

Bio – Dhavan V. Shah

Dhavan Shah is the Jack M. McLeod Professor of Communication Research and Louis A. and Mary E. Maier-Bascom Chair in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Wisconsin, where he is Director of the Mass Communication Research Center and Research Director of the Center for Communication and Civic Renewal. His focus on the intersecting power of framing and social capital has shaped his research on: (1) the influence of message construction and processing, (2) the communication dynamics shaping civic and political participation, and (3) the role of online interactions in chronic disease management. This work has generated six coauthored and coedited books, 200 articles and chapters, and grants totaling over \$62 million from private foundations and federal governments. He combines conventional and computational social science approaches to study politics and health and works to translate research insights into scalable systems to address social problems. At the UW, where he was awarded the Maier-Bascom Chair in 2006 and a WARF Named Professorship in 2023, he holds affiliated appointments in Industrial and Systems Engineering, Marketing, and Political Science. He received his Ph.D. in 1999 from the University of Minnesota in Mass Communication with a minor in Political Psychology.