




# SUMITRA BADRINATHAN

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POSITIONS     **Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Oxford**

Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism     2021 –

EDUCATION     **University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA, USA.

Ph.D., Political Science     May 2021

**University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL, USA.

Master of Arts, Political Science     June 2015

**St. Xavier's College**, Mumbai, India.

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology     June 2014

RESEARCH INTERESTS     Misinformation, Political Communication, Social Media, Media Effects, Polarization, Political Behavior, Experimental Methods, South Asia

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES     Badrinathan, Sumitra. 2021. [Educative Interventions to Combat Misinformation: Evidence From A Field Experiment in India](#). *American Political Science Review*, 1-17.

- Winner of the 2021 APSA Political Communication Section's Paul Lazarsfeld Best Paper Award

Kim, Eunji, Sumitra Badrinathan, Donghyun Danny Choi, Sabrina Karim, and Yang-Yang Zhou. 2021. [Navigating Insider and Outsider Status as Researchers Conducting Field Experiments](#). *PS: Political Science & Politics*, Forthcoming

Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, Deepaboli Chatterjee, and Neelanjan Sircar. 2021. [Partisan Disagreement: The Role of Media, Personal Networks and Gender in Forming Political Preferences](#). *Urbanisation*, Forthcoming

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW     [I Don't Think That's True, Bro!" An Experiment on Fact-checking Misinformation in India](#), with Simon Chauchard (Under Review)

[Leveraging Religiosity Against COVID-19 Misinformation: Experimental Evidence from India](#), with Simon Chauchard (Under Review)

WORK IN PROGRESS	<p>Who Believes Misinformation? A Profile of Vulnerability to False News in India, with <i>Simon Chauchard</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be presented at American Political Science Association Conference, September 2021</li> </ul> <p>Fair and Balanced: What News Audiences in Four Countries Mean When They Say They Prefer Impartial News, <i>with Camila Mont'Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Benjamin Toff, Richard Fletcher, Rasmus Kleis Nielsen</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be presented at the International Journal of Press/Politics Conference, September 2021</li> </ul> <p>Does Trust in the News Affect Support for Democratic Values? <i>with Camila Mont'Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Benjamin Toff</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be presented at the Digital Democracy Workshop (University of Zurich), October 2021</li> </ul> <p>Misinformation and Vigilantism in India and Pakistan: Determinants and Solutions, <i>with Niloufer Siddiqui and Simon Chauchard</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funded by the 2021 Facebook Integrity Research Awards</li> </ul> <p>Media, Trust, and Partisanship in India: Evidence from In-Person Survey Experiments Across Four Cities</p> <p>The effect of labelling false COVID-19 posts on social media in Brazil, India and the UK, <i>with Richard Fletcher, Simge Andi, Benjamin Toff, Rasmus Kleis Nielsen</i></p> <p>The Puzzle of Indian-American Voting Behavior, <i>with Milan Vaishnav and Devesh Kapur</i></p>
BOOK CHAPTERS	<p>Badrinathan, Sumitra, and Devesh Kapur. 2021. <a href="#">“Religion, Caste, Class, Politics: How Urbanization Affects Social Interactions and Political Behaviors.”</a> Chapter. In <i>Colossus: The Anatomy of Delhi</i>, edited by Sanjoy Chakravorty and Neelanjan Sircar. Cambridge University Press</p>
MEDIA WRITING	<p>Badrinathan, Sumitra. 7 June, 2021. <a href="#">“India is facing an epidemic of misinformation alongside covid-19.”</a> <i>The Washington Post</i></p> <p>Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, Jonathan Kay, and Milan Vaishnav. June 10, 2021. <a href="#">“Discrimination against Indian Americans happens more than you might think.”</a> <i>Monkey Cage (Washington Post)</i></p> <p>Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, and Milan Vaishnav. 15 October, 2020. <a href="#">“Why Indian Americans are not becoming Republicans any time soon.”</a> <i>Monkey Cage (Washington Post)</i></p> <p>Badrinathan, Sumitra, and Simon Chauchard. 28 January, 2020. <a href="#">“Is there a way to counter fake news on WhatsApp?”</a> <i>Hindustan Times</i></p>

