

Ayesha Tariq

Tupper Drive, Milton, Ontario Mobile: +1 (346) 420-1620 atariq20@cougarnet.uh.edu Date of Birth: Sep 27, 1992

EDUCATION

- University of Houston** PhD in Social Work Aug 2023 - continue
Research Interests: Gender and Development, Refugee Rights, Narrative Inquiry
Dissertation Title: Role of Evolving Maternal Identity in Refugee Resettlement Process
- Quaid-i-Azam University** MPhil in International Relations Feb 2017- Aug 2019
Courses: Research methodology, Conflict Resolution, Theories of IR, Arms Control
Dissertation Title: Impact of New Confucianism on China's Foreign Policy
- Lahore University of Management Sciences BSc** (Honors) in Politics & Economics Sep 2011 - May 2015
Courses: Economics, Data Analysis, Politics, Comparative Religion, Philosophy, Literature
- Augustana College, Sioux Falls (SD, USA)** Jan 2014 - May 2014
Exchange Semester- BSc (Honors) in Politics
Courses: Social Sciences Research Methodology, American Foreign Policy, Politics in Diverse World

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Won UHPA- An-Nisa Voice of Impact Scholarship 2025
- Received Abstract of Distinction Award at Society for Prevention Research (SPR) 2024
- Won travel fellowship of Early Career Preventionist Network to participate in SPR 2024
- Received Presidential Fellowship from University of Houston
- Received Graduate Tuition Fellowship from GCSW, University of Houston
- Served as Cultural Ambassador of Pakistan in United States of America
- Granted "Global UGRAD Pakistan" (Exchange Program) award for Spring Semester 2014
- Secured First Position in MPhil degree at International Relations Department, QAU
- Won Merit based scholarships at QAU
- Won study scholarship from LUMS and Bestway Organization for four years of BSc degree

EXPERIENCE Graduate College of Social Work – University of Houston Aug 2023 - continue

Graduate Research Assistant

- Conducted in-depth literature reviews to support research projects, ensuring the inclusion of current and relevant studies.
- Collected, cleaned, and analyzed quantitative and qualitative data using tools such as SPSS, Discovertext, and Dedoose.
- Authored and co-authored abstracts and articles for conferences (ESWRA, SPR, SSWR) and peer-reviewed journals.
- Assisted in drafting grant proposals for NIH, CDC, and The Spencer Foundation funding.
- Assisted in launching International Observatory of Humanitarian Assistance at CEAHPAZ Headquarters, Mexico

United Nations- International Organization for Migration Oct 20- Jul 2023

Grants Assistant

- Advocated for women's empowerment in the workplace by designing and securing approval for gender-sensitive budget guidelines in the CRA-North project of IOM.
- Coordinated between USAID and program team drafting grant awards, including agreements, budgets, objectives, theories of change, and work plans, for IOM's direct implementation and Implementing Partners (IPs).
- Organized secretariat support for the Implementing Partner Technical Review Committee and other IP awarding processes.
- Facilitated training workshops for CRA-North project staff and stakeholders, addressing programming requirements and process queries.
- Designed and supported USAID funded Resilience focused initiatives for Wazir and Dawar tribes of North Waziristan, Shia Sunni sects of Upper and Lower Kurram, and Aka Khel and Shalober communities of Khyber

- Collected and monitored qualitative and quantitative data to ensure accuracy, validity, and reliability.
- Documented lessons learned and programmatic recommendations to improve the grants management cycle.
- Managed internal grants tracker and donor databases, monitoring performance indicators and compliance with approved guidelines.

Human Resource Development Network

Jan 18 - Oct 19

Lincoln Corner Coordinator (Project of US Embassy)

- Encourage community engagement and promote the Lincoln Corner by reaching out to the community
- Ensure timely execution of activities & smooth running of operations
- Manage relations with the Embassy & Lincoln Corner host institutes
- Increase P2P contact between Pakistanis and Americans
- Increase connectivity between South Asian Lincoln Corners via frequent Skype sessions

Propergaanda (Digital Media Production Agency)

Jan 18 – Oct 20

Writer (Socio-political section)

Pakistan Innovation Foundation

Jun 16 - Dec 16

Policy Research Associate

- Worked on Muslim Science Project by arranging Task Forces and Report Writings
- Assisted in Muslim Philanthropy Project aimed to evaluate the public philanthropy in health sector of Muslim World
- Worked on Education Policy in collaboration with Alif Ailan to inculcate innovative thinking among school students
- Managed Karachi Innovation Challenge, a Hackathon aimed to resolve Karachi's civic issues
- Managed National STEM School, a project to experiment hands-on science

