

Rithika Kumar

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RESEARCH INTERESTS Comparative politics, gender and politics, migration, urbanization, South Asia

EDUCATION *Ph.D., Political Science* 2017 - Present
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
Dissertation Committee: Tariq Thachil (chair), Tulia Falleti, Michael Jones-Correa, Marc Meredith and Soledad Prillaman

M.A., Political Science 2020
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

M.A., Economics 2013
University of Mumbai, Mumbai

B.A., Economics & Statistics 2011
St. Xavier's College, Mumbai

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE *Research Assistant (for Adam Auerbach and Tariq Thachil)* Spring 2021
Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania

Intern (for Soledad Prillaman) June 2018
Evidence for Policy Design, Harvard University
Location: Berhampur, Odisha

Research Associate Dec 2014 - July 2017
IDFC Institute, Mumbai

Summer Intern May 2012 - June 2012
Jan Jagran Shakti Sangathan (JJSS), Bihar, India

ACADEMIC WRITING Left-Behind or Left-Ahead? Implications of Male Migration on Women's Political Participation in India. *Working Paper*
Dynamic Household Structures and Female Political Engagement in India. *Working Paper*
Mere Proxies or Genuine Leaders? A survey of female candidates in Bihar's 2021 village level election, with Apurva Bamezai. *Working Paper*
When Autonomy Kicks In: Understanding Women's Voting Decisions in India. *Working Paper*

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS Dissertation Research Award (\$2,500) 2022
Honorable Mention Empirical Gender Network (EGEN) Prize 2022

	GAPSA-Provost Fellowship with Apurva Bamezai (\$6,000)	2022
	NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (\$15,000)	2020-22
	Fox Leadership Fellow	2020-21
	CASI Summer Travel Grant (\$3500)	Summer 2019, 2020
	Judith Rodin Fellowship (\$5000)	2018-2019
	Benjamin Franklin Fellowship	2017-22
	Winner, Transform India Conclave, IIHS (national grad level conference)	2012
	Merit Scholarship, University of Mumbai	2011-12
MEDIA	<p>“India’s Female Voters Not Turning Out To Vote As They Should.” <i>Indiaspend</i>, Opinion, 2018.</p> <p>“Smart Policing and Safer Streets Start with Better Data” with Neha Sinha, <i>Hindustan Times</i>, Opinion, 2017.</p>	
CONFERENCE	NEWEPS-13	2022
WORKSHOPS	MPSA	2021, 2022
(EXTERNAL)	APSA	2021
	CASI Migration Conference	2021
	Center on Contemporary India (Berkley)	2021
	Tata Institute of Social Science (Mumbai) Speaker Series	2020
INTERNAL	Comparative Politics Workshop	2022
WORKSHOPS	Browne Center Summer Workshop	2022
	Andrea Mitchell Center Graduate Workshop	2021
	CASI Summer Internship Workshop	2020
ACADEMIC	Principal Organizer CASI Migration Conference (UPenn)	2021
SERVICE	Co-organizer Penn Political Science Graduate Conference	2018
TEACHING	Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania	
EXPERIENCE	Chinese Politics (for Yue Hou)	Fall 2018
	International Political Economy (for Ryan Brutger)	Spring 2019
	Introduction to Data Science using R (for Dan Hopkins)	Fall 2019
	Public Policy Process (for Marc Meredith)	Spring 2020
	Introduction to International Relations (for Ed Mansfield)	Fall 2022
FIELDWORK	<i>India</i> : Bihar (5/12-6/12, 6/20-8/20 (online), 09/21-10/21, 12/21-2/22), Chennai and Bangalore (12/16), Orissa (6/17), Rajasthan (7/19)	
RESEARCH	Languages: English, Hindi, Marathi, Tamil	
TOOLS	Applications: R, STATA, L ^A T _E X, QGIS	