

# Chitralkha Basu

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## Current Position

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**University of Cologne**, Cologne, Germany

Assistant Professor of Political Science, 2019-  
Chair for Empirical Democratic Theory, 2019-  
Associated Member, ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy, 2020-

## Education

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**University of Rochester**, Rochester, NY

Ph.D., Political Science, May 2017  
Fields: Comparative Politics, Political Philosophy, Quantitative Methods  
M.A., Political Science, March 2014

**Queens' College, University of Cambridge**, Cambridge, UK

M.Phil., Political Thought & Intellectual History, July 2010

**Keble College, University of Oxford**, Oxford, UK

B.A. (Hons), History, June 2009

## Past Positions

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2021-2022	Parental leave (50%, 6 months)
2020-2021	Parental leave (100%, 7 months)
2017-2019	<b>University of Barcelona</b> , Barcelona, Spain Postdoctoral Researcher, Institutions & Political Economy Research Group
2017	<b>Princeton University</b> , Princeton, NJ Visiting Researcher, Department of Politics (3 months)
2016	<b>University of Nottingham</b> , Nottingham, UK Visiting Fellow, NICEP (4 months)

## Publications

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3. Basu, Chitralkha and Lennart Schürmann. 2025. "Media Effects on Political Elites", in the *Edward Elgar Encyclopedia of Political Communication*, eds. Alessandro Nai, Max Grömping and Dominique Wirz.
2. Basu, Chitralkha. 2024. "How the Media Matters for the Electoral Vote: Evidence from Britain." *Electoral Studies* 87: 102735.
1. Basu, Chitralkha. 2020. "Bridging Spatial and Saliency Theory: Party Size and Issue Selection in Campaigns." *Political Science Research and Methods* 8(3): 444-458.

## Working Papers

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8. "Democratizing from Within: British Elites and the Expansion of the Franchise", with Carles Boix, Sonia Giurumescu, and Paulo Serôdio. (R&R at *World Politics*)
  - Awarded the 2019 James B. Christoph Prize for best conference paper presented by a junior faculty member in the British Politics Group.

7. "The Revelation Incentive for Issue Engagement in Campaigns", with Matthew Knowles. (R&R at the *Journal of Theoretical Politics*)
6. "Communicative Power and the Pursuit of Political Equality." (R&R at the *British Journal of Political Science*)
5. "Deconstructing Valence: Variation in the Importance of Non-Policy Attributes to Voters."
4. "Work, Turn to the Left? Female Employment and the Political Gender Gap."
3. "The Relative Opinion Presence of Social Groups in Democracies", with Helena Heberer.
2. "How Voters Prioritize Identities for Descriptive Representation", with Lea Kaftan and Jens Wäckerle.
1. "The Communicative Presence of Women", with Helena Heberer.

#### Awards and Honors

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2019	James B. Christoph Prize (for best conference paper presented by a junior faculty member in the British Politics Group, a Related Group of the <i>American Political Science Association</i> ).
2015	Dean's Post-Field Research Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Rochester
2014-15	The Star Lab Fellowship, Department of Political Science, University of Rochester.
2014	The Star Lab Conference Presentation Award, University of Rochester.
2010-2015	Graduate Fellowship and Tuition Scholarship, University of Rochester.
2007, 2008	Keble College Scholarship, University of Oxford
2004, 2005	Ministry of Education (Singapore), Humanities Scholarship

