

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
M.A., Political Science, University of Chicago 2014 – 2015
B.A., Psychology, St. Xavier's College Mumbai 2011 – 2014

RESEARCH INTERESTS Misinformation, South Asia, Political Economy, Social Media, Partisanship, Polarization, Experimental Methods

PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS

1. **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
2. 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
3. **Badrinathan, Sumitra** and Simon Chauchard. 2023. ["I Don't Think That's True, Bro!" Social Corrections of Misinformation in India](#). *International Journal of Press/Politics*
4. **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.
5. 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	<p>Leveraging Religiosity Against COVID-19 Misinformation: Experimental Evidence from India, with Simon Chauchard</p> <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 K. Nielsen</i></p> <p>Subjective Preferences for Objective News: Exploring the Complex Relationship Between Impartiality and Trust in News, <i>with Camila Mont’Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Benjamin Toff, Richard Fletcher, Rasmus K. Nielsen</i></p>
WORK IN PROGRESS	<p>Misinformation and Anti-Minority Vigilantism: Coordinated Field Experiments in India and Pakistan, <i>with Niloufer Siddiqui and Simon Chauchard</i> pre-analysis plan</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 K. Nielsen.</i> pre-analysis plan</p> <p>The effect of corrections featuring fact-checks from news organisations on false COVID-19 social media posts in Brazil, India and the UK, <i>with Richard Fletcher, Simge Andi, Camila Mont’Alverne, Benjamin Toff, Rasmus K. Nielsen</i> pre-analysis plan</p> <p>The effect of credibility labels on trust in news, <i>with Camila Mont’Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Benjamin Toff, Richard Fletcher, Rasmus K. Nielsen</i> pre-analysis plan</p> <p>Does Partisanship Affect Media Choice? Experimental Evidence from North India</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. “Religion, Caste, Class, Politics: How Urbanization Affects Social Interactions and Political Behaviors.” 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. “India is facing an epidemic of misinformation alongside covid-19.” <i>The Washington Post</i></p> <p>Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, Jonathan Kay, and Milan Vaishnav. June 10, 2021. “Discrimination against Indian Americans happens more than you might think.” <i>Monkey Cage (Washington Post)</i></p> <p>Badrinathan, Sumitra, Devesh Kapur, and Milan Vaishnav. 15 October, 2020. “Why Indian Americans are not becoming Republicans any time soon.” <i>Monkey Cage</i></p> <p>Badrinathan, Sumitra, and Simon Chauchard. 28 January, 2020. “Is there a way to counter fake news on WhatsApp?” <i>Hindustan Times</i></p>

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 . <i>Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism</i> 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 . <i>Carnegie Endowment for International Peace</i> 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 . <i>Carnegie Endowment for International Peace</i> Press: Wall Street Journal , New York Times , Axios , Reuters , NDTV
INVITED TALKS & GUEST LECTURES	University of Maryland Political Science Seminar, February 2023 Invited talk
	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	Lecturer, American University	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative Political Economy (Spring 2023) 	
	Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistics for Political Science (Fall 2018) • Political Change in the Third World (Fall 2019) • International Human Rights (Spring 2018) • Introduction to American Politics (Fall 2017) 	
CONFERENCE TALKS	Southern Political Science Association Conference	2023
	Midwest Political Science Association Conference (scheduled)	
	European Political Science Association Conference (scheduled)	
	Midwest Political Science Association Conference	2022
	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	
	American Political Science Association Annual Conference	2021
	International Journal of Press/Politics Conference	
	Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention	
	Digital Democracy Workshop, University of Zurich	
	American Political Science Association Annual Conference	2020
	Harvard Experimental Political Science Conference	

Southern Political Science Association Conference

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

WORK **National Opinion Research Center**, Chicago, IL 2015 - 2016
EXPERIENCE 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 **Languages:** R (proficient), HTML CSS (intermediate), Python (intermediate)
SCIENCE & **Programs:** Qualtrics (survey & experimental design), Latex, DataWrapper
TECH **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. Marc Meredith
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Pennsylvania
marcmere@sas.upenn.edu

Prof. Matthew Levendusky
Professor
Department of Political Science
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Prof. Devesh Kapur
Starr Foundation Professor
of South Asian Studies
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