

# Tanu Kumar

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Appointments	<b>Claremont Graduate University</b> Assistant Professor, Division of Politics and Economics 2022-
	<b>William &amp; Mary</b> Postdoctoral Researcher, Global Research Institute 2020-2022
Affiliations	Center for Effective Global Action 2022-
	Government Department, 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	<b>Kumar, T.</b> , “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
	<b>Kumar, T.</b> and Stenberg, M. “Why political scientists should study smaller cities.” <i>Urban Affairs Review</i> , 2022.
	Haas, N., Haenschen K., <b>Kumar, T.</b> , 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.
	<b>Kumar, T.</b> , 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.
	<b>Kumar, T.</b> , “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>
	<b>Kumar, T.</b> , 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.

	<p>“The politics of citizen-led expansion and informality at the edges of India’s cities.” with A. Auerbach. Working paper, available upon request.</p> <p>“When do local governments improve transparency? Special districts outpace cities and counties in California transit” with 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.” with P. Roessler, P. Carroll, B. Dulani, and D. Nielson. Midline data collected.</p> <p>“Ad-supported smartphones to bridge the digital gender gap.” with P. Roessler and E. Agasha. Seed funding acquired, initial piloting complete.</p> <p>“Voice and response: What motivates bureaucratic responsiveness to citizen voice?” with G. Kruks-Wisner. Funding acquired. Qualitative data collection and scoping in progress.</p>
Book Chapter	<p>Hyun, C., <b>Kumar, T.</b>, 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><b>Kumar, T.</b> 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>Trapenberg Frick, K., <b>Kumar, T.</b>, Mendonça Abreu, G., and Post, A. “Benchmarking ‘Smart City’ adoption in California: Developing and piloting a data collection approach.” University of California. 2021.</p> <p><b>Kumar, T.</b> “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><b>Kumar, T.</b> 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” with 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” with 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> <p>“Housing is a welfare weapon. It can help people escape poverty.” <i>The Hindustan Times</i>, 2021. Syndicated in <i>India Housing Report</i>.</p>

“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

Edward Artinian Fund for Publishing, APSA – 2,400 USD, 2022

Open Philanthropy, Good Ventures Fund (with P. Roessler) – 100,000 USD, 2022

WEE-DiFine, BRAC (with P. Carroll, B. Dulani, P. Roessler, D. Nielson) – 46,337 USD, 2021

GLD, University of Gothenburg (with A. Auerbach) – 29,619 SEK, 2021

Alma Ostrom and Leah Hopkins Awan Civic Education Fund, APSA – 2,300 USD, 2019

Weiss Family Fund for Development Economics, Harvard University – 21,577 USD, 2017

Institute of International Studies, University of California, Berkeley – 15,000 USD, 2017

Weiss Family Fund for Development Economics, Harvard University – 6,900 USD, 2016

Governance Initiative, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, MIT – 8,700 USD, 2016

#### Teaching

##### **Claremont Graduate University**

Economic Development: Household & Local Development Issues (Development Economics), 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

#### Mentorship

##### **Claremont Graduate University**

Lama Shaiekh, Dissertation committee

Mona Shadia, Dissertation committee

Roopreet Sohal, Dissertation committee

##### **William & Mary**

Leah Damelin, Honors thesis committee

#### Invited Presentations

##### **2023**

CASI India Political Economy Workshop, University of Pennsylvania

##### **2022**

South Asia Seminar, University of Notre Dame

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

Activities in the Discipline

Peer Review: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*,  
BRAC Institute of Governance and Development Grants, *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