

Tanu Kumar

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Research Areas	Comparative politics, political behavior, urban politics, development
Appointments	Claremont Graduate University Assistant Professor, Division of Politics and Economics 2022- William & Mary Postdoctoral Researcher, Global Research Institute 2020-2022
Affiliations	Governance and Local Development Fellow, University of Gothenburg 2023 Center for Effective Global Action Affiliate, University of California, Berkeley 2022- Government Department Faculty Affiliate, William & Mary 2020-2022
Education	Ph.D., Political Science, University of California, Berkeley 2020 M.A., Political Science, University of California, Berkeley 2014 B.A., Government and Economics, Bowdoin College 2012
Peer- reviewed Articles	Kumar, T. , “Home-price subsidies increase local-level political participation in urban India.” <i>Journal of Politics</i> , 2022. –Coverage: <i>The Washington Post</i> , and <i>Phenomenal World</i> by the Jain Family Institute Kumar, T. and Stenberg, M. “Why political scientists should study smaller cities.” <i>Urban Affairs Review</i> , 2022. Kumar, T. , Post, A., Ray, I., Otsuka, M., and Pardo-Bosch, F. “From public service access to service quality: The distributive politics of piped water in Bangalore.” <i>World Development</i> , 2022. Kumar, T. , “The housing quality, income, and human capital effects of subsidized homes in urban India.” <i>Journal of Development Economics</i> , 2021. –Coverage: <i>Ideas for India</i> (English and Hindi), <i>ThePrint</i> , <i>The Hindustan Times</i> , <i>India Housing Report</i> , <i>The Times of India</i> , and <i>VoxDev</i> Kumar, T. , Post, A., and Ray, I. “Flows, leaks, and blockages in informational interventions: A field experimental study of Bangalore’s water sector.” <i>World Development</i> , 2018. –Coverage: USAID Impact blog
Research in Progress	Book manuscript: <i>Housing as welfare: how subsidized homeownership generates social mobility through wealth, dignity, and voice in India</i> . In progress, workshop scheduled for Spring 2023. Chapters available upon request. “How the content of complaints shapes government responsiveness: theory and evidence from Mumbai.” Working paper, submitted. –Coverage: India Housing Report

	<p>“The politics of citizen-led expansion and informality at the edges of India’s cities.” w/ A. Auerbach. Working paper, available upon request.</p> <p>“When do local governments improve transparency? Special districts outpace cities and counties in California transit” w/ I. Ratan, A. Post, and M. Sheth. Working paper, available upon request.</p> <p>“An experimental analysis of the impact of smartphones and household property rights on the uptake of digital financial services.” w/ P. Roessler, P. Carroll, B. Dulani, and D. Nielson. Midline data collected.</p> <p>“Ad-supported smartphones to bridge the digital gender gap: spillover design” w/ P. Roessler and E. Agasha. Seed funding acquired, initial piloting complete.</p> <p>“Voice and response: What motivates bureaucratic responsiveness to citizen voice?” w/ G. Kruks-Wisner. Qualitative data collection and scoping in progress.</p>
Book Chapter	<p>Hyun, C., Kumar, T., Post, A. and Ray, I. “Engineering Predictable Water Supply: The Humans Behind the Tech.” in <i>An Introduction to Development Engineering</i>, eds. Madon, T., and Gadgil, A. Springer, 2022.</p>
Other Academic Writing	<p>Haas, N., Haenschen K., Kumar, T., Panagopoulos, C., Peyton, K., Ravanilla, N., and Sierra-Arévalo, M. “Organizational identity and positionality in randomized control trials: considerations and advice for collaborative research teams.” <i>PS: Political Science and Politics</i>, 2022.</p> <p>Kumar, T. Review of <i>Governing Locally: Institutions, Policies, and Implementation in Indian Cities</i> by B. Jacob and S. Jacob (2021, Cambridge University Press). <i>Journal of Policy Analysis and Management</i>, 2022.</p> <p>Kumar, T. “Subsidizing homeownership builds wealth, changes attitudes, and generates urban civic participation.” in <i>Newsletter of the Organized Section in Comparative Politics of the American Political Science Association</i> eds. Finkel, E., A. Lawrence and A. Mertha, 2020.</p> <p>Kumar, T. Review of <i>Contesting the Indian City: Global Visions and the Politics of the Local</i>, ed. G. Shatkin (2014, Wiley-Blackwell). <i>Governance</i>, 2016.</p>
Policy Writing	<p>“Why Political Scientists Should Study Smaller Cities” w/ M. Stenberg. <i>Urban Affairs Forum</i>, 2022.</p> <p>“Smartphone Ownership and Women’s Financial Inclusion: Preliminary Results from a Randomized Controlled Trial in Malawi” w/ P. Roessler, P. Carroll, B. Dulani, and D. Nielson. BRAC Institute of Governance and Development, 2022.</p> <p>“Household-level effects of subsidized housing: Evidence from urban India.” <i>VoxDev</i>, 2022.</p>