OTHER WRITING	Toff, Benjamin, Sumitra Badrinathan, Camila Mont’Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Richard Fletcher, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen. 9 September, 2021. <a href="#">Overcoming indifference: what attitudes towards news tell us about building trust</a> . <i>Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism</i>	
	Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, and Milan Vaishnav. 9 February, 2021. <a href="#">How Do Indian Americans View India? Results From the 2020 Indian American Attitudes Survey</a> . <i>Carnegie Endowment for International Peace</i>	
	Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, and Milan Vaishnav. 14 October, 2020. <a href="#">How Will Indian Americans Vote? Results From the 2020 Indian American Attitudes Survey</a> . <i>Carnegie Endowment for International Peace</i>	
INVITED TALKS & GUEST LECTURES	NYU Comparative Politics Speaker Series, September 2021 Invited talk	
	Brown Harvard MIT Joint Seminar on South Asian Politics, September 2021 Invited talk	
	Aarhus University Research on Online Political Hostility (ROPH) Project, October 2021 Invited talk	
	University of Massachusetts Amherst, March 2021 Guest lecture in graduate Causal Inference class (Prof. Alexander Theodoridis)	
	Colorado State University, March 2021 Guest lecture in undergraduate Media and Politics class (Prof. Dominik Stecula)	
	UCLA Politics of Order and Development Lab, October 2020 Invited talk	
	Vanderbilt University, October 2020 Guest lecture in graduate Field Experiments class (Prof. Kristin Michelitch)	
AWARDS	APSA Political Communication Section’s Paul Lazarsfeld Best Paper Award	2021
	University of Pennsylvania Dean’s Award for Distinguished Teaching	2019
	<a href="#">Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching by Graduate Students</a>	2019
GRANTS & FUNDING	Facebook Integrity Foundational Research Award (with N. Siddiqui and S. Chauchard) – \$100,000	2021
	<a href="#">Sobti Family Doctoral Fellowship</a> – \$12,500	2020
	Penn Dissertation Research Fellowship – \$3,500	2020
	<a href="#">Russell Ackoff Doctoral Student Fellowship</a> – \$3,000	2020

	Judith Rodin Research Fellowship – \$10,000	2018, 2017
	Center for the Advanced Study of India Summer Research Fellowship – \$3,500	2018
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<b>Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania</b>	
	Political Change in the Third World PSCI116 with Prof. Rudy Sil	Fall 2019
	<a href="#">Statistics for Political Science</a> PSCI338 with Prof. Marc Meredith	Fall 2018
	International Human Rights PSCI258 with Prof. Eileen Doherty-Sil	Spring 2018
	Introduction to American Politics PSCI130 with Prof. Marc Meredith	Fall 2017
CONFERENCE TALKS	American Political Science Association Annual Conference International Journal of Press/Politics Conference Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention Digital Democracy Workshop, University of Zurich	2021
	American Political Science Association Annual Conference Harvard Experimental Political Science Conference Southern Political Science Association Conference	2020
	American Political Science Association Annual Conference NYU Winter Experimental Social Sciences Conference MIT Gov/Lab Political Behavior of Development Conference Southern Political Science Association Conference	2019
	Midwest Political Science Association Conference Association for Asian Studies Conference	2018
WORK EXPERIENCE	<b>National Opinion Research Center</b> , Chicago, IL Research Associate, data coding and analysis for the Survey of Doctorate Recipients	2015 - 2016
	<b>RA to Dr. Nicholas Stephanopoulos</b> , University of Chicago Data cleaning, analysis and coding for project on racial polarization in voting patterns	2015 - 2016
	<b>Minister of State for Communications and IT</b> Electoral Campaign, Mumbai, India Head of student campaigning, outreach, and GOTV	2013 - 2014

DATA  
SCIENCE &  
TECH

**Languages:** R (proficient), HTML CSS (intermediate), Python (intermediate)  
**Programs:** Qualtrics (survey & experimental design), Latex, DataWrapper  
**Statistical modelling:** classic regression models, generalized linear models, multilevel modeling

LANGUAGES

Native: English, Hindi, Marathi, Tamil  
Intermediate: French  
Beginner: Spanish

REFERENCES

**Prof. Guy Grossman**  
Professor  
Department of Political Science  
University of Pennsylvania  
[ggros@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:ggros@sas.upenn.edu)

**Prof. Marc Meredith**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Political Science  
University of Pennsylvania  
[marcmere@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:marcmere@sas.upenn.edu)

**Prof. Matthew Levendusky**  
Professor  
Department of Political Science  
University of Pennsylvania  
[mleven@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:mleven@sas.upenn.edu)

**Prof. Devesh Kapur**  
Starr Foundation Professor  
of South Asian Studies  
Johns Hopkins University SAIS  
[dkapur1@jhu.edu](mailto:dkapur1@jhu.edu)