

Pratik Mahajan

✉ pratik.mahajan@yale.edu | 🏠 pratik-mahajan-poli-sci.github.io/

Education

Yale University

PHD POLITICAL SCIENCE

- Fields: Comparative Politics, Quantitative Methods, Political Economy

New Haven, CT

2025-current

McGill University

MA POLITICAL SCIENCE (DEVELOPMENT STUDIES OPTION)

- Fields: Comparative Politics (Primary), Methods (Secondary)
- Thesis: "Ideological Transformation After Patron Co-optation? The Resilience of Ethno-Clientelism Amid Hindu Nationalism in a Scheduled Tribe Constituency in India"
- Committee: Dr. Narendra Subramanian, Dr. Aaron Erlich, and Dr. Dietlind Stolle
- Affiliations: Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship (CSDC), Institute for the Study of International Development (ISID)
- CGPA: 3.95/4.0

Montréal, QC

2022 - 2024

McGill University

BA FIRST-CLASS HONOURS

- Honours Political Science, Minor Concentration Philosophy
- CGPA: 3.9/4.0, Honours GPA 3.97/4.0 (*Allen Oliver Fellowship for Highest Departmental GPA*)

Montréal, QC

2019 - 2022

UWC Mahindra College

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

- 2-year Residential Program

Paud, India

2017 - 2019

Additional Training

McGill University

CONSORTIUM ON ANALYTICS FOR DATA-DRIVEN DECISION MAKING (CANd3)

- 10-month-long training program in data analytics and application to population dynamics.

Montréal, QC

2023 - 2024

University of Michigan

ICPSR SUMMER PROGRAM IN QUANTITATIVE METHODS OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL RESEARCH

Ann Arbor, MI

2023

Working Papers

Ideological Transformation After Patron Co-optation? The Resilience of Ethno-Clientelism Amid Hindu Nationalism in a Scheduled Tribe Constituency in India

Under Review

Bringing Forward the Past? Persistence of Bhil Tribal Identity Among Youth Amid Rising Hindu Nationalism in Rural Western India

Under Review

Discretionary Partisans: How Grassroots Organizations Reconcile Mandate and Electoral Engagement

(Co-Author With Feyaad Allie)

Works in Progress

Organizational Expansiveness and Voter Selectivity: How Voters Respond to Partisan Mobilization by Grassroots Organizations

(Co-Author With Feyaad Allie)

Can Knowledge Make Voters Demand Accountability for Delayed Local Government Elections?
(Co-Author With Alyssa Heinze)

Disproportionate Vacancy: Why Indigenous Reserved Seats Remain Vacant in India's Village Councils
(Co-Author With Alyssa Heinze)

Dynasts and Aspirational Pragmatism: The Role of Electoral Ambition in Shaping Citizens' Perceptions of Dynastic Politicians
(Co-Author With Rahul Verma)

Ambition Amongst Party Workers in India
(Co-Author With Feyaad Allie and Rahul Verma)

Published Dataset

Subdistricts of India by Scheduled Status: An Original Dataset Linked to SHRUG, Development Data Lab (2024)
[Harvard Dataverse Link](#)

All India Villages Matched to Corresponding Gram Panchayats Linked to SHRUG, Development Data Lab (2025)
[Harvard Dataverse Link](#)

Select Public Writing

"Review or Retention." *The Times of India*, Dec 2024.

"Ladki, bahin...but ethnic groups, caste too." *The Times of India*, Oct 2024.

"Democracy's Slow March" with *Alyssa Heinze*. *The Times of India*, Oct 2024.

"Maha Questions From Opposition's Small Allies." *The Times of India*, Sept 2024.

"Maharashtra LS polls have never been muddier." with *Vikramaditya Thakur*. *The Times of India*, May 2024.

"Why India's Plan for A New Parliament May Spell A Challenging Future For Its Democracy." *The McGill International Review*, May 2021.

"Education in India: A Duty Forsaken During COVID-19." *The McGill International Review*, July 2021.

Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

YALE

Sterling Prize Fellowship (Yale) USD 7,000 (2025-2027)

MCGILL

CSDC Academic Travel Grant, CAD 1,000 (2023-2024)

CAnD3-CSDC Fellowship for Training in Data Science and Population Dynamics, CAD 10,750 (2023-2024)

CSDC Methods Training Grant for ICPSR Summer School at UMichigan, CAD 3,000 (2023)

McGill Faculty of Arts Graduate Mobility Award for Fieldwork in India, CAD 3,000 (2023)

ISID Entrance Fellowship, McGill University, CAD 1,650 (2022-2023)

Faculty of Arts Graduate Entrance Fellowship, McGill University, CAD 8,350 (2022-2023)

Allen Oliver Fellowship, Highest departmental GPA (3.97) in Political Science, CAD 3,000 (2022)

