

PRIYADARSHI AMAR

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Agricultural & Applied Economics and Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2025 (expected)

M.Sc Economics, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2018

M.Sc Financial Mathematics, King’s College London, 2013

B.Sc Statistics (Honours), University of Delhi, 2012

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Economy of Development, Inequality and Representation, Electoral Institutions, Politics of South Asia

WORK IN PROGRESS

Do Ballot Access Laws Affect Marginalized Groups Disproportionately? Evidence from India’s Village Elections

The Effects of Direct Elections on Program Implementation: Evidence from India’s Village Councils (with Rikhil Bhavnani and Amit Jadhav)

Heat on Democracy: Does Temperature Disenfranchise Women Disproportionately? (with Shweta Bhogale and Ting Liu)

Disempowering the local council: The value of non-executive seat when electoral reform empowers the executive
Entry and Exit in India’s Village Elections

Countering Misinformation Early: A Grassroots Media Literacy Intervention for Rural Populations in India (with Sumitra Badrinathan, Simon Chauchard, and Florian Sichart)

GRANTS

Conference Travel Grant, Elections Research Center, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2023 (\$1000)

Student Research Travel Grant, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2023 (\$1500)

Joined as Co-PI, Social Science Research Council Mercury Project Award for ”BIMLI (Bihar Information and Media Literacy Initiative): A media literacy field experiment in North Indian schools” with S. Chauchard, S. Badrinathan, and F. Sichart (\$430,000)

Summer Research Scholarship, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2023 (\$2500)

Summer Research Scholarship, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2022 (\$3000)

Graduate Research Funding Competition, Elections Research Center, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2021 (\$800)

Summer Research Scholarship, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2021 (\$1500)

Summer Research Scholarship, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2021 (\$1500)

Summer Scholarship, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2021 (\$3000)

Additional Summer Research Scholarship, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2020 (\$900)

Summer Research Scholarship, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2020 (\$2500)

Research Travel Grant, Institute of Regional and International Studies, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2020 (\$600)

Fieldwork Support, IDFC Institute, 2019 (\$1000)

Student Research Travel Grant, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2019 (\$1200)

Research Travel Grant, Institute of Regional and International Studies, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2020 (\$600)

Summer Research Scholarship, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2019 (\$3000)

Research Travel Grant, Institute of Regional and International Studies, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2019 (\$1200)

Graduate School Grant, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2018 (\$5000)

Economics Master’s Program Research Scholarship, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2017 (\$2000)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Faculty-Student Collaborative Summer Research Fellowship , Election Research Center, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2023

Faculty-Student Collaborative Summer Research Fellowship , Election Research Center, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2022

University Fellowship, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2022.

University Fellowship, University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2018–19.

Honorable Mention Research Paper Scholarship (Dept. of Economics), University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2018

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

University of Wisconsin–Madison, Department of Political Science

Research Assistant, Professor Rikhil Bhavnani, Oct 2016 to Present

Research Assistant, Professor Nina Varsava, Nov 2022 to August 2023

Teaching Assistant, Understanding Political Numbers, Sep 2021 to Dec 2021

Teaching Assistant, Understanding Political Numbers, Jan 2021 to May 2021

Teaching Assistant, Understanding Political Numbers, Sep 2020 to Dec 2020

Teaching Assistant, Game Theory for Graduate Students, Jan 2020 to May 2020

Teaching Assistant, Research Design for Undergraduates, Aug 2019 to Dec 2019

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods, University of Michigan

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Python, Jun 2023 to July 2023

Teaching Assistant, Mathematics for Social Scientists, Jun 2023 to July 2023

Indian School of Business, Department of Economics and Public Policy

Research and Teaching Assistant, Professor Sisir Debnath, Nov 2014 to Aug 2016

Delhi School of Economics, Centre for Development Economics

Research Assistant, Professor Rohini Somanathan, Jan 2014 to Oct 2014

CONFERENCES (EXTERNAL)

2024: Midwest Political Science Association Conference
2024: Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference
2023: 18th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development at ISI Delhi
2023: American Political Science Association Annual Meeting
2023: Midwest Workshop in Empirical Political Science (MWEPS)
2023: Midwest Political Science Association Conference

SERVICE

Referee: Economic Modeling, American Journal of Agricultural Economics
Department: Student coordinator, Comparative Politics Colloquium
Discussant: APSA
Chair: MPSA, SPSA

TECHNICAL SKILLS

STATA, Python, R, Matlab and QGIS.

OTHER POSITIONS

Election Research Center, Graduate Student Affiliate, Oct 2019 to Present
Center for South Asia, Graduate Student Affiliate, March 2019 to Present
Comparative Politics Colloquium, Student Coordinator, Aug 2019 to Present
IDFC Institute, Visiting Researcher, June 2019 to Aug 2019

REFERENCES - COMMITTEE

Rikhil R. Bhavnani (Co-Chair)
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