

# Nikhil Deb

(In 2018, my first name changed from Nikhilendu to Nikhil)

Department of Political Science and Sociology  
Murray State University  
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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Murray State University	2020-
Lecturer of Sociology, University of Tennessee	2019-20
Assistant Professor of Sociology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh	2013-19
Lecturer of Sociology, Shahjalal University Science and Technology	2010-12

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Sociology, University of Tennessee (Chair: Paul K. Gellert)	2019
M.A., Sociology, Ohio University	2015
M.S.S., Sociology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh	2008
B.S.S., Sociology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh	2007

## LEADERSHIP AND AFFILIATIONS

Secretary-Treasurer, Section on Political Economy of the World-System, American Sociological Association (ASA)	2021-23
Chair, Global Division, Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP)	2021-23
Member, Racial & Ethnic Graduate Fellowship Committee, SSSP	2021-23
Global Fellow, Centre for the Study of Social Justice, University of Tennessee	2019-

## AREAS OF INTEREST

Political Economy and Neoliberalism, Environment, Poverty/Development, Theory, Comparative Sociology, Global Inequality, Resistance and Social Change, Health

## PUBLICATIONS (\*student co-authors)

### *Books*

Deb, Nikhil, Manjusha Nair, and Glenn Muschert, eds. <i>Handbook of Social Justice in the Global South</i> . Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.	2022 (fc)
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### *Peer-Reviewed Articles*

Deb, Nikhil. "Slow Violence and the <i>Gas Peedit</i> in Neoliberal India." <i>Social Problems</i> .	2021
o 2019 Brent K. Marshall Graduate Student Paper Award, Section on Environment & Technology, Society for the Study of Social Problems	(fc)
Deb, Nikhil. "Law and Corporate Malfeasance in Neoliberal India." <i>Critical Sociology</i> 46(7-8): 1157–1171.	2020

- Deb, Nikhil. "The Fukushima Disaster and the Framing of Nuclear Energy in India." *Perspectives on Global Development and Technology* 17(4): 473-495. 2018
- Hussain, Belayeth A.H.M, and Nikhilendu Deb. "Gender-Sensitivity of Bangladesh Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP): A Gender Scanning." *SUST Journal of Social Sciences* 25(2): 43-55. 2016
- Deb, Nikhilendu. (In Bengali). "Postmodernism: A Perplexing Framework for a Malleable World." *SUST Journal of Social Sciences* 13(1): 1-11. 2011
- Book Chapters*
- Deb, Nikhil. "Neoliberal Capital Projects and Critical Socioenvironmental Justice Struggles in the Global South." In the *Handbook of Southern Green Criminology*, edited by David Rodríguez Goyes. London: Palgrave. 2022 (fc)
- Deb, Nikhil. "Planetary Ecological Crises and the Logic of Neoliberal Capitalism." In *Planetary Sociology: Beyond the Entanglement of Identity and Social Structures*, edited by Harry F. Dahms. Bingley, UK: Emerald. 2021 (fc)
- Deb, Nikhil and \*Maya Rao. "The Pandemic and the Invisible Poor of the Global South: Slum Dwellers in Mumbai, India, and Dhaka, Bangladesh." Pp. 51-60, in *Social Problems in the Age of COVID-19: Global Perspectives*, edited by Glenn Muschert, Kristen Budd, David Lane, and Jason Smith. Bristol, UK: Policy Press. 2020
- Deb, Nikhil. "Corporate Capitalism, Environmental Damage, and the Rule of Law: The Magurchara Gas Explosion in Bangladesh." Pp. 367-381 in the *Routledge International Handbook of Green Criminology*, edited by Nigel South and Avi Brisman. London: Routledge. 2020
- Teaching Publications*
- Deb, Nikhilendu. "Why People Get Married: Marriage and Social Class." *TRAILS: Teaching Resources and Innovations Library for Sociology*. Washington, DC: American Sociological Association. 2016
- Book Reviews*
- Deb, Nikhil. Review of *A Social Theory of Corruption: Notes from the Indian Subcontinent* by Sudhir Chella. Harvard University Press, 2020. *Journal of White Collar and Corporate Crime*. 2021 (fc)
- Deb, Nikhil. Review of *Super Polluters: Tackling the World's Largest Sites of Climate-Disrupting Emissions* by Don Grant, Andrew Jorgenson, and Wesley Longhofer. Columbia University Press, 2020. *London School of Economics Review of Books*. <http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/id/eprint/111176> 2021

