

Rikhil R. Bhavnani

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APPOINTMENTS University of Wisconsin–Madison
Professor, Department of Political Science 2022–
Glenn B. and Cleone Orr Hawkins Chair 2024–
Associate Chair and Director of Graduate Studies 2022–
Faculty Affiliate, La Follette School of Public Affairs 2011–
Faculty Affiliate, Data Science Institute 2023–
Faculty Affiliate, Elections Research Center 2015–
Faculty Affiliate, Center for South Asia 2011–

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS University of Wisconsin–Madison
Director, Center for South Asia 2021–22
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science 2017–22
Trice Faculty Fellow, Department of Political Science 2013–16
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science 2011–17
Princeton University
Visiting Fellow, Center for the Study of Democratic Politics 2010–11

EDUCATION Stanford University
PhD, Political Science 2010
Fields: Comparative Politics, Political Institutions, Political Methodology (minor)
Dissertation: “Political Inequality: Effects and Remedies”
Committee: David Laitin (chair), Alberto Diaz-Cayeros, Jonathan Rodden, and
Jeremy Weinstein
MA, Economics 2008
London School of Economics and Political Science
MSc, Development Studies 2003
Yale University
BA, Economics and Political Science (with distinction) 2000

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Bethany Lacina. 2019. *Nativism and Economic Integration Across the Developing World: Collision and Accommodation*. Cambridge University Press, *Cambridge Elements: Political Economy* series, ed. David Stasavage.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES Bhavnani, Rikhil R. 2021. “The Effects of Malapportionment on Economic Development: Evidence from India’s 2008 Redistricting.” *PLoS ONE* 16(12): e0259150.
Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Alexander Lee. 2021. “Does Affirmative Action Worsen Bureaucratic Performance? Evidence from the Indian Administrative Service.” *American Journal of Political Science* 65(1): 5–20.
Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Francesca Jensenius. 2019. “Voting for Development? Ruling Coalitions and Literacy in India.” *Electoral Studies* 62: 1–13.

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Alexander Lee. 2018. "Local Embeddedness and Bureaucratic Performance: Evidence from India." *Journal of Politics* 80(1): 71–87.

Bhavnani, Rikhil R. 2018. "The Effects of Malapportionment on Cabinet Inclusion: Subnational Evidence from India." *British Journal of Political Science* 48(1): 69–89.

Bhavnani, Rikhil R. 2017. "Do the Effects of Temporary Ethnic Group Quotas Persist? Evidence from India." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 9(3): 105–123.

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Bethany Lacina. 2017. "Fiscal Federalism at Work? Central Responses to Internal Migration in India." *World Development* 93: 236–248.

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Bethany Lacina. 2015. "The Effects of Rainfall-Induced Migration on Sons of the Soil Violence in India." *World Politics* 67(4): 760–794.

Baldwin, Kate and Rikhil R. Bhavnani. 2015. "Ancillary Studies of Experiments: Opportunities and Challenges." *Journal of Globalization and Development* 6(1): 113–146.

Bazzi, Samuel and Rikhil R. Bhavnani. 2015. "Response to Roodman "A Replication of 'Counting Chickens When They Hatch.'" " *Public Finance Review* 43(2): 282–286.

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Saumitra Jha. 2014. "Gandhi's Gift: Lessons for peaceful reform from India's struggle for democracy." *The Economics of Peace and Security Journal* 9(1): 76–88.

Clemens, Michael C., Steven Radelet, Rikhil R. Bhavnani, and Samuel Bazzi. 2012. "Counting Chickens When They Hatch: Disaggregated Aid and Growth." *The Economic Journal* 122(561): 590–617.

- Winner of the Royal Economic Society prize for the best paper published in *The Economic Journal* in 2012

Bhavnani, Rikhil R. 2009. "Do Electoral Quotas Work After They Are Withdrawn? Evidence from a Natural Experiment in India." *American Political Science Review* 103(1): 23–35.

- Winner of the 2010 Marjorie Lozoff Essay Prize, awarded by the Clayman Institute for Gender Research

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Saloni Bhogale. 2022. "India in 2021: At the Crossroads." *Asian Survey* 62(1): 161–172.