Trapenberg Frick, K., **Kumar, T.**, Mendonça Abreu, G., and Post, A. “Benchmarking ‘Smart City’ adoption in California: Developing and piloting a data collection approach.” University of California. 2021.

“Housing is a welfare weapon. It can help people escape poverty.” *The Hindustan Times*, 2021. Syndicated in *India Housing Report*.

“How does subsidizing housing shape political behavior?” *Ideas of India* (podcast), 2020.

“Mumbai residents win govt housing lottery and spend more on kids’ education, jobs: Study.” *ThePrint*, 2019.

“Household-level effects of affordable housing: Evidence from Mumbai.” *Ideas for India*, 2019. Also translated to Hindi.

“Here’s what Gavin Newsom, Elizabeth Warren, and Microsoft should know if they want to end the affordable housing crisis.” *The Washington Post Monkey Cage*, 2019.

Honors

Susan Clarke Young Scholar – APSA Urban and Local Politics Section, 2021
Best Dissertation (Honorable Mention) – APSA Urban and Local Politics Section, 2021
DeAlva Stanwood Alexander First Prize – Bowdoin College, 2012

Research Grants

External

Accountable Institutions & Behavior, NSF (w/ A. Post and N. Kuipers), 2023	\$350,000
Edward Artinian Fund for Publishing, APSA, 2022	\$2,400
Open Philanthropy, Good Ventures Fund (w/ P. Roessler), 2022	\$100,000
WEE-DiFine, BRAC (w/ P. Carroll, B. Dulani, P. Roessler, D. Nielson), 2021	\$46,337
GLD, University of Gothenburg (w/ A. Auerbach), 2021	29,619 kr
Alma Ostrom and Leah Hopkins Awan Civic Education Fund, APSA, 2019	\$2,300
Weiss Family Fund for Development Economics, Harvard University, 2017	\$21,577
Weiss Family Fund for Development Economics, Harvard University, 2016	\$6,900
Governance Initiative, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, MIT, 2016	\$8,700

Internal

Institute of International Studies, University of California, Berkeley, 2017	\$15,000
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Invited Presentations

2023

CASI India Political Economy Workshop, University of Pennsylvania
Keough School of Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame (rescheduled from Fall '22)

2022

Brown-Harvard-MIT Joint Seminar in South Asian Politics, Harvard University
Thinking Globally, Foreign Service Institute
Urban Workshop Series, Centre for Policy Research India
Housing Politics and Policy Conference, Princeton University
Global Politics Series, University of Virginia
Complex Governance Seminar, American University

2021

The Politics Forum, The College of New Jersey

Inequality and Policy Research Center, Claremont Graduate University

2020

Economics of Cities and Development, Johns Hopkins University

Comparative Politics and Political Economy Seminar, UC Santa Barbara

Teaching

Claremont Graduate University

International Development: Institutions, Households, & Policy, Spring 2023

Political Behavior in Developing Democracies, Spring 2023

Nature of Inquiry (Introduction to Data and Research Design in Social Science), Fall 2022

William & Mary

Political Behavior in Developing Democracies, Fall 2021

University of California, Berkeley

Quantitative Analysis (PhD level) - GSI for Professor Joel Middleton, Fall 2018

Mentorship

Claremont Graduate University

Lama Shaiekh, Dissertation committee

Mona Shadia, Dissertation committee

Rooppreet Sohal, Dissertation committee

William & Mary

Leah Damelin, Honors thesis committee

Service

William & Mary

Search committee member, DIGLab, 2022-2023

Discipline-wide

Peer Review: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development Grants, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, Oxford University Press, *PLOS ONE*, *PS: Political Science*, *Urban Affairs Review*, *World Politics*, *Social Policy & Administration*

Co-organizer for Virtual Workshop on Urban Politics in the Global South, 2022

Excellence in Mentoring Award Committee, APSA Public Policy Section, 2022