

Aarushi Kalra

University of Oxford, Economics

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CURRENT POSITION

Oxford University

Postdoctoral Prize Research Fellow, Department of Economics and Nuffield College

2025-28

EDUCATION

Brown University

Ph.D. Economics

Providence, RI, USA

2025

Dissertation Committee: Andrew Foster, Brian Knight, Stelios Michalopoulos, Peter Hull, Daniel Björkegren

Delhi School of Economics

M.A. Economics

New Delhi, India

2017

Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi

B.A. (Honors) Economics

New Delhi, India

2015

Exchange: National University of Singapore

WORKING PAPERS

Hate in the Time of Algorithms: Evidence on Online Behavior from a Large Scale Experiment

Awards: BU Platform Strategy Alessandro di Fiore Best Paper Prize Runner-up 2025, Best Paper Award at CesIfo Doctoral Workshop on Economics of Digitization 2025, NEUDC/ Weiss Fund Distinguished Paper Award 2024

A ‘Ghetto’ of One’s Own: Communal Violence, Residential Segregation, and Group Education Outcomes in India

Awards: Winner, Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences Graduate Student Paper Prize (2022)

Targeted Disruptions: Internet Shutdowns in India (with Ro'ee Levy and Martin Mattsson)

Local Elections, Leader Identity, and Online Hate Speech at Scale: Evidence from a TikTok-like Platform in Rural India

Hate Thy Neighbor: Effects of Local News on Political Polarization in a Large-Scale Experiment

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Global Mobility Research Fellowship, Brown University 2023
- Merit Dissertation Fellowship, Brown University 2022
- Center for Contemporary South Asia Teaching Fellowship, Brown University 2021
- Graduate Student Fellowship, Brown University 2018
- Faculty Prize, Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University 2015
- Exchange Scholarship, National University of Singapore 2014

GRANTS

- CSAE Small Grants, Oxford University 2025
- NSF Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation 2023
- Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics 2023
- Saxena Center for Contemporary South Asia Summer Fellowship, Brown University 2022
- Orlando Bravo Center for Economic Research Funding, Brown University 2022, 2021
- Saxena Center for Contemporary South Asia Winter Fellowship, Brown University 2021
- Swearer Center Engaged Course Mini-Grant, Brown University 2021
- Graduate Program in Development Summer Funds, Watson Institute, Brown University 2021, 2020
- Stone Wealth and Income Inequality Fund, Brown University 2020

INVITED TALKS, SEMINARS, AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2026 ASSA (Philadelphia), University of Nottingham, CSAE Workshop, Economics and Analytics Group Ofcom, University of Arkansas, UC San Diego

2025 NBER Summer Institute, CEPR Workshop on Media, Technology, Politics and Society (Bocconi), University of Oslo Applied Micro Seminar, Dartmouth Applied Microeconomics and QSS Seminar, Stanford Network Science in Economics Conference (plenary session), UChicago Machine Learning for Economics Conference, cesIfo Doctoral Workshop on Economics of Digitization (Toulouse), Meta, Caltech Information and Misinformation in Elections Conference, Georgetown McCourt School of Public Policy South Asia Seminar, Digital Economy Workshop (DIW Berlin), Oxford Political Economy Workshop, Hertie School, Warwick

2024 NBER Conference on Information and Competition in the Digital Economy (ISB), ISI-Delhi Growth and Development Conference, ETH Zürich and UZH Workshop in AI + Economics, NEUDC (Northeastern), Harvard Grad PE Seminar, Brown Applied Microeconomics Grad Seminar, Summer Meetings of the Econometric Society (Nashville), Comparative Welfare State Conference 2024 (Brown)

2023 Summer Meetings of the Econometric Society (UCLA), Asian Meetings of the Econometric Society (IIT-Bombay)

2022 Spatial Structures in Social Science Colloquium for Best Graduate Student Paper Award (Brown),

NBER Conference on Entrepreneurship, Public Policy, and Economics Outcomes (ISB), PAA (Atlanta), Data Science Institute (Brown), Young Economists' Symposium (Yale), Development Data Lab, Growth and Development Conference (ISI Delhi), NEUDC (Yale), Machine Learning for Economics Summer Institute (UChicago)

2021 Growth and Development Conference (ISI Delhi), Brown-MIT Graduate Development Workshop

TEACHING

Instructor for Graduate Course at Oxford University

- Quantitative Methods for M.Sc. in Economic and Social History 2025

Instructor for Undergraduate Courses at Brown University

- Honors Thesis Advising 2025
- Economic and Human Development in South Asia 2021

Teaching Assistant at Brown University

- Machine Learning, Text Analysis, and Economics (*Professor Amy Handlan*) 2024
- Statistical Methods and Economic Analysis for MPA (*Professors Jesse Bruhn, Bryce Steinberg, Neil Thakral, Alex Poterack*) 2022
- Game Theory and Application to Economics (*Professor Roberto Serrano*) 2020
- Intermediate Microeconomics (*Professor Fahri Ulusoy*) 2020
- PhD Mathematics for Economists (*Professor Alex Poterack*) 2019

Instructor for Indian Economic Service Officers Training at the Institute for Economic Growth, New Delhi

- Quantitative Methods in Economics 2018

WORK EXPERIENCE

Brown University, Economics Department Providence, RI
Research Assistant for Professor Alisa Tazhitdinova 2020

Center for Development Economics, Delhi School of Economics New Delhi, India
Research Assistant for Professor Mausumi Das 2017–2018

Ranchi University and IIT-Delhi Jharkhand/ New Delhi, India
Field Investigator for Professors Jean Drèze and Reetika Khera 2013–2018

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Impacts of regional lockdown policies on COVID-19 transmission in India in 2020 (with Paul Novosad, *Economic and Political Weekly, 2022*)

Birth Pangs: Universal Maternity Entitlements in India (with Aditi Priya, *Economic and Political Weekly, 2020*)

OTHER

- **Service:** Co-founder, *Bahujan Economists*
- **Referee:** Journal of Development Economics, PLOS One, Journal of Comparative Economics, ACM Journal of Computing and Sustainable Societies
- **Open Data Source:** A Dataset of Geolocated Villages and Gram Panchayat Election Candidates in Uttar Pradesh
- **Organization:** Fair February 2022, Data Science Initiative, Brown; Women in Data Science Datathon 2023, Brown; Graduate Student Seminar Speaker Series 2024, Saxena Center for Contemporary South Asia, Brown
- **Languages:** English (fluent), Hindi (native), Punjabi (advanced), Urdu (elementary)