

## APURVA BAMEZAI

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### EDUCATION

<b>Ph.D. in Political Science</b>	2019 – Present
<i>Committee: Tariq Thachil (chair), Guy Grossman and Marc Meredith</i> University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA	
<b>M.Phil. in Development Studies</b>	2011 – 2012
University of Cambridge, UK	
<b>M.A. in Development Studies</b>	2008 – 2010
Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India	
<b>B.A. (Honours) in Economics</b>	2005 – 2008
St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, India	

### ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 6. Public Sector Employment as a Pathway to Local Electoral Politics? Evidence from Rural India** (Dissertation project)
- 5. Fostering Peer Learning Among Local Elected Representatives** (with Siddharth George, Siddharth Hari and M. R. Sharan) [Awarded USD 93,427 by the Weiss Foundation, USD 169,510 by JPAL Governance Initiative, and USD 82,000 by IGC]
  - Paper accepted in the prereviews review track at *Journal of Development Economics*; manuscript available [here](#)
- 4. Who Becomes a Local Politician? Evidence from Rural India** (with Siddharth George, M. R. Sharan and Borui Sun)
- 3. Mere Proxies or Genuine Leaders? (Re)Examining the Effectiveness of Gender Quotas in India** (with Rithika Kumar and Priyadarshi Amar) [Awarded USD 6,000 under the GAPSA-Provost Fellowship Award, University of Pennsylvania]
- 2. Understanding COVID-19 induced excess mortality in Bihar** (with Harsha Thirumurthy, Aashish Gupta and M. R. Sharan) [Awarded USD 46,000 by University of Pennsylvania Institute for the Advanced Study of India and Penn Global]
- 1. Voting Aggregation Project** (Principal Investigators: Guy Grossman and Miguel Rueda)  
Research Assistant, Jan 2020 – Sep 2020

### ACADEMIC AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS (Select)

SAS Dissertation Research Award (USD 5,000)	2024
Judith Rodin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania (USD 5,000)	2023
Turner Schulman Graduate Fellowship, Center for the Study of Ethnicity, Race, and Immigration, University of Pennsylvania (USD 2,000)	2022
Penn Development Research Institute Graduate Student Research Grant (USD 2,000)	2022
Browne Center for International Politics Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania (USD 1,500)	2022
Political Science Department Graduate Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania (USD 1,500)	2022
GAPSA-Provost Fellowship Award, University of Pennsylvania (with Rithika Kumar; USD 6,000)	2022
Presidential Graduate Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania	2020 – 2021
Sobti Family Fellowship, Center for the Advanced Study of India (USD 12,500)	2020 – 2021
Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania	2019 – 2024
Cambridge Commonwealth Shared Scholarship (Cambridge Commonwealth Trust, UK)	2011 – 2012
ETS TOEFL Scholarship (ETS TOEFL Scholarship Program for India)	2011 – 2012
J. N. Tata Scholarship (J. N. Tata Endowment for the Higher Education of Indians, Mumbai, India)	2011 – 2012
Indira Gandhi Scholarship for Post-Graduate studies (Government of India)	2008 – 2010
Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) Scholarship (Government of India)	2005 – 2008

## PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### The World Bank

Short-term Consultant, Multi-sectoral Nutrition Convergence Impact Evaluation, Lao PDR, January – February 2023

### University of Pennsylvania – Center for the Advanced Study of India, New Delhi, India

Senior Researcher, June 2018 – July 2019

### Oxford Policy Management, New Delhi, India

Consultant, October 2015 – June 2018

(Assistant Consultant, November 2013 – September 2015)

### IDinsight Inc., Patna, India

Associate, September 2012 – October 2013

### International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), New Delhi Office, India

Research Analyst, Poverty, Health and Nutrition Division, June 2010 – August 2011

### Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai, India

Research Assistant, April 2010 – June 2010

## PUBLICATIONS (Select)

**Bamezai, A. and George, S., Hari, S., & Sharan, M.R., Learning to Govern: The Impact of Politicians' Peer Networks.** (Accepted in the prereviews track at *Journal of Development Economics*; manuscript available [here](#))

Menon, P., Bamezai, A., Subandoro, A., Ayoya, M. A. and Aguayo, V. (2013), Age-appropriate infant and young child feeding practices are associated with child nutrition in India: insights from nationally representative data. *Maternal & Child Nutrition*. (Available [here](#))

### Non-Peer Reviewed (select)

Bamezai, A. & Sharan, M.R. (2018), The particulars of social policy in India: Evidence, State capacity, and policy design. *Ideas for India* blog, 12 September 2018. (Available [here](#))

Bamezai, A., Banaji, M., Gupta, A., Pandey, S., Sharan, M.R., Sharma, K., & Singh, C. K. (2021). Survey evidence of excess mortality in Bihar in the second COVID-19 surge. *SocArXiv*. (Available [here](#))

Bamezai A., Jagmag M., Kumar N., Singh P.V., Joshi P., Joshi S., Viswanathan S., Newton-Lewis T., Grover V. Bihar Child Support Programme Midline Impact Evaluation Report. New Delhi: Oxford Policy Management, 2016. (Report submitted to DFID India in March 2016 available [here](#))

Ali D., Tedla M., Subandoro A., Bamezai A., Rawat R., Menon P. *Alive & Thrive Baseline Survey Report: Ethiopia*. Washington, D.C.: Alive & Thrive, 2011.

## ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Public Sector Employment as a Pathway to Local Electoral Politics: Evidence from India,” American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference. Philadelphia, United States, September 2024.

“Public Sector Employment as a Pathway to Local Electoral Politics: Evidence from India,” Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference. Chicago, United States, April 2024.

“Mere Proxies or Genuine Leaders? A survey of female candidates in Bihar’s 2021 village council elections,” Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference. Chicago, United States, April 2022.

## TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP

**The Public Policy Process** (for Prof. Julia Lynch)

Spring 2022

- Completed training program in Structured Active In-Class Learning (SAIL) offered by Penn's Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning & Innovation

**Comparative Politics of Developing Areas** (for Prof. Rudra Sil)

Fall 2021

**The Public Policy Process** (for Prof. Marc Meredith)

Spring 2021

**International Political Economy** (for Prof. Mark A. Pollack)

Fall 2020

## INTERNAL WORKSHOPS

Comparative Politics Workshop	Fall 2024
PDRI-DevLab Workshop	Fall 2023, Fall 2024

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

PDRI-DevLab Political Economy of Development Conference (Discussant)	Spring 2024
NEWEPS-22, Princeton University (Participant)	Spring 2024
NEWEPS-18, New York University (Participant)	Spring 2022

## INTERSHIPS AND VOLUNTEER WORK

**CURE: COVID-19 Urgent Response Effort, Team Co-Lead, India (remotely from the US), Summer 2020**  
**Sahpathi Programme, Jharkhand, May – July 2016; June – July 2017**  
**Institute for Human Development, New Delhi, May – June 2009**  
**Centre for Development Economics, Delhi School of Economics, New Delhi, May 2007**  
**Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability, New Delhi, May 2006**

## FIELDWORK LOCATIONS

**Indian states:** Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Odisha  
**Outside India:** Bangladesh, Mongolia

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS

**Computing:** Stata, R, SPSS, ODK, SurveyCTO, LaTeX, Microsoft Office  
**Languages:** Hindi (Native or bilingual proficiency); English (Native or bilingual proficiency); Urdu (Limited working proficiency); Kashmiri (Elementary proficiency)  
**Courses:**

- *MUSA 2020 Summer Spatial Analysis Bootcamp* (Penn Institute for Urban Research)
- *Problem-Driven Iterative Adaptation* (Building State Capability program, Center for International Development, Harvard Kennedy School)