

Avidit R. Acharya

Contact Information

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Positions

Stanford University

Associate Professor of Political Science, Sept. 2019 - now
Associate Professor, by courtesy, in the Graduate School of Business, Sept. 2019 – now
Victoria Schuck Faculty Scholar, Sept. 2019 – Aug. 2022
Faculty Associate, Center on Global Poverty & Development, Sept. 2017 – now
Faculty Associate, Center for South Asia, July 2014 - now
Assistant Professor of Political Science, July 2014 – Aug. 2019
Fellow of the Institute for Research in the Social Sciences, Sept. 2016 - July 2017

University of Rochester

Assistant Professor of Political Science and Economics, July 2012 - June 2014
Faculty Associate, Wallis Institute of Political Economy, July 2012 - June 2014

Education

Princeton University

Ph.D., Political Economy, Woodrow Wilson School, Sept. 2007-March 2012

Yale University

B.A., Economics and Mathematics, Sept. 2002-May 2006

Book

1. Acharya, Avidit, Matthew Blackwell and Maya Sen. *Deep Roots: How Slavery Still Shapes Southern Politics*, Princeton University Press, 2018.

Articles

Published and Forthcoming Papers

1. Acharya, Avidit, Kirk Bansak and Jens Hainmueller. "Matching Refugees to Host Country Locations Based on Preferences and Outcomes," *Political Analysis*, forthcoming.
2. Acharya, Avidit, Robin Harding and Andy Harris. "Security in the Absence of a State: Traditional Authority, Livestock Trading and Maritime Piracy in Northern Somalia," *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, Vol. 32, October 2020, pp. 497-537.
3. Acharya, Avidit and Alexander Lee. "Path Dependence in European Development: Medieval Politics, Conflict and State Building," *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 52, December 2019, pp. 2171-2206.
4. Acharya, Avidit and Edoardo Grillo. "A Behavioral Foundation for Audience Costs," *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 14, April 2019, pp. 159-90.
5. Acharya, Avidit and Alexander Lee. "Economic Foundations of the Territorial State System," *American Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 62, October 2018, pp. 954-66.
6. Acharya, Avidit, Matthew Blackwell and Maya Sen. "Analyzing Causal Mechanisms in Survey Experiments," *Political Analysis*, Vol. 26, October 2018, pp. 357-78.
7. Acharya, Avidit, David D. Laitin and Anna Zhang. "Sons of the Soil: A Model of Assimilation and Population Control," *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, Vol. 30., April 2018, pp. 184-223.
8. Acharya, Avidit, Matthew Blackwell and Maya Sen. "Explaining Preferences from Behavior: A Cognitive Dissonance Approach," *Journal of Politics*, Vol. 80, April 2018, pp. 400-411.
9. Acharya, Avidit and Juan Ortner. "Progressive Learning," *Econometrica*, Vol. 85, Nov. 2017, pp. 1965-1990.
10. Acharya, Avidit and Adam Meirowitz. "Sincere Voting in Large Elections" *Games and Economic Behavior*, Vol. 101, Jan. 2017, pp. 121-31.
11. Acharya, Avidit. "Information Aggregation Failure in a Model of Social Mobility," (prior working paper version titled "Equilibrium False Consciousness"), *Games and Economic Behavior*, Vol. 100, Nov. 2016, pp. 257-72.

12. Acharya, Avidit, Matthew Blackwell and Maya Sen. "Explaining Causal Findings without Bias: Detecting and Assessing Direct Effects," *American Political Science Review*, Vol. 100, Aug. 2016, pp. 512-29.
13. Acharya, Avidit, Matthew Blackwell and Maya Sen. "The Political Legacy of American Slavery," *Journal of Politics*, Vol. 78, No. 3, July 2016, pp. 621-41 (lead article).
14. Acharya, Avidit, John Roemer and Rohini Somanathan. "Caste, Corruption and Political Competition in India," *Research in Economics*, Vol. 69, Sept. 2015, pp. 336-52.
15. Acharya, Avidit and Edoardo Grillo. "War with Crazy Types," *Political Science Research and Methods*, Vol. 3, May 2015, pp. 281-307.
16. Acharya, Avidit and John Roemer. "Multidimensional Poverty with Missing Attributes," *Economics Letters*, Vol. 130, May 2015, pp. 51-55.
17. Acharya, Avidit and Juan Ortner. "Delays and Partial Agreements in Multi-Issue Bargaining," *Journal of Economic Theory*, Vol. 148, Sept. 2013, pp. 2150-63.
18. Acharya, Avidit and Kristopher Ramsay. "The Calculus of the Security Dilemma," *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 8, April 2013, pp. 183-203.
19. Acharya, Avidit. "The Maoist Insurgency in Nepal and the Political Economy of Violence," in M. Lawoti and A. Pahari (eds.) *The Maoist Insurgency in Nepal: Revolution in 21st Century*, London: Routledge, 2010.