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Francesca Jensenius. 2015. "Socio-economic Profiles of India's Old Electoral Constituencies, 1971–2001." In *Fixing Electoral Boundaries in India: Laws, Processes, Outcomes and Implications for Political Representation*, ed. M. S. Alam and K. C. Sivaramakrishnan. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Baldwin, Kate and Rikhil R. Bhavnani. 2011. "Secondary Analyses of Experiments: Opportunities and Challenges." *APSA-Comparative Democratization Newsletter* (October).

Radelet, Steven, Michael Clemens, and Rikhil Bhavnani. 2006. "Aid and Growth: The Current Debate and Some New Evidence." In *The Macroeconomic Management of Foreign Aid: Opportunities and Pitfalls*, ed. P. Isard. Washington, DC: International Monetary Fund.

Radelet, Steven, Michael Clemens, and Rikhil R. Bhavnani. 2005. “Aid and Growth.” *Finance and Development* 42(3).

- Reprinted in *Annual Editions: Developing World 07/08*, edited by Robert J. Griffiths, November 2006. Columbus, OH: McGraw-Hill.

IN-PROGRESS

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., Alexander Lee and Soledad Artiz Prillaman. “Identity and Red Tape: The Political Economy of Politician-Bureaucrat Cooperation in India.” Under review.

- MPSA 2023 Kenneth J. Meier Award–Honorable Mention for the best paper in bureaucratic politics, public administration, or public policy

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Mark Copelovitch. “The Political Impact of Monetary Shocks: Evidence from India’s 2016 Demonetization.”

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., Alba Huidobro and Soledad Artiz Prillaman. “Do Electoral Quotas Worsen Politician Quality? Theory and Evidence to the Contrary.”

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Saumitra Jha. *Walking Together and Alone: How Peaceful Protests Fail and Can Yet Succeed in Remaking Our World*. Book manuscript.

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Noam Lupu. “Oil Windfalls and the Political Resource Curse: Evidence from a Natural Experiment in Brazil.”

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Saumitra Jha. “Forging a Non-Violent Mass Movement: Economic Shocks and Organizational Innovations in India’s Struggle for Democracy.”

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., Anirvan Chowdhury and Gareth Nellis. “Television, Cultural Change, and the Rise of Religious Nationalism in India.”

SOFTWARE

Bhavnani, Rikhil R. 2009. “RB-AMIN.exe: A Tool to “Fuzzy” Match Indian Names.” Stanford, CA: Stanford University.

INVITED TALKS

Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM)	2025 (scheduled)
University of California, Berkeley	2024 (scheduled)
Harvard–Brown–MIT South Asia Seminar	2020
Stanford University Center for South Asia	COVID–2020
Vanderbilt University Comparative Politics	2018
Brown Development and Governance Seminar	2017
University of Michigan Comparative Politics	2016
University of Notre Dame Keough School	2016
UW–Madison La Follette School of Public Affairs Seminar Series	2016
Yale Leitner Political Economy Seminar	2016
Columbia Comparative Politics Seminar	2015
University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign Political Science Speaker Series	2015
UW–Madison AAE Development Economics Workshop	2015
University of Rochester Comparative Politics Workshop	2013
New York University External Speaker Series	2012
George Mason Public Choice Seminar	2011
Princeton Center for the Study of Democratic Politics Seminar	2010, 2011
Harvard–Brown–MIT South Asia Seminar	2011
Columbia Seminar for the Study of Development Strategies	2011
Yale Comparative Politics Seminar	2009
University of British Columbia	2009
Dartmouth College	2009

Delhi University	2009
Stanford Comparative Politics Workshop	2007, 2008
United States Treasury	2004
American University Department of Economics Research Seminar	2004
International Monetary Fund Chief Economist's Office	2004
World Bank, Office of the Chief Economist	2004
United States Agency for International Development	2004

