing the world through the eyes of society's most vulnerable populations is how Shahid Alvi, PhD, Professor in the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities (FSSH) at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT,) inspires his students to take their place as thoughtful and committed citizens. He has always set his sights on making a difference in the lives of those in need and his research is driven to that end.

Following the path to social justice began with a desire to foster real change within communities. Dr. Alvi obtained his Bachelor of Arts (Advanced) in Sociology from the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) in 1982, and earned his Master of Arts in Sociology from U of S in 1986. He received his Doctorate in Sociology from Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario in 1995.

He began his career as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario. In 1999, he joined the University of St. Thomas (UST) in St. Paul, Minnesota as Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, and in 2002 he was appointed Associate Professor and Director of UST's Criminal Justice Program, and Cross-Appointed in American Cultural Studies and Women's Studies in the Department of Sociology. In 2004, he received the Heart of St. Thomas Award for his contribution to service, teaching and research at UST.

Dr. Alvi joined UOIT in 2004 as Associate Professor; has served as Professor since 2006, and previously held the appointment of Associate Dean, all in the FSSH. Part of a UOIT collaborative research team investigating homelessness in Durham Region, Dr. Alvi and his partners' recommendations were adopted by the Region, helping to shape public policy. Additionally, the results of a safety study Dr. Alvi completed for the Town of Ajax have guided many key policy changes locally.

Author of internationally published books on youth crime, justice and poverty, Dr. Alvi's research takes on some of the most critical challenges facing humanity. A member of the American Society of Criminology (ASC), Dr. Alvi was named Critical Criminologist of the Year in 2002. From 2006 to 2013, he served as the Editor-in-Chief of Critical Criminology, the official international journal of the ASC Division on Critical Criminology, and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Section on Critical Criminology.

Education/Learning, Public Policy, Research, Judiciary, Law Enforcement

Immigrant Women, Poverty and Crime, Violence Against Women, Youth Crime, Inner City Crime, Family and Public Policy, Crime and Social Exclusion, Cyberbullying

American Society of Criminology, The Denise House

The Future of Critical Criminology

Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Science

Battered Immigrant Women's Experiences with Courts: An Exploratory Study

Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

Why did “Cyberbullying” Supersede Hate Crime? Mass Distraction and the Tyler Clementi Case
Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology

Carleton University
PhD Sociology

University of Saskatchewan
MA Sociology

University of Saskatchewan
BA Sociology

Professor, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities, UOIT

During his tenure at UOIT, Dr. Alvi has taught the undergraduate and graduate courses Poverty and Public Policy, Criminology, and Graduate Criminological Theory. He has received a research award from the Social Sciences and Humanities Resource Council of Canada.

Author, Youth Criminal Justice Policy in Canada: A Critical Introduction

Published in 2012 by New York’s Springer Press, Dr. Alvi’s latest book examines how Canada’s new laws on youth crime, child poverty rates, immigration patterns and youth unemployment relate to youth crime in Canada from a critical criminological perspective.

President, Board of Directors, The Denise House

Since 2012, Dr. Alvi has served as President of the Board of Directors for The Denise House, an emergency shelter for abused women and their children. From 2005 to 2012, he served as vice-president of the Board.

2002 Critical Criminologist of the Year, American Society of Criminology (ASC)
ASC Division on Critical Criminology

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