Dow-Hickson Scholarship by McGill's Department of Philosophy, CAD 2,000 (2021-2022)

Alexander McKenzie Scholarship by McGill's Department of Political Science, CAD 1,000 (2021-2022)

Arts Research Internship Award (ARIA), CAD 5,000 (2021)

James McGill Entrance Scholarship, CAD 3,000 (2019-2020)

NON-MONETARY AWARDS

CAnD3 Data Visualization Dragon's Den Competition, *Third Prize with Bertram Melix and Megan Skowronski* (2024)

McGill University Faculty of Arts Dean's Honour's List, *3 consecutive academic years* (2019-2022)

Davis-Mahindra Scholar at UWC Mahindra College, *Outstanding Student Leadership* (2018-2019)

Presentations

CONFERENCES

June 2024. Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA), Montréal, QC

March 2024. Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship (CSDC) Graduate Conference, Québec City, QC

INTERNAL

March 2023. Finalist at McGill's 3-Minute-Thesis Competition.

October 2021. Arts Research Internship Awards (ARIA) Project Presentations at McGill, Montréal, QC.

Teaching Experience

WORKSHOP INSTRUCTOR

Conjoint Analysis: Visual and Interview Approach (*CSDC Winter Methods School, Université de Montréal, Jan 2024*)

TA FOR MCGILL COURSES

Evaluations Available Upon Request

POLI 311 Introduction to Quantitative Methods (*Prof. Aaron Erlich, Jan-Apr 2024*) **4.5/5.0**

POLI 210 Political Science Research Methods (*Profs. Dietlind Stolle and Aaron Erlich, Sep-Dec 2023*) **4.4/5.0**

POLI 435 Identity and Inequality (*Prof. Narendra Subramanian, Jan-Apr 2023*) **4.7/5.0**

POLI 349 Foreign Policy of Asia (*Dr. Jaeyoung Kim, Sep-Dec 2022*) **4.6/5.0**

TA FOR SHORT COURSES

Spatial Data Visualization in R (*Dr. Sakeef Karim, Nov 2023 and Nov 2024, Florida State University*)

R Programming Summer Camp (*Prof. Tim Elrick, Aug 2023, CSDS-McGill*)

Research Assistance

May – Jul 2021 & May- Jun 2022: Spinoza and Servitude (*For Prof. Hasana Sharp, Dept. of Philosophy, McGill*)

May - Jul 2020: Bio-Medical Ethics (*For Tammy Molina, Interior Health of British Columbia*)

Service and Public Engagement

Fall 2022 ISID Talk Series **"Adivasi Agency and Environmental Jurisprudence in India"** interview with Dr. Geetanjoy Sahu.

Research Training

QUANTITATIVE

- Multiple Linear Regression
- Categorical, Ordinal and Count Outcomes Analysis
- Causal Inference: DiD, IV, RDD
- Conjoint Survey Experiments
- Spatial regression and mapping

QUALITATIVE

- TCPS-2 Canadian Research Ethics Certificate
- Voter and Elite interviews
- Shadowing and Participant Observation
- Discourse Analysis
- Enumerator Recruitment and Training

Skills

SOFTWARE

- R and R Markdown
- LaTeX and Overleaf
- GitHub
- Qualtrics
- GIS

LANGUAGES

- English (Fluent)
- Marathi (Fluent)
- Hindi (Fluent)
- French (Reading and Oral Comprehension)

Fieldwork

July 2024-April 2025: Across Maharashtra, India

- Participant observation, shadowing, and managing survey data collection for project on non-partisan grassroots organizations.
- Interviews and collection of governance data and survey experiments for project on local government election delays and rural governance vacancies.
- Interviews and surveys for project on electoral ambition.
- Interviews and surveys for project on turncoat patrons and ideological transformation.

September 2024: Haryana, India

- Observing collaboration between grassroots organizations and party workers during Haryana's state elections.

May-July 2023: Nandurbar and Dhule Districts, Maharashtra, India

- Conjoint surveys and voter interviews in 40 villages as Principal Investigator, managing a team of 4 Research Assistants and translators.

May-June 2018: Jalgaon and Nandurbar Districts, Maharashtra, India

- Conducted fieldwork in 5 villages in the Fifth Scheduled Area to study the implementation of the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act.
- Evaluating the sustainability of drip irrigation for cotton cultivation in 2 agricultural communities

References

Dr. Narendra Subramanian

narendra.subramanian@mcgill.ca

Professor of Political Science (McGill)

MA Thesis Supervisor, TA for POLI 435

Dr. Feyaad Allie

feyaadallie@fas.harvard.edu

Assistant Professor of Government (Harvard)

Research Collaborator on Multiple Projects

Dr. Dietlind Stolle

dietlind.stolle@mcgill.ca

Professor of Political Science (McGill)

MA Thesis Examiner, TA for POLI 210