CONFERENCES

Invited

Discussant, Book Conference for Alexander Lee's "Policing in India"	2022
Discussant, New Faces in Chinese Politics conference at UW-Madison	2022
Discussant, Book Conference for Sarah Brierly's "Manipulating Leviathan"	2021
CEPREMAP India-China Conference at Warwick	2019
Stanford Quality of Governance conference	2018
MIT Governance Lab Political Behavior of Development conference	2017
East-West Center Governance, Internal Migration, and Urbanization conference	2017
University of Michigan Accountability and Development conference	2015
Center for the Advanced Study of India Political Economy workshop	2014-15
Stanford-in-Beijing Challenges in the Process of Urbanization conference	2014
IIM-Pittsburgh-Yale Political Economy Conference	2011
Stanford South Asia Conference	2009

Other

Midwest Political Science Association meetings	2008-10, 2012-15, 2017-18, 2022-23
European Political Science Association meetings	2016-18, 2023
American Political Science Association meetings	2009-11, 2013-21, 2023
World Economic History Conference, Paris	2022
India Politics Workshop, Berkeley, CA	2022
Midwest Law and Society Retreat	2021
Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics meetings	2011, 2013, 2021
Public Management Research Conference	2017
International Political Economy Society meetings	2010-11, 2014, 2016-17
Annual Conference on South Asia	2013-17
Annual World Bank Conference on Development Economics	2012, 2016
Autonomous University of Barcelona workshop on attitudinal change	2012
Society for Political Methodology	2009
Cornell/ISSER Ghana at the Half Century Conference	2004

TEACHING

Undergraduate

Indian Politics in Comparative Perspective
 Political Inequality
 Political Economy of Development
 Undergraduate Research Scholars

Graduate

Political Science as a Discipline and Profession
 Dissertation Proposal Research and Writing
 Field Seminar in Comparative Politics
 Empirical Methods of Political Inquiry
 Political Inequality: Measures, Causes, Effects, Remedies
 Democratic Imperfections
 Political Economy of Development

Current graduate students (indicates committees chaired)*

Priyadarshi Amar*
Shaan Amin
Saloni Bhogale*
Lisa Maria de Sousa Dias
Monica Komer
Junda Li
Evgeniia Mitrokhina
Mingcong Pan
Khasan Redjaboev*
Irène Tombo
Valeriia Umanets

Former Ph.D. Students (indicates committees chaired)*

Camila Angulo* (CIDE)
Adam Auerbach (American University)
Nicholas Barnes (University of St. Andrews)
Sirus Bouchat (Northwestern University)
Meina Cai (University of Connecticut)
Kaitlyn Carter (Innovations for Poverty Action)
Hannah Chapman (Miami University, now University of Oklahoma)
Desiree Desierto (George Mason University)
Benjamin Helms (Texas A&M University Bush School)
Erik Katovich (University of Geneva postdoc)
Dmitry Kofanov (University of Barcelona IPerG postdoc)
Ning Leng (Georgetown University McCourt)
Kyle Marquardt (Higher School of Economics, now University of Bergen)
Molly Minden
Maayan Mor (University of Barcelona IPerG postdoc)
Evan Morier* (Mathematica)
Jeffrey Paller (University of San Francisco)
Kerry Ratigan (Amherst College)
Camilla Reuterswaerd (Uppsala University)
Emily Sellars (Texas A&M University Bush School, now Yale University)
Anton Shirikov (University of Kansas)
Delgerjargal Uvsh (University of Texas at Austin)
Samantha Vortherms (University of California, Irvine)
Zachary Warner (Purdue University)
Chagai Weiss* (Stanford postdoc)

Undergraduate thesis

Roseanne Lais (William Jennings Bryan award for best undergraduate thesis)

SERVICE

Department

Associate Chair and Director of Graduate Studies	2022–
Chair’s Advisory Committee	2020–
Graduate Admissions and Fellowships Committee	2017–19 (member), 2022–(chair)
Graduate Program Committee	2021–22 (member), 2022–(chair)
Political Economy Colloquium coordinator	2013–14, 2015–17, 2020–21, 2022–
Faculty Mentor	2020–22
Undergraduate Program Committee member	Spring 2021
Political Methodology Search Committee	2018–19
Department Executive Committee Secretary	2017–18
UW–Madison Comparative Politics Colloquium coordinator	2012–13, 2016–17
Lectures and Colloquia Committee member	2012–17

