Chetana Sabnis

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Political Science, Yale University

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Education

Expected Ph.D., Political Science, Yale University, New Haven, CT

2026 Dissertation: Intimacy Contract: States and Hierarchies of Familial Belonging
Committee: Elisabeth Jean Wood (co-chair), Joseph Fischel (co-chair), Dara Strolovitch,
Egor Lazarev

May 2017 M.A. Social Sciences, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

May 2014 Integrated M.A. Development Studies, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, India

Working Papers

"How Indian Courts Determine Which Extramarital Relationships deserve Recognition"

"How American Courts Decide Who Counts as a Parent"

"The Intimacy Contract: A Framework to Understand State Regulation of Families"

"Investigating the Political Consciousness of Police Officials: A Case Study of Colonial British Police Officials between 1857–1947"

"U.S. Courts' Decisions on "Communists" in the McCarthy Era, 1948-67"

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

- 2025–2026 MacMillan International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Yale University (\$6000)
 - 2025 Graduate Student Assembly Conference Travel Fellowship, Yale University (\$500)
 - 2022 MacMillan Center Predissertation Research Grant, Yale University (\$4100)
 - 2022 South Asian Studies Council Graduate Award, Yale University (\$3500)
 - 2016 Social Sciences Scholarship, University of Chicago (\$35,808)
 - 2012 DAAD Student Exchange Scholarship, Hochschule Bremen, Germany (\$2000)

Conferences and Presentations

2025 Brown University, Graduate Research on Contemporary South Asia Conference (expected)

2025 Columbia University, Gender, Human Rights and Security Conference (expected)

- 2025 Yale University, Comparative Politics Workshop
- 2025 American Political Science Association (APSA)
- 2025 Law and Society Association (LSA)

- 2025 Yale University, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Colloquium
- 2024 Yale University, Political Violence and its Legacies Workshop
- 2022 Yale University, Democracy, Violence, and Constitutional Order Workshop

Teaching and Research Experience

- 2025 Teaching Fellow, Politics of Expertise (Prof. Federico Brandmayr), Yale University
- 2024 Teaching Fellow, Contesting Injustice (Prof. Elisabeth Jean Wood), Yale University
- 2023 Teaching Fellow, State, Conflict and Political Order (Profs. Emily Sellars and Daniel Hirschel-Burns), Yale University
- 2023 Teaching Fellow, The Rise of China (Prof. Daniel Mattingly), Yale University
- 2021–2024 Graduate Writing Fellow, Poorvu Center for Teaching and Writing
- 2018-2020 Research Coordinator, World Bank
- 2014-2016 Research Associate, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), South Asia

Academic Service

- 2022 Graduate Student Coordinator, Political Violence Workshop
- 2021-2022 Graduate Student Coordinator, South Asia Brown Bag Series Academic
 - 2024 Reviewer for: American Political Science Review
 Research Assistance for: Tom Ginsburg, Egor Lazarev, Rachel Brule

Field and Archival Research Experience

United Kingdom (2022), Kenya (2019), Philippines (2018)

India: Uttar Pradesh (2014), Rajasthan (2015), Pondicherry (2016), Karnataka (2013)

Skills

Tools R (advanced), Python (intermediate), SQL (basic)

Languages English (fluent), Hindi (conversational), Kannada (native)

Training Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR) June 2023