Poulomi Saha is Assistant Professor of English at the University of California, Berkeley, where she teaches courses in postcolonial studies, gender and sexuality theory, and ethnic American literature.

Professor Saha's research and teaching agenda spans eastward and forward from the late 19th-century decline of British colonial rule in the Indian Ocean through to the Pacific and the rise of American global power and domestic race relations in the 20th century. Professor Saha is interested in developing an expansive view of empire and of what constitutes Anglophone literature, routed not primarily through Great Britain and Western Europe but rather through circuits of affiliation and encounter between Asia and the Americas.

Professor Saha is currently completing her first monograph, Imperial Attachments: Gender, Nation, and the Sciences of Subjectivity in Colonial and Postcolonial Bengal, an interdisciplinary study that turns to East Bengal from the late 19th century to the contemporary moment, arguing that it, as a site of raw material and “real” feeling, fundamentally challenges the narrative of political modernity offered by postcolonial studies, which has historically focused on West Bengal as a synecdoche of British empire and anticolonialism. It suggests that East Bengal feeds that discourse, literally and ideologically, while refusing to be subsumed by it. Imperial Attachments brings postcolonial historiography, feminist and queer theory, and psychoanalytic critique to bear on an archive ranging from Oriental antiquities in Freud’s London office, Rabindranath Tagore’s novels, handloom textiles, and contemporary garments works labor to the unpublished diaries of female revolutionary terrorists, to offer an account of forms of political feeling and desire that are not contained within boundaries of the nation, the ideology of anticolonial nationalism, or a vision of postcolonial development and progress.

Professor Saha’s work has been published in differences and The Journal of Modern Literature.