#### Research and Workshop Grants (\* = external)

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2024	Selten Seeding Grant, ECONtribute & Reinhard Selten Institute (€5,000). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project: "Candidate Selection in the 2024 UK General Election"</li> <li>- Co-applicants: Lea Elsässer</li> </ul>
2024	ECONtribute Grant, for the Political Science and Political Economy Lecture Series (€5,600). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-applicants: Michael Bechtel, Sven-Oliver Proksch</li> </ul>
2024	ECONtribute Grant, for the Cologne-GESIS Workshop on Democracy (€9,820). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-applicants: Michael Bechtel, Alexia Katsanidou and Sebastian Ziaja</li> </ul>
2023	ECONtribute Grant, for the Political Science and Political Economy Lecture Series (€5,600). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-applicants: Michael Bechtel, Sven-Oliver Proksch</li> </ul>
2023	Selten Seeding Grant, ECONtribute & Reinhard Selten Institute (€2,500). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project: "How Voters Prioritize Identities for Descriptive Representation"</li> <li>- Co-applicants: Lea Kaftan and Jens Wäckerle.</li> </ul>
2023	ECONtribute Grant, for the Political Science and Political Economy Lecture Series (€6,215). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-applicants: Michael Bechtel, Sven-Oliver Proksch</li> </ul>
2022	ECONtribute Grant, for the Political Institutions and Political Behavior Workshop (€5,100). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-applicants: Michael Bechtel, Sven-Oliver Proksch</li> </ul>
2022	ECONtribute Grant, for the Cologne Political Science Workshop (€2,300) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-applicants: Michael Bechtel, Sven-Oliver Proksch</li> </ul>
2021	Female Professors Programme III "Kopf Frei" Grant, University of Cologne (€1,800).
2021	Selten Seeding Grant, ECONtribute & Reinhard Selten Institute (€5,000). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project: "Communicative Power, Inequality and Representation"</li> </ul>
2020	ECONtribute Grant, for the CCCP International Workshop (€11,050)

	- Co-applicants: André Kaiser, Sven-Oliver Proksch, Ingo Rohlfing, Christine Trampusch
2018	*Durham International Junior Research Fellowship (declined, £44,070) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Project: "The Long-Run Determinants of Party Strategy"</li> <li>- Co-funded by Durham University and the European Union</li> </ul>
2016	Summer Seed Grant for International Field Research (USD 2,500)
2014	*Donald E. Stokes Dissertation Research Fellowship, APSA British Politics Group (USD 1000)
2014	Summer Seed Grant for International Field Research (USD 2,500)

#### Travel Grants (\* = external)

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2016	*Graduate Student Travel Grant, EPOVB Section of the American Political Science Association (USD 250).
2016	*Annual Meeting Travel Grant, American Political Science Association (USD 150).
2016	Conference Travel Grant, University of Rochester Graduate Student Association (USD 300).
2015	*Prestage-Cook Travel Award, Southern Political Science Association (USD 250).
2015	*Annual Meeting Travel Grant, American Political Science Association (USD 150).
2015	Conference Travel Grant, University of Rochester Graduate Student Association (USD 300).
2014	Conference Travel Grant, University of Rochester Graduate Student Association (USD 300).

#### Invited Talks and Workshops

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Scheduled	Department of Government Seminar Series, University of Vienna
2024	"Transformations of Democracy" Seminar Series, WZB Berlin
2023	"Future of Democracy" Workshop, University of Stuttgart Department of Government Speaker Series, University of Essex "Democratic Citizens and Political Elites" Workshop, University of Mainz "Representation and Behavior" Workshop, University of Cologne Research Colloquium, University of Stuttgart
2022	Keynote Lecture, IMPRS-SPCE Doctoral Conference Political Theory Colloquium, University of Hamburg Historical Political Economy Workshop, University of Zurich "Promises of Democracy" Workshop, Villa Vigoni ECONtribute Workshop on Political Economy, University of Cologne Comparative Politics & Political Economy Research Colloquium, University of Konstanz
2021	Politics Seminar Series, Humboldt University of Berlin
2020	Inaugural Lecture, University of Cologne Democracy and Elections Seminar Series, University of Manchester MZES Seminar Series, University of Mannheim Comparative Politics Seminar Series, Kings College London Guest Lecture, LMU Munich
2019	Politics Seminar Series, University of Barcelona
2018	"Causes and Consequences of Challenger Party Success" Workshop, University of Zurich
2016	NICEP Seminar Series, University of Nottingham Department Colloquium, University of Strathclyde

