

# Tanu Kumar

Travers Department of Political Science  
210 Barrows Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720

www.tanukumar.com  
tkumar08[at]gmail[dot]com

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

### Global Research Institute, William & Mary

Postdoctoral Fellow in Digital Technology and Development, August 2020-

## 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

## RESEARCH

### Book Project

“Building civic engagement through redistribution: The political and economic effects of social welfare on households in India”

### Peer-reviewed Publications

**Kumar, T.**, Post, A., and Ray, I. “Flows, Leaks, and Blockages in Informational Interventions: A Field Experimental Study of Bangalore’s Water Sector.” *World Development* 106: 149-160, 2018.

### Working Papers

“The non-electoral political effects of welfare policies: Evidence from a natural experiment in Mumbai”\* (under review)

“The human capital effects of subsidized homeownership: Evidence from a natural experiment in Mumbai”\* (under review)

\*Companion papers featured in *The Print*, *The Jain Foundation Newsletter*, *Ideas for India* (English and Hindi), and *The Monkey Cage*

“From public service access to service quality: The distributive politics of piped water in Bangalore” with Alison Post, Megan Otsuka, Francesc Pardo-Bosch, and Isha Ray (under review)

“Preferences for descriptive representation: asymmetries between Hindus and Muslims in India” with Pradeep Chhibber and Jasjeet Sekhon

## **In Progress**

“Welfare as devolution: evidence from India’s NREGA program”

“Navigating electoral tradeoffs: Sector-wise variation in local-level government responsiveness in Mumbai”

“TV, subgroup effects, and mediation: principal stratification methods for understanding mechanisms in experiments”

## **OTHER WRITING**

“Subsidizing homeownership builds wealth and motivates participation in urban politics: evidence from India” in Finkel, Eugene, Adria Lawrence and Andrew Mertha (eds.). 2020. “Cities and Urban Politics.” Newsletter of the Organized Section in Comparative Politics of the American Political Science Association, 30(1).

“Urban water supply unpredictability in India: Understanding the humans that make technology-based interventions work at scale” with Christopher Hyun, Alison Post, and Isha Ray. Draft request for *An Introduction to Development Engineering*, eds. Temina Madon and Ashok Gadgil (2020, Springer).

Review of *Contesting the Indian City: Global Visions and the Politics of the Local*, ed. Gavin Shatkin (2014, Wiley-Blackwell). *Governance* 29 (4): 589-590, 2016.

## **RESEARCH GRANTS**

### **External**

Alma Ostrom and Leah Hopkins Awan Civic Education Fund, APSA Centennial Center, \$2,300, 2019

Weiss Family Program Fund for Research in Development Economics, Harvard University, \$21,177, 2017

Weiss Family Program Fund for Research in Development Economics, Harvard University, \$6,900, 2016

Governance Initiative Travel/Proposal Development Grant, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, \$8,700, 2016

### **Internal**

John L. Simpson Memorial Research Fellowship, Institute of International Studies, University of California, Berkeley, \$15,000, 2017-2018

## TEACHING

### University of California, Berkeley

#### Graduate

Quantitative Analysis in Political Research - Graduate Student Instructor for Professor Joel Middleton, Fall 2018

#### Undergraduate

Writing and Research in South Asian Politics - Teaching Assistant for Professor Pradeep Chhibber responsible for instructing students in R programming, Spring 2016, 2019

Understanding Political Developments in India (online course) - Graduate Student Instructor for Professor Pradeep Chhibber, Summer 2017, 2018

Introduction to Empirical Analysis in Political Science - Graduate Student Instructor for Professor Laura Stoker, Fall 2014

## PRESENTATIONS

### Workshops and Invited Presentations

2020: Pacific Conference for Development Economics (Berkeley, CA, scheduled), Cities and Development (Washington DC, scheduled)

2019: Bay Area Comparative Urban Politics Workshop, Harvard Experimental Political Science Graduate Student Conference, Stanford Development and Political Economics Graduate Student Conference, Visions in Methodology Conference, Graduate Student Conference in Comparative Politics at UCLA, Conference on South Asian Politics at the World Bank

2018: California Workshop in Empirical Political Science

### Annual Meetings

Midwest Political Science Association, 2018

American Political Science Association, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Methods Tutoring Program, Coordinator, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley, 2017-2018

Graduate Admissions Committee, Student Representative, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley, 2017

Referee service: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*

Affiliations: Visions in Methodology, Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences, American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, American Economic Association

## REFERENCES

Pradeep Chhibber  
Department of Political Science  
University of California, Berkeley  
chhibber[at]berkeley[dot]edu

Joel Middleton  
Department of Political Science  
University of California, Berkeley  
joel.middleton[at]berkeley[dot]edu

Edward Miguel  
Department of Economics  
University of California, Berkeley  
emiguel[at]berkeley[dot]edu

Alison Post  
Department of Political Science  
University of California, Berkeley  
aepost[at]berkeley[dot]edu

Updated May 26, 2020