SUMITRA BADRINATHAN

CONTACT	University of Oxford	✉ sumitra.badrinathan@politics.ox.ac.uk
	Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism	🌐 sumitrabadrinathan.github.io
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	OX2 6PS United Kingdom	⌗ SumitraBadrinathan

POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Political Science   Fall 2022 –
American University
School of International Service

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Oxford   June 2021 –
Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism
Trust in News Project

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, University of Pennsylvania   2016 – 2021

Dissertation: The Politics of Misinformation in India: Prevalence, Mechanisms, Solutions

Committee: Guy Grossman (chair), Marc Meredith, Matthew Levendusky, Devesh Kapur

M.A., Political Science, University of Chicago   2014 – 2015

B.A., Psychology, St. Xavier's College Mumbai   2011 – 2014

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Misinformation, South Asia, Social Media, Polarization, Propaganda, Political Behavior, Experimental Methods

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Badrinathan, Sumitra. 2021. Educative Interventions to Combat Misinformation: Evidence From A Field Experiment in India. *American Political Science Review* 115(4): 1325–1341.

- 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, Deepaboli Chatterjee, Devesh Kapur, and Neelanjan Sircar. 2021. Partisan Disagreement: The Role of Media, Personal Networks and Gender in Forming Political Preferences. *Urbanisation* 6(1): 141–157.

PAPERS
UNDER
REVIEW

I Don't Think That's True, Bro!" An Experiment on Fact-checking Misinformation in India, with Simon Chauchard (revise and resubmit)

"It's a Battle You Are Never Going to Win": Perspectives from Journalists in Four Countries on How Digital Media Platforms Undermine Trust in News, *with Amy Ross Arguedas, Camila Mont'Alverne, Benjamin Toff, Richard Fletcher, Rasmus K. Nielsen* (revise and resubmit)

Leveraging Religiosity Against COVID-19 Misinformation: Experimental Evidence from India, with Simon Chauchard

Fair and Balanced: What News Audiences in Four Countries Mean When They Say They Prefer Impartial News, *with Camila Mont'Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Benjamin Toff, Richard Fletcher, Rasmus K. Nielsen*

Subjective Preferences for Objective News: Exploring the Complex Relationship Between Impartiality and Trust in News, *with Camila Mont'Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Benjamin Toff, Richard Fletcher, Rasmus K. Nielsen*

WORK IN
PROGRESS

Does Misinformation Drive Support for Vigilantism? Coordinated Field Experiments in India and Pakistan, *with Niloufer Siddiqui and Simon Chauchard*

- Funded by the 2021 Facebook Integrity Research Awards

Does Partisanship Affect Media Choice? Experimental Evidence from North India

The effect of labelling false COVID-19 posts on social media in Brazil, India and the UK, *with Richard Fletcher, Simge Andi, Benjamin Toff, Rasmus K. Nielsen.*

Who Believes Misinformation? A Profile of Vulnerability to False News in India, with *Simon Chauchard*

The effect of corrections featuring fact-checks from news organisations on false COVID-19 social media posts in Brazil, India and the UK, *with Richard Fletcher, Simge Andi, Camila Mont'Alverne, Benjamin Toff, Rasmus K. Nielsen*

Does Trust in the News Affect Support for Democratic Values? *with Camila Mont'Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Benjamin Toff*

The Puzzle of Indian-American Voting Behavior, *with Milan Vaishnav and Devesh Kapur*

BOOK
CHAPTERS

Badrinathan, Sumitra, and Devesh Kapur. 2021. "Religion, Caste, Class, Politics: How Urbanization Affects Social Interactions and Political Behaviors." Chapter. In *Colossus: The Anatomy of Delhi*, edited by Sanjoy Chakravorty and Neelanjan Sircar. Cambridge University Press

MEDIA
WRITING

Badrinathan, Sumitra. 7 June, 2021. "India is facing an epidemic of misinformation alongside covid-19." *The Washington Post*

Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, Jonathan Kay, and Milan Vaishnav. June 10, 2021. "Discrimination against Indian Americans happens more than you might think." *Monkey Cage (Washington Post)*

Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, and Milan Vaishnav. 15 October, 2020. "Why Indian Americans are not becoming Republicans any time soon." *Monkey Cage (Washington Post)*

Badrinathan, Sumitra, and Simon Chauchard. 28 January, 2020. "Is there a way to counter fake news on WhatsApp?" *Hindustan Times*

OTHER WRITING	Toff, Benjamin, Sumitra Badrinathan, Camila Mont'Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Richard Fletcher, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen. 9 September, 2021. Overcoming indifference: what attitudes towards news tell us about building trust. *Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism*

Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, and Milan Vaishnav. 9 February, 2021. How Do Indian Americans View India? Results From the 2020 Indian American Attitudes Survey.*Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*

Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, and Milan Vaishnav. 14 October, 2020. How Will Indian Americans Vote? Results From the 2020 Indian American Attitudes Survey. *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*

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
	Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching by Graduate Students	2019

GRANTS & FUNDING	Facebook Integrity Foundational Research Award (with N. Siddiqui and S. Chauchard) – $100,000	2021
	Sobti Family Doctoral Fellowship – $12,500	2020
	Penn Dissertation Research Fellowship – $3,500	2020
	Russell Ackoff Doctoral Student Fellowship – $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

Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania

Political Change in the Third World PSCI116 with Prof. Rudy Sil	Fall 2019
Statistics for Political Science 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	Midwest Political Science Association Conference International Communication Association Conference	2022
	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   2018
Association for Asian Studies Conference

WORK EXPERIENCE	**National Opinion Research Center**, Chicago, IL	2015 - 2016

WORK
EXPERIENCE

National Opinion Research Center, Chicago, IL   2015 - 2016
Research Associate, data coding and analysis for the Survey of
Doctorate Recipients

RA to Dr. Nicholas Stephanopoulos, University of Chicago   2015 - 2016
Data cleaning, analysis and coding for project on racial polarization
in voting patterns

Minister of State for Communications and IT   2013 - 2014
Electoral Campaign, Mumbai, India
Head of student campaigning, outreach, and GOTV

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

Prof. Matthew Levendusky
Professor
Department of Political Science
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Prof. Marc Meredith
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Prof. Devesh Kapur
Starr Foundation Professor
of South Asian Studies
Johns Hopkins University SAIS
dkapur1@jhu.edu