## Conferences and Workshops (P = presenter, Po = poster, O = organiser, D = discussant)

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2024	Cologne-GESIS Workshop: Multi-Data Perspectives on Democracy (O, D) EPSA Annual Conference (P, D)
2023	EPSA Annual Conference (P)
2022	DVPW Working Group on Analytical Political Theory Workshop (P) Cologne Political Science Workshop (P, O) CES International Conference of Europeanists (P) EPSA Annual Conference (P, D)
2021	EPOP Annual Conference (P) British Politics Group Online Conference (D)
2020	ECPR General Conference (P, O, D) CES International Conference of Europeanists (P, cancelled)
2019	Historical Political Economy Virtual Workshop (D) ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments Workshop (P) APSA Annual Conference (P) EPSA Annual Conference (P) NYUAD Workshop on Historical Political Economy (P)
2018	APSA Annual Conference (P) Bergen-Gothenburg-Barcelona Workshop on Experimental Political Science (D) EPSA Annual Conference (P, D) NICEP Annual Conference (P) Politics and History Network Annual Conference (P) MPSA Annual Conference (P, D)
2017	IPeRG Historical Political Economy & Gender Politics Workshop (P) CES International Conference of Europeanists (P) CES Mini-Conference: Women in Society from a Historical Perspective (P) Party Congress Research Group Workshop: Perspectives on Intra-Party Politics (P) EPSA Annual Conference (P, D) NICEP Annual Conference (P)
2016	EPOP Annual Conference (P) APSA Annual Conference (P, D) MPSA Annual Conference (P)
2015	APSA Annual Conference (P) UCLA COMPASS Graduate Student Conference (P) MPSA Annual Conference (P) Toronto Political Behaviour Workshop (Po) SPSA Annual Conference (P)
2014	EPSA Annual Conference (P)
2013	MPSA Annual Conference (P)

## Teaching

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### University of Cologne

*Courses designed and taught as sole instructor:*

Strategic Models of Democratic Politics, MA Seminar, 2019-present  
Elections as Instruments of Democracy, MA Seminar, 2020-present  
Democracy in the Twenty-First Century, MA Seminar, 2022-present  
Democratic Theory and Practice, MA Lecture, 2020-present  
Parties and Elections in Comparative Perspective, MA Seminar, 2020

### University of Rochester

*Courses designed and taught as sole instructor:*

Campaigns and Elections: A Global Perspective, BA Seminar, 2015-2016

## Supervision

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### PhD supervision

*As primary supervisor:*

Helena Heberer, University of Cologne, 2020-present

*As co-supervisor:*

Danielle Pullan, University of Cologne, 2021-2024

### PhD examination

*As external reader:*

Pau-Vall Prat, University of Barcelona, 2022

### Other supervision

10 MA theses supervised to completion, University of Cologne

13 MA thesis supervisions in progress, University of Cologne

3 BA theses co-supervised to completion, University of Cologne

## Professional Service

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### Affiliations

European Political Science Association, Member

APSA British Politics Group, Member

### Disciplinary Service

APSA Division Co-Chair, Comparative Politics – Advanced Industrialised Democracies, 2025

APSA Related Group Chair, British Politics Group, 2022-2023

SGAPPC Section Co-Chair, ECPR General Conference, 2020

### University and Department Service

#### *University of Cologne*

Organizer, Cologne-GESIS Workshop: Multi-Data Perspectives on Democracy, 2024

Member, Gender and Diversity Taskforce, 2023-present

Organizer, Political Science and Political Economy Lecture Series, 2023-present

Organizer, Department Research Colloquium, 2022-present

Organizer, Workshop on Political Institutions and Political Behavior, 2023

Organizer, Cologne Political Science Workshop, 2022

Co-organizer, CCCP International Workshop, 2020

#### *University of Rochester*

Student Representative, Board of Academic Honesty, 2015-2016

Department Representative, Graduate Student Association, 2013-2016

Graduate Assistant, Internships in Europe Programme, 2010-2016

### Referee Service

Journals: *American Political Science Review*; *British Journal of Political Science*; *British Politics*; *Comparative Political Studies*; *Democratization*; *European Journal of Political Research*; *Journal of Politics*; *Journal of*

*Elections, Public Opinion and Parties; Party Politics; Political Science Research and Methods; Swiss Political Science Review.*

Funding bodies: German National Merit Foundation (*Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes*), German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst).

## Media

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'Time to say goodbye' by Eva Schissler, *Kölner Universitäts Magazin*, 8 December 2020 (interview on Brexit).

## Miscellaneous

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Technical skills: Microsoft Office software, advanced R and LaTeX, basic Stata.

Languages: Bilingual in English and Bengali; German (intermediate); Hindi (conversational).

Citizenship: Singapore.