- Deb, Nikhil. Review of *Dispossession without Development: Land Grabs in Neoliberal India* by Michael Levien. Oxford University Press, 2018. *London School of Economics Review of Books*. <http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/id/eprint/105455> 2020  
 ◦ Reprinted in the *Journal of Governance, Security & Development* 2(1):123-126.
- Deb, Nikhil. “Review of *The Right to Nature: Social Movements, Environmental Justice and Neoliberal Natures*” by Elia Apostolopoulou and Jose A. Cortes-Vazquez (Eds). *Critical Criminology* 1-4. 2019
- Deb, Nikhilendu. Review of *Facing the Planetary: Entangled Humanism and the Politics of Swarming* by William E. Connolly. Duke University Press, 2017. *London School of Economics Review of Books*, October 2017, pp. 1-3. 2017

#### *Under Review*

- Deb, Nikhil, and \*Avijit Chakrabarty. “The *Phulbari Protirodh* and the Politics of Dispossession and Contamination in Neoliberal Bangladesh.”
- Deb, Nikhil. “Polanyian Temporality and Catastrophes with Socioenvironmental Consequences.”

#### *Books and Articles in Preparation*

- Deb, Nikhil, and Louise Seamster. “Rethinking Postcoloniality: Institutional Betrayal and Slow Violence in Bhopal and Flint.” to be submitted to *City and Community*
- Deb, Nikhil. “*Chingri Mahal*: Reproduction of Climate Change Vulnerability and Neoliberalism in Bangladesh.” to be submitted to the *Journal of Agrarian Change*
- Deb, Nikhil. “A Global South Intervention in the Discussion of Socioenvironmental Destruction.” to be submitted to *Sociological Theory*
- Deb, Nikhil. “Political Ecology of Climate Refugees in Bangladesh: A Case against Adaptation Paradigm.” to be submitted to the *American Journal of Sociology*.
- Deb, Nikhil. *Neoliberal Invisibility and the Global South.: Slow Violence of Social, Health, and Environmental Destruction*. Proposal Stage

#### *Other Publications/Public Sociology (selected)*

- Deb, Nikhil. “Covid-19 and the Plight of the Global South.” A featured piece on Covid-19, *Global and Transnational Sociology Newsletter*, Spring 2021 2021
- Deb, Nikhil. (In Bengali). “The Arrogance of Corona-victory Can Cause Millions of Deaths.” *Prothom Alo*, May 16, 2021. 2021
- Deb, Nikhil. “Slums provided ideal conditions for COVID-19 to spread.” *LSE COVID-19 Blog*, December 14, 2020 2020
- Deb, Nikhil. (In Bengali). “Chaotic World: Prospects and Predicaments for Bangladesh.” *Notunkotha news*, Feb. 5, 2020. 2020
- Deb, Nikhil. (In Bengali). “The Miracle is Gone; the Dance of Tomorrow is around ‘Istimar.’” *Gaanpar.com*, May 2, 2019. 2019

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Chancellor's Citation for Extraordinary Professional Promise, University of Tennessee	2019
Brent K. Marshal Graduate Student Paper Award, SSSP Environment and Technology Section	2019
3MT Competition Finalist, University of Tennessee	2019
Graduate Student Research Award, Department of Sociology, University of Tennessee	2018
Graduate Student Senate Excellence in Teaching, University of Tennessee	2018
Progress and Innovation Award, Department of Sociology, University of Tennessee	2017
Excellence in Research, Department of Sociology, Ohio University	2015
Merit Award (M.S.S.), Department of Sociology, Shahjalal University	2008

## **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

Erwin O. Smigel Award (canceled due to Covid-19), Society for the Study of Social Problems	2020 (\$500)
Student Forum Travel Award, American Sociological Association	2019 (\$250)
Graduate Student Scholarship (conference travel), International Association for Society and Natural Resources	2019 (\$200)
Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Fellowship, Society for the Study of Social Problems	2018 (\$15,000)
Yates Dissertation Fellowship, University of Tennessee	2018 (\$10,000)
Penley-Thomas-Allen Fellowship, University of Tennessee	2018 (\$10,000)
W. K. McClure Scholarship for the Study of World Affairs, University of Tennessee	2018 (\$4,950)
Mini-conference (Race and the Environment), Bridging the Gap, American Sociological Association	2018 (\$500)
Progress and Innovation Award, Department of Sociology, University of Tennessee	2017 (1,700)
Chancellor Fellowship, University of Tennessee	2017-18 (\$7,000)
Graduate Student Travel Award, University of Tennessee	2016-19 (\$2500)
J. Wallace & Katie Dean Fellowship, University of Tennessee	2015 (\$15,000)
Shelly Fund (for MA thesis), Ohio University	2014 (\$600)

