

Aditya Narayanan Ranganath

Education

University of California, San Diego (La Jolla, CA)
Ph.D. in Political Science (2018)

Bowdoin College (Brunswick, ME)
B.A. in Government and Legal Studies (concentration in Political Theory), Economics
cum laude (2009)

Research Interests

International and Comparative Political Economy; the Political Economy of Big Data, Automation, and Algorithmic Decision-Making; the Political Economy of Libraries and Scholarly Communication; Spatial Approaches to Social Science; Marx

Teaching Interests

As a librarian, I am interested in delivering practical, hands-on instruction that helps students and researchers from diverse backgrounds reflectively and efficiently navigate different stages of the research data lifecycle. I am especially interested in introducing students from non-technical or non-quantitative backgrounds to foundational data analysis and visualization techniques using open-source tools, within an instructional environment that that engages their intellectual curiosity and emphasizes learning-by-doing. Outside the library, I have several years of experience in teaching undergraduate courses on a range of substantive topics within the social sciences, with a particular emphasis on the political economy of international relations.

Work Experience

Data Librarian (Instructor), University of Colorado at Boulder Libraries (Fall 2020–Present)

As a Data Librarian at CU Boulder's Center for Research Data and Digital Scholarship (CRDDS), I collaborate with CRDDS colleagues to support the CU-Boulder community's needs across all stages of the research data lifecycle. To that end, I participate in research consultations; topical instruction; data curation and preservation efforts in the context of supporting the development of CU Scholar (CU-Boulder's institutional repository); and assorted projects that build CU Boulder's research data infrastructure and facilitate data-driven research on campus.

Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) Postdoctoral Fellow in Geospatial Data Curation at New York University (NYU) Libraries (Fall 2019–Fall 2020)

As a CLIR Postdoctoral Fellow in the Data Services department at New York University's Bobst Library, I worked with NYU's GIS librarian and other members of the NYU Data Services team on NYU's geospatial data collection, documentation, curation, and discovery efforts. In addition, I offered individualized geospatial and data consultations to library patrons, authored instructional materials, and designed and taught workshops on the use of GIS software, with a particular focus on GIS analysis using open-source tools (workshops that I developed and taught include "Introduction to QGIS", "Introduction to Raster Analysis in QGIS", and "Introduction to Geospatial Analysis in R"). During my time at NYU, I was also a curator for the Data Curation Network (DCN), a collaborative data curation organization that spans multiple institutions.

Postdoctoral Fellow, Yale-NUS College (Singapore) (Fall 2017–Fall 2019)

As a Postdoctoral Fellow at Yale-NUS College in Singapore (an autonomous liberal arts college founded in 2011 within the National University of Singapore, in collaboration with Yale University) I contributed to the College's undergraduate curriculum in the social sciences. I participated in Yale-NUS's distinctive core curriculum as an instructor in its multidisciplinary introductory social science module ("Comparative Social Inquiry"), and also developed and taught advanced undergraduate seminars and introductory surveys on topics within my substantive areas of expertise (course titles were "Global Cities", "International Organizations in World Politics", and "International Political Economy").

Data and GIS Lab Consultant, Reference and Research Advisory Services (RRAS) at the University of California, San Diego's (UCSD) Geisel Library (Fall 2015–Summer 2017; Part-time position)

As a part-time member of Geisel Library's Reference and Research Advisory Services (RRAS) team, I helped the library's map and data librarians maintain the library's Data and GIS Lab. My primary responsibility was to assist library users (mainly undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty) with academic projects that involved the analysis of geospatial data using ArcGIS or R. In addition, I offered consultations to patrons working on projects with Stata as well. Beyond research consultation services, I also helped the map librarian ingest and clean publicly available municipal data as part of the library's data preservation efforts.

Instructor ,Teaching Assistant, Research Mentor; University of California, San Diego (UCSD) (Fall 2012–Summer 2017)

During the course of my PhD studies, I worked in several teaching positions at UCSD. I served as the instructor of record for three courses within UCSD’s Department of Political Science: “The Politics of International Trade” (Summer 2015), “International Organizations” (Summer 2016), and “American Defense Policy” (Summer 2017). I also served as a Teaching Assistant/Section Instructor for the Department of Political Science’s “Introduction to International Relations” survey course (Winter 2013, Spring 2013). From 2014 through 2017, I served as a Section Instructor/Teaching Assistant in the humanities sequence at Revelle College (an undergraduate college within UCSD), which sought to teach the fundamentals of expository writing through an engagement with important texts in the Western cultural tradition from antiquity to the present. In addition to classroom instruction, I also worked with a graduate student colleague over the course of several semesters between 2014 and 2016 to manage an undergraduate research team of 8 students tasked with collecting a large panel dataset on the personal attributes of heads of government, to be used as the basis for a collaborative research project. In doing so, we helped introduce the students to empirical data-driven research, and also mentored them in developing their own research projects.

Research Assistant, University of California, San Diego (Summer 2011; Summer 2012; Summer 2013)

During graduate school, I worked as a research assistant on empirical research projects for Professors David Lake (UCSD) and Jeffrey Frieden (Harvard), and Professor Miles Kahler (UCSD; American University). The project with Lake and Frieden was a study of the relationship between economic crises and political change from the beginning of the 20th century through the period of the Great Recession. I worked collaboratively with another research assistant to assemble large datasets on stock market volatility and historical relative price movements in order to quantitatively test the paper's theoretical arguments. I was also responsible for writing the paper's historical case studies. The project with Kahler was a study of the relationship between trade liberalization and political decentralization in countries throughout the world. I was responsible for building a relevant dataset, and analyzing the resulting data, as well as writing a literature review and providing ideas on the paper's theory.