The Banquet, Sioux Falls, USA

Feb 14 - May 14

Volunteer - Community Service - Nourishing the Community

(The Banquet, a local food kitchen in downtown Sioux Falls, provides meals each day to people in need. I volunteered on weekends to assist and coordinate with people to feed the needy of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE Teaching Assistant/Course: Social Policy Analysis (MSW) GCSW, University of Houston

- Assisted in designing and delivering course materials, including lectures, assignments, and quizzes, to support student learning.
- Conducted tutorial sessions and provided one-on-one academic support to students, addressing their individual learning needs.
- Graded assignments, exams, and projects, ensuring fairness and consistency in evaluation.
- Facilitated class discussions and encouraged student participation to promote critical thinking and engagement.

Guest Lecture

Topic: Global Social Work

- Delivered a guest lecture titled "Global Social Work" to Master of Social Work (MSW) students at the University of Houston, focusing on theoretical and practical aspects, e.g. comparative social work practices, global challenges, cultural humility, etc.
- Engaged students through interactive discussions and case studies to enhance understanding of crosscultural social work approaches.

Guest Lecture

Topic: How do we know what's "true": Exploring Political Communications

- Delivered a guest lecture to Master of Social Work (MSW) students at the University of Houston, focusing on inequality through the critical lens of theory.
- Engaged students through interactive discussions and audio-visuals to enhance understanding of dangers of misinformation.

Visiting Lecturer

Fatima Jinnah Women University (01/2020-12/2020)

- Designed and delivered undergraduate courses on *History of South Asia* and *Conflict Resolution* in the Department of Development Studies (DDS) for two semesters.

- Conducted regular in-person and online lectures, integrating interactive teaching methods to enhance student engagement.
- Developed and assessed quizzes, assignments, and examinations, ensuring alignment with course objectives.
- Provided constructive feedback to students, fostering academic growth and critical thinking skills.
- Adapted teaching strategies to suit diverse learning environments and needs, demonstrating flexibility and innovation.
- Maintained consistent communication with students to support their academic and professional development.

RESEARCH PAPERS AND CONFERENCES

“Harmonizing Human Rights and Religious Sensitivities: A Comprehensive Analysis and Reform Propositions for Blasphemy Laws in Pakistan”

Published Academic Paper at Scope- Volume 15 Number 02 June 2025

“Factors Associated with the Economic Integration of Recently Resettled Refugees in the United States: Implications for Gender-Responsive Programs and Services”

Presented Paper at Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)- 2025

“Refugee Healthcare Access in US and Mexico”

Presented Paper at European Social Work Research Association (ESWRA)- 2024

“Promoting Equity through Positive Childhood Experiences: Mediation Effects on Adverse Childhood Experiences and Black Youth’s Self-Concept”

Presented Paper at Society for Prevention Research (SPR)- 2024

“Preventing Teen Dating Violence Among Black Youth Promoting Equitable Positive Experiences: Mediating Effects on Adverse Youth Outcomes”

Presented Paper at Society for Prevention Research (SPR)- 2024

“Confucius Riding the Dragon?”

Manuscript under review at Contemporary China

TRAINING CERTIFICATES

- Completed Adult Mental Health First Aid Training by National Council for Mental Wellbeing USA (2025)
- Completed CITI Program Course: Human Research & Social-Behavioral-Educational Research (2024)
- Received Certificate of “Analysing Complexity” from Macquarie University, Australia through Coursera (2020)
- Attended “PUAN International Conference: Meet Pakistan through Arts, Culture and Society” (2018)
- Attended Workshop on “Religious Harmony” funded by HEC (2017)
- Received Certificate of “Chinese for Beginners” from Peking University through Coursera (2017)
- Attended Workshop on “Communication Skills Development Using MBTI” arranged by U.S. Department of State (2018)
- Participated in Workshop on “Lincoln Corners and Strategic Collaborations” by United States Mission in Pakistan (2018)
- Received Certificate of “Program Management for the Social Entrepreneur” from the U.S. Department of State (2015)

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Proficient in SPSS, Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop and STATA and VBA

AFFILIATIONS

- Member of the SPR International Committee
- Member of SPR network
- Member of ESWRA SIG of Early Careers
- Member of ESWRA Network
- Member of Research Observatorio in Casa Refugees Mexico
- Member of Pakistan-USA Alumni Network (PUAN)
- Director in LRS (LUMS Religious Society)
- Member in the society of Augustana International Club at Augustana College, USA
- Member of Writing Club of "Namud" Magazine