Saumyaa Gupta

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EDUCATION

Yale University, New Haven, CT — Aug 2024 – Present
Ph.D., Political Science
Fields: Comparative Politics, Formal Theory, & Political Economy (with Distinction)

Beloit College, Beloit, WI — Aug 2020 – May 2024
B.A. (Honors), Political Science and Psychology
summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa (Junior Election)

School for International Training, Amman, Jordan — Spring 2023

WORKING PAPER

Mobilizing Voters or Building the Party? Service Provision and Islamist Survival in Jordan (with Elizabeth Parker-Magyar)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Gupta, Saumyaa, and Jonathan Elkobi. "Barbara Geddes on Marrying Theory and Evidence in the Study of Political Regimes." APSA-CP Newsletter 37, no. 2 (Fall 2025): 19.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

MIT Political Science — Research Assistant — Aug 2023 – May 2024
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

- Analyzed labor force participation and political attitudes across 13 MENA countries; conducted geospatial analysis of Islamist social service sites and their impact on Jordanian election outcomes.

Global Diversity Lab — Research Assistant — Jun 2023 – Aug 2023
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

- Created a novel dataset on the Muslim Brotherhood's charitable networks in Jordan and analyzed primary and secondary Arabic sources to assess its role in voter mobilization.

Fieldwork in Jordan — Jan 2023 – Jun 2023
School for International Training, Amman, Jordan

- Conducted 40+ interviews with Jordanian elites and opposition leaders on protest demobilization; partnered with the University of Jordan's Center for Strategic Studies to analyze public opinion data on the monarchy's legitimacy.

GRANTS & AWARDS

Georg Walter Leitner Program in International and Comparative Political Economy Grant ($5,000)
Yale University, New Haven, CT — 2026

MacMillan Center Pre-Dissertation Research Grant ($1,800)
Yale University, New Haven, CT — 2026

Blue Center Short-term Research and Travel Award ($1,000)
Yale University, New Haven, CT — 2026

MacMillan Center Summer Fellowships for Language Study ($6,350)
Yale University, New Haven, CT — 2025

MacMillan Center International Conference Travel Grant ($800)
Yale University, New Haven, CT — 2025, 2026

Wisconsin Summer Intensive Language Institute Grant ($5,000)
University of Wisconsin–Madison, WI 2025

Blue Center Short Term Research Grant ($2,000)
Yale University, New Haven, CT 2024

Weissberg Postgraduate Research Fellowship ($6,000)
Beloit College, WI 2024

Weissberg Research Equity Fieldwork Grant ($4,000)
Beloit College, WI 2023

Ivan Stone Grant for International Relations Research ($4,000)
Beloit College, WI 2022

Harry Rex Davis Prize for Exceptional Achievement in Political Science
Beloit College, WI 2024

Ruth C. Peterson Award for Best Honors Thesis in International Relations
Beloit College, WI 2024

Paul Pollock Memorial Prize for Excellence in Political Science
Beloit College, WI 2022–2023

Pi Beta Phi Award for Highest Academic Ranking
Beloit College, WI 2023–2024

PRESENTATIONS

2026: NEWEPS (*Discussant*); APSA (*scheduled*); MESA (*scheduled*); Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture

2025: Midwest Political Science Association; International Studies Association

2024: Midwest Political Science Association

2023: Eldersveld Emerging Scholars Conference (University of Michigan); MIT Global Diversity Lab; MIT Summer Research Program Conference; School for International Training Research Conference; Beloit College Student Symposium

2022: Midwest Political Science Conference; Annual Illinois State University Conference; World Congress – International Association for Political Science Students; Beloit College Symposium

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Psychology Spring 2022, Spring 2023
Beloit College, Beloit, WI

Teaching Assistant, US Foreign Policy in the Middle East Summer 2022
Beloit College, Beloit, WI

Tutor, Principles of Economics Fall 2023, Fall 2024
Beloit College, Beloit, WI

Tutor, Econometrics and Machine Learning Fall 2023, Fall 2024
Beloit College, Beloit, WI

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Graduate Student Coordinator
Comparative Politics Workshop, Yale University Political Science 2025–2026

Member, College Presidential Search Committee, Beloit College Fall 2022 – Spring 2023

Resident Assistant, Beloit College Fall 2021 – Spring 2023

Head Resident Assistant, Beloit College Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

TECHNICAL SKILLS

R, Python, ArcGIS, LaTeX
Trilingual in English, Hindi, and Gujarati; Arabic (High Intermediate).

REFERENCES

Dr. Jennifer Gandhi, Howard Wang '95 Professor of Global Affairs and Political Science; Deputy Dean, Jackson School of Global Affairs, Yale University
Email: `jennifer.gandhi@yale.edu`

Dr. Elizabeth Parker-Magyar, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Yale University
Email: `elizabeth.parker-magyar@yale.edu`