Department Secretary	2011–12
<i>University</i>	
Director, Center for South Asia	2021–22
Annual Conference on South Asia program committee	2013–2018
Class of 2013 Chancellor Scholar “Mentor/friend”	2013–2017
Faculty Senate Member Fall	2014 (member), Spring 2018 (alternate)
Center for South Asia Advisory Board member	2012–13
<i>Discipline</i>	
President-Elect, Midwest Political Science Association	2024–25
Faculty Affiliate, Midwest Workshop in Empirical Political Science (MWEPS)	2021–
Editorial Board Member, <i>Asian Survey</i>	2019–
Chair, Rajni Kothari Best Article Award Committee, APSA South Asian Politics Section	2024
Chair, Juan Linz Best Dissertation Award Committee, APSA Democracy & Autocracy Section	2023
Chair, Best Paper Presented by a Graduate Student Award Committee, MPSA	2023
Co-Chair, MPSA Transitions to Democracy Section	2021–22
Co-Organizer, Midwest Workshop in Empirical Political Science (MWEPS)	2021
Co-Chair, APSA Political Economy Division	2020–21
Chair, McGillivray Award Committee, APSA Political Economy Section	2019
Hallet Award Committee, APSA Representation and Electoral Systems Section	2019
Chair, MPSA Representation and Electoral Systems Section	2017–18
Chair, MPSA Economic Development Section	2014–15
Secretary, APSA Section on Experimental Research	2012
<i>Community</i>	
Lecture on “Democracy and Development in India” for Participatory Learning And Teaching Organization (PLATO) course on Global Affairs, March 13, 2024	
<i>Press Referee</i>	
Oxford University Press	
<i>Funding Referee</i>	
European Research Council, National Science Foundation	
<i>Journal Referee</i>	
<i>American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Review, American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Asian Survey, British Journal of Political Science, Center for Global Development Working Paper Series, Comparative Political Studies, Comparative Politics, Economic Development and Cultural Change, The Economic Journal, Economics & Politics, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of African Economies, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Experimental Political Science, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Journal of Politics, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Nature Human Behaviour, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS), PLoS ONE, Political Behavior, Political Research Quarterly, Public Opinion Quarterly, Review of Economic & Statistics, Studies in Comparative International Development, Studies in Indian Politics, Social Science Research, The Review of International Organizations, World Development, World Politics</i>	
<i>Other</i>	
Expert Member, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)	2012–

AWARDS	MPSA Kenneth J. Meier Award–Honorable Mention for the best paper in bureaucratic politics, public administration, or public policy	2023
	Royal Economic Society prize for best paper published in <i>The Economic Journal</i>	2012
	Marjorie Lozoff Essay Prize, Clayman Institute for Gender Research	2010
	Elected to Pi Sigma Alpha, national political science honor society	2000
FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS	UW–Madison Increasing Social and Economic Inclusion Grant	2023
	UW–Madison Graduate School Fall Research Competition	2011–2014, 2016, 2021
	UW–Madison Vilas Associates Award	2019–2020
	UW–Madison Faculty Professional Development Grant	2019–20
	UW–Madison Faculty Sabbatical Leave Grant	2019–20
	UW–Madison Political Science Spring Research Competition	2016–17
	UW–Madison Vilas Faculty Early Career Investigator Award	2016
	Robert Wood Johnson Course Development Grant	2013
	International Growth Centre Award, with Luke Condra	2011
	National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant	2009
	Stanford University Richard W. Weiland Graduate Fellowship	2008–10
	Stanford University Vice Provost Graduate Dissertation Grant	2008
	Stanford University Graduate Research Opportunity Grant	2008
	Stanford University Graduate Student Fellowship	2005–10
Overseas Development Institute Fellowship (declined)	2003–05	
SKILLS	Hindi, R, STATA, Visual Basic, ArcGIS	
AFFILIATIONS	Visiting Scholar, Centre de Sciences Humaines, New Delhi	8/2010
	Research Scholar, Political Science, Delhi University	2008–09
	Member, American and Midwest Political Science Associations	2005–
CONSULTING & NON-ACADEMIC POSITIONS	SAGE: Synergistic Anticipation of Geopolitical Events	2017–18
	Center for Global Development, Washington, DC	2003–05
	International Monetary Fund, Washington, DC	2000–02

(UPDATED 7/2024)