## TEACHING

### *Teaching Awards*

Chancellor's Citation for Extraordinary Professional Promise, University of Tennessee	2019
Graduate Student Senate Excellence in Teaching, University of Tennessee	2018
Graduate Student Teaching Award, Department of Sociology, University of Tennessee	2017

### *Courses Taught (USA)*

<b>Murray State University</b>	<b>University of Tennessee</b>	2013-2021
Social Theory	Globalization and Justice	
Environmental Sociology	Comparative Poverty/Development	
Honors Seminar in Sociology	Sociological Theory	
Research Methods	Introduction to Sociology	
Introduction to Sociology	Social Movements	
<b>Ohio University</b>		
Introduction to Sociology		

### *Courses Taught (Bangladesh)*

<b>Shahjalal University</b>		2008-2013
Environment and Society	<b>M.C University College</b>	
Classical Sociological Theories	Social Stratification	
Introduction to Sociology	Bangladesh—Society and Culture	
Social Statistics	Social Statistics	
Nations, Nationalism, Ethnicities	Modern Social Thought	
<b>Leading University</b>		
Social Stratification		

### *Teacher Training*

Course: Teaching Sociology (Department of Sociology, Ohio University)	Course: Pedagogy and Graduate Instruction (Department of Sociology, University of Tennessee)
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## PRESENTATIONS

### *Invited presentations*

“Slow Violence and the <i>Gas Peedit</i> in Neoliberal India.” Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Urban South Research Hub, Movement Engaged Research Hub, George Mason University, October 27.	2021
“Slow Violence in the Environmental Humanities.” Moderated discussion with Rob Nixon, Ruth Mostern, Raja Swamy, and Claire Mayo. American Society for Environmental History (Virtual). April 26.	2021

- “Neoliberal Globalization and the Slow Violence of Social and Environmental Destruction.” Scholarship Perspectives from Recent Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Fellowship Awardees, Society for the Study of Social Problems. August 6. 2019
- “Being a Ph.D. Student in Tennessee.” Professional Sociology at a Time of Neoliberalism: A Critical Discussion, Southern Sociological Society. April 12 2019
- “Neoliberal Catastrophe and Slow Violence: Experience on the Ground.” McClure Fellow Presentation, Center for Global Engagement, University of Tennessee. 2018
- “Crises of Secularism, Nationalism Debate, and Religious Fundamentalism in Sociological Perspectives: Bangladesh Context.” Keynote Speaker, Independence Day of Bangladesh. Shahjalal University. March 26. Presented in Bengali. 2012

*Conference Presentations*

- American Sociological Association (virtual). “Eventful Sociology and Environmental Catastrophes in the Global South.” Section on *Environmental Sociology*. 2021
- Society for the Study of Social Problems (virtual). “Local Success and Global Struggles: The Politics of Environmental Justice in Neoliberal Bangladesh.” Panel on *Environmental Activism: Communication, Mobilization, Discourse, and Policy*. 2021
- Southern Sociological Society (virtual). “The politics of Suffering and Resistance in Neoliberal Global South.” Panel on *Comparative Perspectives and Global Political Economy*. 2021
- American Sociological Association (virtual). “Law and Corporate Malfeasance in Neoliberal India.” Section on *Global and Transnational Sociology*. 2020
- Society for the Study of Social Problems (canceled). “Socioenvironmental Destruction and Law in Neoliberal Global South.” Panel of the *Environmental and Technology* section. 2020
- Mid-South Sociological Association (virtual). “Critical Theory in the Periphery of Postcolonial Societies: Decolonial Struggles against Socioenvironmental Destruction.” Panel on the *Critical Theory*. 2020
- American Sociological Association. “What Overshadows Long-term Social and Environmental Consequences? The Case of the Bhopal Disaster.” Section on *Environmental Sociology*. 2019
- Society for the Study of Social Problems. “A Cloud with no Silver Lining: The Bhopal Disaster and the Slow Violence of Social and Environmental Destruction.” Panel on *Gender and the Environment*. 2019
- Southern Sociological Society. “Theorizing Third World Resistance in the Age of Neoliberal Globalization: Fanon, Foucault, and Chatterjee.” Panel on *Critical Theory: Artificial Intelligence, Television, and Third-World Resistance*. 2019
- International Integrative Research Conference on Governance in Society, Business and Environmen.. “Gender, workplace discriminations, and health inequalities in selected countries: Evidence from the ISSP survey.” (With Hussain, 2019

