SUMITRA BADRINATHAN

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POSITIONS

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

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Oxford   2021 – 2022
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
Committee: Guy Grossman, Marc Meredith, Matt 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, Political Behavior, Experimental Methods

PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS

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. 2022. Navigating Insider and Outsider Status as Researchers Conducting Field Experiments. *PS: Political Science & Politics*: 1–5

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.

Ross Arguedas, Amy A., **Sumitra Badrinathan**, Camila Mont'Alverne, Benjamin Toff, Richard Fletcher, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen. 2022. "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." *Journalism Studies*: 1-20.

UNDER REVIEW	I Don't Think That's True, Bro!" An Experiment on Fact-checking Misinformation in India, with Simon Chauchard (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	Misinformation and Anti-Minority Vigilantism: Coordinated Field Experiments in India and Pakistan, *with Niloufer Siddiqui and Simon Chauchard* pre-analysis plan
	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.* pre-analysis plan
	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* pre-analysis plan
	The effect of credibility labels on trust in news, *with Camila Mont'Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Benjamin Toff, Richard Fletcher, Rasmus K. Nielsen* pre-analysis plan
	Does Partisanship Affect Media Choice? Experimental Evidence from North India
	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

Mont'Alverne, Camila, Sumitra Badrinathan, Benjamin Toff, Amy Ross Arguedas, Richard Fletcher, and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen. 22 September, 2022. The trust gap: how and why news on digital platforms is viewed more sceptically versus news in general. *Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism*
Press: Scroll, Newslaundry, Quint

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*
Press: Grand Tamasha Podcast, Reuters, Times of India, Indian Express

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*
Press: Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Axios, Reuters, NDTV

INVITED TALKS & GUEST LECTURES

Google News Initiative Fighting Misinformation Online, June 2022
Invited talk

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	Social Science Research Council Mercury Project Award (with S. Chauchard and N. Sircar) – $430,000	2022
	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 American Political Science Association Annual Conference Berlin Meetings on the Political Economy of Development (MoPED) International Fact-Checking Network Global Fact 9 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   2019
NYU Winter Experimental Social Sciences Conference
MIT Gov/Lab Political Behavior of Development Conference
Southern Political Science Association Conference

Midwest Political Science Association Conference   2018
Association for Asian Studies Conference

WORK EXPERIENCE	**National Opinion Research Center**, Chicago, IL Research Associate, data coding and analysis for the Survey of Doctorate Recipients	2015 - 2016
	RA to Dr. Nicholas Stephanopoulos, University of Chicago Data cleaning, analysis and coding for project on racial polarization in voting patterns	2015 - 2016
	Minister of State for Communications and IT 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
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Prof. Matthew Levendusky
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Department of Political Science
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Prof. Marc Meredith
Associate Professor
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Prof. Devesh Kapur
Starr Foundation Professor
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Johns Hopkins University SAIS
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