Americorps Volunteer in Service to America (VISTA), California Human Development (CHD); Santa Rosa, CA (2009-2010)

During my year of service as a VISTA at California Human Development (CHD), I helped managers and program directors use internal program data to develop social return-on-investment (SROI) models for the various social welfare programs that CHD administers in California’s Central Valley.

Research and Scholarship

Dissertation: *The Politics of Globalization in a World of Global Cities* (2018; committee co-chaired by Miles Kahler and J. Lawrence Broz)

Scholarship in International Political Economy (IPE) is fundamentally concerned with the question of how the redistributive impact of globalization across different units of analysis shapes the politics of foreign economic policy. While previous work in IPE explored the “winners” and “losers” of globalization with respect to factors of production, sectors, and firms, it largely ignored the political implications of the redistributive impact of globalization across space. In particular, scholarship in economic geography and urban studies suggests that in spatial terms, the main beneficiaries of contemporary globalization are territorial formations known as “global cities”, whose globalization-driven prosperity comes at the expense of vast hinterland regions that are faced with stagnation and decline in the context of globalization. The goal of my dissertation project is to explore the implications of this economic geography of global cities and hinterlands for the politics of globalization. Chapter 2 begins with a conceptual discussion of this economic geography, with a view towards detailing the processes which constitute global cities and hinterlands as territorial formations that win and lose, respectively, from globalization. Chapter 3 theorizes how this economic geography shapes individual preferences over globalization, and thereby engenders distinctive mass foreign economic policy coalitions organized along “global city versus hinterland” lines. Chapter 4 analyzes globalization-related public referenda in Costa Rica and the UK with a view towards assessing whether the economic geography of global cities and hinterlands does indeed underpin spatial foreign economic policy coalitions along this territorial axis. Drawing on a range of geographically explicit data, it provides evidence that suggests the importance of internationalist “global city coalitions” and protectionist “hinterland coalitions” for the mass politics of globalization. Chapter 5 draws on spatially explicit data on commuter zones and legislative districts, as well as congressional roll call voting, to document the impact of these spatial foreign economic policy coalitions on patterns of legislative voting over trade policy in the United States Congress. Chapter 6 draws on crossnational data to provide suggestive evidence that the interaction between electoral regimes and the electoral geography of mass global city coalitions affects crossnational variation in foreign economic policy outcomes.

Conference Presentations

“Safe Hands: Political Leaders and the Cultivation of Market Confidence in Authoritarian Regimes” (with Jason Kuo)

- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, 2016

“Global City Regions and the Domestic Politics of Globalization: The Influence of Political Geography and Electoral Institutions on Trade Policy”

- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, 2016

“Political Preferences, Leaders, and Trade Policymaking in Democracies: Does the “First Image” Matter for IPE?” (with Jason Kuo)

- Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, 2015
- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, 2015

“Global City Regions, Electoral Institutions and the Territorial Politics of Trade Policy”

- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, 2014

The Coming Realignment? Economic Crisis and Political Change in the United States (Previously “Crisis Politics: Uncertainty, Relative Prices, and Political Change”) (With Jeffrey Frieden, David Lake, and Michael Nicholson)

- Annual Meeting of the International Political Economy Society, 2011

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association (APSA), American Library Association (ALA), Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), International Association for Social Science Information Services and Technology (IASSIST)

Professional Development

- Participated in the annual “All Hands” meeting of the Data Curation Network (DCN), and discussed data curation topics and best practices with DCN members (Summer 2020)
- Participated in “Google Cloud Big Data and Machine Learning Fundamentals”, a one-day introductory workshop on the fundamentals of Google’s cloud computing platform and its data analysis capabilities (Spring 2020)
- Participated in Geo4Lib 2020, an annual conference dedicated to discussion of geospatial data and repository services in academic libraries (Winter 2020)
- Participated in the Data Curation Network’s orientation process, which covered best practices in data curation (Winter 2020)
- As a Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) Fellow, I participated in CLIR’s Postdoctoral Program Orientation (Summer 2019), and subsequent professional

development sessions over the course of 2019 and 2020, which covered a wide variety of topics relevant to academic libraries and digital scholarship

Professional and Institutional Service

- Participated in the GeoBlacklight project's Summer 2020 software and metadata sprint; contributed documentation for the OpenIndexMaps project
- Made supplemental contributions to the Data Curation Network's (DCN) Primer on Geodatabases as part of a collaborative "Primer Hackathon" during the DCN's Summer 2020 "All Hands" meeting
- Served as peer reviewer for a Data Curation Network Primer on the GeoTIFF file format (2020)
- Organized and convened the Fall 2019 "Brown Bag" speaker series for the Social Science division at Yale-NUS College

Grants and Awards

UCSD Political Science Department Fellowship (2010-2011; 2011-2012)

UCSD Political Science Sanford Lakoff Research Fellowship (2015)

Relevant Skills and Software

ArcGIS, QGIS, R, Stata, Git and GitHub, Remote Sensing Using Google Earth Engine (Beginner), Python (Beginner)