

MARK SCHNEIDER, PHD

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

TEACHING AND ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Fordham University Bronx, NY, USA

Adjunct Professor 1/2025 to Present

Teach original courses on comparative democracy.

Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania

Non-Resident Fellow 8/2022 to Present

Publish research and media pieces on Indian politics.

Visiting Professor of Comparative Politics, Tulane University 9/2018 to 12/2018

Visiting Professor of Comparative Politics, Pitzer College 9/2016 to 6/2018

Visiting Professor of Comparative Politics, Swarthmore College (Swarthmore, PA) 1/2015 to 6/2016

GSAS Teaching Fellow, Columbia University 2007-2014

APPLIED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Senior Research Adviser and Consultant 2/2023 to Present

- As a senior research consultant for Community Change, I design literature reviews and survey experiments to examine the effects of environmental and infrastructure legislation on voter engagement and voter turnout in local elections.
- Developed a guide to integrity risks and mitigation strategies for Civil Society Groups for The Global Institute.
- Consulted with National Democratic Institute (Washington DC) on information integrity risks and opportunities during moments of democratic transition to guide democracy promotion investments.

Meta - New York, NY, USA and Menlo Park, CA, USA

Senior Policy and User Experience Researcher, Civic and Central Integrity 1/2019 to 02/2023

- Spearheaded, designed, analyzed, and socialized survey, fieldwork, and other qualitative research that resulted in the largest content moderation policy (Inflammatory Content) in the global south to date, reducing exposure to violent and hateful content by hundreds of millions of views.
- Developed conceptual frameworks, empirical research, and policy and product recommendations to address problems including misinformation (e.g., rumors), of hate, and social media risks during violent crises. This

work created a model for experimental and survey research for other researchers and shaped numerous strategy and policy changes.

- Led collaborative projects with staff in multiple disciplines and countries, including collaborators from data science, anthropology, engineering, local policy, and country experts across world regions and languages.
- Served as an internal consultant on survey design and trust and safety for the Responsible AI Team, Civic Integrity Team, Local Civic Team, and Equity Team.
- Mentored new researchers working in the international trust and safety space to facilitate impact.
- Managed multi-disciplinary research projects, including data scientists, data engineers, and researchers, and consistently delivered results within scheduled timelines, thus influencing decision-making and policy decisions.
- Onboarded and supervised junior researchers, country specialists, and contractors on research projects.

EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York City
PhD in Political Science (Comparative Politics) 2015

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Michigan 2005
Bachelor of Arts (Highest Honors in Political Science)

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

(with Neelanjan Sircar) “Does Local Leaders Prioritize the Poor? Identifying the Distributive Preferences of Local Leaders in India”, February 2024 (Online), *Electoral Studies*.

(With Milan Vaishnav et al.) “Rethinking Electoral Politics in India”, March 2021, *Perspectives on Politics*.

“The Discerning Voter: Partisan Alignment and Local Distribution Multi-Level Governance”, February 2020, *Party Politics*.

“Do Local Leaders Know Their Voters? A Test of Guessability in India”, November 2019, *Electoral Studies*.

BOOK PROJECT

When Democracy Serves the Poor: Local Roots of Representation and Responsiveness in Rural India

WORKING PAPERS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

Does Increasing Competition Increase Pro-Poor Responsiveness? Distributive Preferences of Partisan Brokers in Mexico (With Tesalia Rizzo, UC Merced). *Manuscript available upon request*.

Can Local Representatives Deliver? Bureaucratic Responsiveness to Elected Local Leaders in India. *Data Collection Underway*.

Do Local Politicians in India Have the Knowledge to Implement Climate Change Policies?

Misinformation is Local: Understanding the Impacts of Misinformation in Local Election in the United States.

DATA COLLECTION

2024 Phone Survey of village council presidents and panchayat secretaries (Original Survey of 500 local representatives and 500 line-level bureaucrats in rural Rajasthan).

Online surveys and large-scale qualitative studies on online hate speech, violence and incitement, and attitudes about content moderation (Original surveys fielded in India, the U.S., Turkey, and other countries for internal research at Meta). This research was complemented with interviews with politicians, academics, journalists, and human rights activists in countries such as Sri Lanka, India, and Bangladesh.

2019 Election and Social Media Survey (Original Citizen Survey of over 5,000 respondents in Sri Lanka).

2013 Voter and Local Representatives Survey (Original Survey of over 180 village council representatives and 960 voters in rural Rajasthan).

TEACHING

Tulane University (Lead Instructor)

Introduction to International Relations, Fall 2018

Ethnic Politics, Fall 2018

Development Issues and Strategies, Fall 2018.

Pitzer College (Lead Instructor)

Introduction to Development Policy, Fall 2016, Spring 2018

Local Democracy in Comparative Perspective: Power, Participation, and Policy, Spring 2018.

Ethnic Politics: Identity, Conflict, and Change. Spring 2017, Spring 2018.

Introduction to Comparative Politics, Fall 2016, Fall 2017.

Challenges for Developing Democracies, Spring 2015, Spring 2016.

Parties, Voters, and Elections in the Developing World, Spring 2017.

Swarthmore College (Lead Instructor)

Challenges for Developing Democracies, Spring 2015, Spring 2016

Ethnic Politics, Spring 2016.

The Politics of Poverty Alleviation in the Developing World, Spring 2016.

Government and Politics in South Asia, Spring 2015.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

American Political Science Association Small Research Grant Recipient, 2018.

Pitzer College, Doman Award Recipient, 2016, 2017.

National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant Recipient, 2012-2013.

GSAS Summer Teaching Scholar, 2013.

ICPSR Warren E. Miller Scholar, University of Michigan, Summer 2009.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Technology and Democracy Lecture Series, Johns Hopkins University (SAIS), March 2024.

Senior Thesis Seminar Guest Lecture on Election Integrity in India, UC Merced, March 2023.

Edited Volume on Clientelism Workshop at Princeton University, March 2019.

Electoral Integrity and Civic Engagement Lecture, Facebook Headquarters, July 2018.

Faculty Seminar. Keck Center for International and Strategic Studies, Claremont McKenna College, September 6, 2017.

India at 70: Governance and Democratic Challenges (Workshop), Keck Center for International and Strategic Studies, Claremont McKenna College, April 13-15, 2017.

Rethinking Electoral Politics in India (Workshop), Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, September 30, 2016.

Clientelism and Redistributive Politics Seminar, Department of Politics (Princeton University), April 21, 2016.
Indian Politics Workshop (Center for the Advanced Study of India) March 2015, 2016.

Swarthmore College Inter-Departmental Lunch Series, September 30, 2015.

South Asian Politics Workshop, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, September 24, 2015.

Brokering Votes: Clientelism in Comparative Perspective (Conference), Center on the Politics of Development, University of California at Berkeley, February 2015.

Comparative Politics Seminar, Columbia University, October 2014, 2015.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

American Political Science Association, 2014-2018, 2024.

Midwest Political Science Association, 2013-2015, 2024.

Annual Conference on South Asia, 2014-2015.

PROFESSION SERVICE

Non-Academic Careers Panelist, 2019, 2022 (UC Merced); UC Santa Barbara (2021); American University (2024).

Creator and Organizer of the South Asia Political Science Happy Hour at APSA, 2013-2019.

Organizer of the South Political Economy Workshop, University of Pennsylvania (2015-2016).

REFERENCES

Robert Shapiro, Professor

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