Endut, Haque, Sultana). Panel on <i>Development, Innovation, and Changes</i> .	2019
Southern Sociological Society “The Bhopal Movement: The Struggle for Social and Environmental Justice in the Age of Globalization” (with Asafa Jalata). Panel on <i>Environmental Sociology in Asia</i> .	2019
American Sociological Association. “Environmental Damage and the Juridico-Economic Dynamics in the World-System: The Magurchara Gas Explosion in Bangladesh.” Section on <i>Political Economy of the World-Systems</i> .	2018
Society for the Study of Social Problems. “Globalization and Slow Violence against Marginalized People Living in Poor Countries.” Panel on <i>Disasters and Climate Change: Local, National, and International Perspectives</i> .	2018
International Social Theory Consortium. “Negative Dialectics in the Age of Slow Violence and Ecological Urgency.” Panel on <i>Climate Change and Ecology</i> .	2018
Southern Sociological Society. “Theories in Environmental Sociology: What is Missing in the Political Economic Approaches?” Panel on <i>Critical Sociology in/ to/ for the Twenty-First Century</i> .	2018
Southern Sociological Society. “Slow Violence of Social and Environmental Harms: The Case of the Bhopal Disaster.” Panel on <i>Environmental Disaster in the 21st Century</i> .	2018
The Disasters, Displacement, and Human Rights (DDHR- UTK). “Multinational Corporations and Environmental Damage: The Magurchara Gas Explosion in Bangladesh.” Panel on <i>Critical Disaster Studies - Recentering Power in Disaster Studies</i> .	2018
American Sociological Association. “The Bhopal Movement: Struggles for Justice in the World-systems.” Panel on <i>New Directions in the Study of the World-System: Nature, Materials, and Justice</i> .	2017
Society for the Study of Social Problems. “The Bhopal Disaster: A ‘Normal Accident’ in the World-system.” (with Scott Frey). Panel on <i>Environmental Health, Mobilization, and Justice</i> .	2017
Southern Sociological Society. “What Makes a Society Risky and an Accident Normal? A Political Economic Critique of Ulrich Beck, Anthony Giddens, and Charles Perrow.” Panel on <i>Social Theory: Classical and Contemporary Perspective</i> .	2017
Southern Sociological Society. “The Fukushima Meltdown and Social Safety of Nuclear Energy in India: A Critical Discourse Analysis.” Roundtable on <i>Global Risk Societies: The Politics and Consequences of Lack of Nuclear and Climate Hazards</i> .	2017
Society for the Study of Social Problems. “Risk Society, Nuclear Energy, and India’s Response to the Fukushima Meltdown.” Panel on <i>Barriers and Opportunities: Addressing Climate Change and Energy Issues Across Sector</i> .	2016
International Social Theory Consortium. “The Logic of Capital, Rationality, and Global Capitalism: Toward a Renewed Synthesis of Marx and Weber.” Panel on	2016

*Capitalism and Culture.*

Southern Sociological Society. “Women Garment Workers in the Global Commodity Chain: A Symbiosis between Globalization and Women’s Empowerment.” Panel on *Local and Global Economics* 2016

*Guest Lectures (selected)*

*Environment and Society Research Group.* “Slow Violence and the *Gas Peedit* in Neoliberal India.” Washington State University (Main Instructor: Dylan Bugden), Spring 2021 2021

*The Humanities Tradition.* “The Pandemic and the Global South.” HUM 211, Murray State University (Main Instructor: Diane Nittitham and Danielle Neilson), Fall 2020 2020

*Environmental Anthropology.* “Invisible Injustice in a Comparative Context.” ANP 415, University of Tennessee (Main Instructor: Tamar Shirinian), Fall 2019. 2019

*Disasters.* “Neoliberalization Globalization and Slow Violence in India.” ANP 511, University of Tennessee (Main Instructor: Raja Swamy), Spring 2019 2019

*Modern World System.* “Poverty and Environmental Justice in the World-System.” SOC 446, University of Tennessee (Main instructor: Asafa Jalata), Spring 2019 2019

*Environment and Resources.* “Environmental Concerns and Climate Change.” SOCI 360, University of Tennessee (Main instructor: R. Scott Frey), Spring 2017. 2017

*Development of Sociological Theory.* “Michel Foucault and Power in Contemporary Society.” SOC 3000, Ohio University (Main instructor: Cindy Anderson), Spring 2014 2014

*Classical Sociological Theory.* “Understanding Capitalism: A Synthesis of Marx and Weber.” SOC 341, Shahjalal University (Main instructor: Sebak Saha), Fall 2012 2012

*Colloquium Series*

“The politics of Suffering and Resistance in Neoliberal Global South.” *Murray State University.* 2020

“Navigating Graduate School with Children and a Family.” *University of Tennessee* 2019

