

SUMITRA BADRINATHAN

CONTACT	American University School of International Service Washington DC 20016	 sumitrab@american.edu  sumitrabadrinathan.github.io  KhariBiskut
POSITIONS	Assistant Professor of Political Science American University School of International Service Postdoctoral Research Fellow , University of Oxford Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism Trust in News Project	Fall 2022 – 2021 – 2022
EDUCATION	Ph.D., Political Science , University of Pennsylvania <i>Dissertation:</i> The Politics of Misinformation in India: Prevalence, Mechanisms, Solutions <i>Committee:</i> Guy Grossman, Marc Meredith, Matthew Levendusky, Devesh Kapur M.A., Political Science , University of Chicago B.A., Psychology , St. Xavier's College Mumbai	2016 – 2021 2014 – 2015 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 . <i>American Political Science Review</i> 115(4): 1325–1341. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 . <i>PS: Political Science & Politics</i> , 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 . <i>Urbanisation</i> 6(1): 141–157.	

UNDER REVIEW	<p>I Don't Think That's True, Bro!" An Experiment on Fact-checking Misinformation in India, with Simon Chauchard (revise and resubmit)</p> <p>"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, <i>with Amy Ross Arguedas, Camila Mont'Alverne, Benjamin Toff, Richard Fletcher, Rasmus K. Nielsen</i> (revise and resubmit)</p> <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>Does Misinformation Drive Support for Vigilantism? Coordinated Field Experiments in India and Pakistan, <i>with Niloufer Siddiqui and Simon Chauchard</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded by the 2021 Facebook Integrity Research Awards <p>Does Partisanship Affect Media Choice? Experimental Evidence from North India</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></p> <p>Who Believes Misinformation? A Profile of Vulnerability to False News in India, <i>with Simon Chauchard</i></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></p> <p>Does Trust in the News Affect Support for Democratic Values? <i>with Camila Mont'Alverne, Amy Ross Arguedas, Benjamin Toff</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. "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>

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

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	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	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

Midwest Political Science Association Conference 2018
Association for Asian Studies 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
ggros@sas.upenn.edu

Prof. Matthew Levendusky
Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Pennsylvania
mleven@sas.upenn.edu

Prof. Marc Meredith
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Pennsylvania
marcmere@sas.upenn.edu

Prof. Devesh Kapur
Starr Foundation Professor
of South Asian Studies
Johns Hopkins University SAIS
dkapur1@jhu.edu