“Revisiting Risk Society Theory: A Political-Economic Critique of Ulrich Beck and Anthony Giddens.” *University of Tennessee* 2017

“Gendered works in the Global Commodity Chain: Globalization, Cultural Constraints, and Women’s Empowerment in Bangladesh.” *University of Tennessee* 2016

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (SELECTED)**

*Additional Leadership*

Member, Committee on Professions, Southern Sociological Society 2021-23

Member, Junior Theorists Award Committee, Section on Theory, ASA 2021-22

Member, Committee on Professions, Southern Sociological Society 2021-23

*Organizer, Presider, Discussant*

Presider. *Comparative Perspectives in Global Political Economy.* Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society. 2021

Presider. *Democracy, Neoliberalism and Citizenship.* Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association 2020



Session Organizer. <i>Geographies of Injustice: Environmental Destruction in Peripheral Countries/Areas</i> . Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems	2019
Session Organizer and Presider. <i>Neoliberal Globalization and Environmental Injustice</i> . Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems	2019
Roundtable Organizer. <i>Political Economy of the World-System</i> . Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association	2019
Presider and Discussant. <i>Environmental Sociology in Asia</i> . Annual Meeting of the Southern Sociological Society	2019
Session Organizer and Presider. <i>Environmental Injustice in the World-Systems</i> . Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems	2018
Discussant and Presider. <i>Disasters and Climate Change: Local, National, and International Perspectives</i> . Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems	2018
Organizational Assistant. <i>Ecologically Unequal Exchange Conference</i> . University of Tennessee	2016

*Occasional Peer Reviewer*

International Sociology; Sociology of Development; Crime Media Culture; Journal of World-Systems Research; International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology; Critical Criminology; Journal of White Collar and Corporate Crime

*Departmental and University Service*

Student Paper Award Committee, Political Science and Sociology, Murray State University	2021-
Research Policy Committee, Murray State University	2021-
Colloquium Coordinator, Political Science and Sociology, Murray State University	2020-
Member, Graduate Student for Social Justice, University of Tennessee	2016-18
Adviser, SUST Shahitya Songhotan, Shahjalal University	2012-14
Co-Convener, Freshers' Reception Program, Sociology, Shahjalal University	2012
Adviser, SUST Debating Society, Shahjalal University	2011-12
Adviser, Mavoi Abriti Songho, Shahjalal University	2010-12
Assistant Provost, Syed Mujtaba Ali Hall, Shahjalal University	2010-13
Adviser, Chokh Film Society, Shahjalal University	2010-13
Adviser, Dik Theatre, Shahjalal University	2010-13

**PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES**

Interdisciplinary Social Theory Graduate Certificate	2019
Best Practices in Publishing	2018
Computation and Data Analysis Basics	2008

**ADDITIONAL RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

*Research Experience*

Editorial Assistant, <i>Crime Media Culture</i> , An International Journal	2018-19
Research Assistant to Jon Shefner, Professor of Sociology, University of Tennessee (assisted in researching and collecting relevant information on austerity)	2018-19
Research Associate, Department of Sociology, Ohio University	2013-14
Research Assistant to Robert Whealey, Professor Emeritus of history, Ohio University (reviewed research articles and prepared annotated bibliography)	2013-15
A.H.M Belayeth Hussain, Professor of Sociology, Shahjalal University (assisted in conducting in-depth interviews and analyzing qualitative data with Nvivo)	2009-10
<i>Teaching Experience</i>	
Instructor/Teaching Associate, Department of Sociology, University of Tennessee	2015-18
Instructor/Teaching Associate, Department of Sociology, Ohio University	2014-15
Visiting Lecturer, Leading University, Bangladesh	2012-13
Visiting Lecturer, Department of Sociology, M. C. College, Bangladesh 2007-	2007-10
<i>Student Supervision and Advising</i>	
Zubaida Tanjeen Shanta (chair), Shahjalal University, Independent Research: “Socioeconomic Status of Ship-breaking Workers in Chittagong, Bangladesh.”	2012
Maria Sultana (committee member), Shahjalal University, Thesis: “Microcredit and Social Capital in Rural Bangladesh.”	2021
Advised multiple students, Shahjalal University, Bangladesh	2010-13
<i>Data Analysis Software</i>	
SPSS, NVivo, STATA	

## **ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Sociological Association  
Society for the Study of Social Problems  
Southern Sociological Society  
International Social Theory Consortium  
SUST Sociology

## **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

English: Highly proficient in writing, reading, and speaking  
Bengali and Sylheti (Bengali Colloquial): Native Speaker  
Hindi: Intermediate Speaking