Selected Working Papers

20. Acharya, Avidit, Edoardo Grillo, Takuo Sugaya and Eray Turkel. "Electoral Campaigns as Dynamic Contests," 2018.
21. Acharya, Avidit and Juan Ortner. "Paths to the Frontier," 2019. R&R, *AEJ: Micro*.
22. Acharya, Avidit, Elliot Lipnowski and João Ramos. "Optimal Political Career Dynamics," 2020.

Awards and Honors

1. William H. Riker Book Award for the best book in Political Economy, for *Deep Roots: How Slavery Still Shapes Southern Politics* (with Matt Blackwell and Maya Sen), 2019
2. Joseph L. Bernd Best JOP paper award for "The Political Legacy of American Slavery," (with Matt Blackwell and Maya Sen), 2016
3. Fellow of the Society of Woodrow Wilson Scholars, Princeton, AY 2010-2011
4. Wrexham Prize, Yale College, for "the best senior essay in the social sciences," 2006

Teaching

Stanford University

PE 681: Economic Analysis of Politics (2020W, 21W)
PS 460b: Political Economy II (w/Vicky Fouka, 2021W)
PS 356a: Formal Theory I: Introduction to Game Theory (2014F, 17W, 18W)
PS 356b: Formal Theory II: Models of Politics (2015W, 17Sp, 18Sp, 20Sp)
PS 33n: How We Decide: Social Choice in the Age of Algorithms (w/Ashish Goel, 2021F)
PS 153a: Thinking Strategically (2014F, 16Sp, 17W, 17Su, 17F, 18W, 20Sp)
PS 247a: Games Developing Nations Play (w/Barry Weingast, 2016Sp)

University of Rochester

PSC 565: Comparative Political Economy of Development (2012Sp)
PSC 582/503: Formal Modeling in Comparative Politics (2013Sp)
PSC 502: Political and Economic Networks (with Matt Blackwell, 2014Sp)
PSC/IR 255: Institutions and Underdevelopment (2012Sp, 13Sp)
PSC/IR 266: South Asian Politics (2014Sp)

Dissertation Committees

<i>Name</i>	<i>Ph.D.</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Initial Placement</i>
Ramya Parthasarathy	2017	Stanford	McKinsey
Michael Gibilisco	2017	Rochester	Assistant Professor, Caltech
Chitralekha Basu	2016	Rochester	Postdoc, Nottingham University, UK

Departmental & University Service

Stanford University

Graduate Curriculum Reform Committee (2019, 2020)
Oral Committee Chair for Nathaniel Thomas, Stanford Physics (2019)
Oral Committee Chair for Thomas Choate, Stanford GSB (2018)
Political Methodology Workshop Organizer (AY 2017-18)
Member of the Senior Search Committee in Political Methodology (AY 2016-17)
Faculty Convener for Political Methodology (AY 2016-17)
Graduate Admissions Committee (AY 2015-16, 17-18, 19-20)
Graduate Program Review Committee (AY 2014-15)
Dissertation Examiner for Dorothy Kronick, Stanford Political Science (2015)
Oral Committee Chair for Peter Schram, Stanford GSB (2015)

University of Rochester

Comparative Political Economy Faculty Search Committee (2013)
Wallis Conference Organizing Committee (2013)
Comparative Politics Workshop Organizer (AY 2012-13 & 13-14)

Professional Service

Editorial Board Memberships

Associate Editor, *Social Choice and Welfare*, 2020 - 2024
Member of the Editorial Board, *Journal of Politics*, 2017 - 2019

Reviewer

American Political Science Review	American Economic Review
American Journal of Political Science	Econometrica
Journal of Politics	Quarterly Journal of Economics
Quarterly Journal of Political Science	Review of Economic Studies
British Journal of Political Science	Journal of Economic Theory
Journal of Theoretical Politics	Games and Economic Behavior
World Politics	Journal of the European Economic Association
International Studies Quarterly	American Economic Journal: Microeconomics
Economics & Politics	International Economic Review
Social Choice and Welfare	International Journal of Game Theory
Political Research Quarterly	Canadian Journal of Economics
Public Choice	Mathematical Social Sciences
Explorations in Economic History	Economics of Governance

Discussant

“Pledge and Review Bargaining” presented by Bard Harstad, at the Wallis Conference in Political Economy, Univ. of Rochester (Sept. 27, 2019).
“Electoral Competition with Rationally Inattentive Voters” presented by Filip Matejka at the Utah Winter Business Economics Conference (March 1-3, 2018).
“Prizes, Groups and Pivotality in a Poisson Voting Game” presented by Alastair Smith at the Wallis Conference in Political Economy, Univ. of Rochester (Sept. 27, 2012).
“Strategic Mass Killings” presented by Massimo Morelli at the Princeton Conference on the Game Theoretic Analysis of Conflict (Feb. 26-27, 2010).
Discussant at MPSA (2012, 2013, 2015) and APSA (2015, 2018).

Other

Committee Member for the APSA Political Economy Section 2021 Riker Book Award
Co-organizer of the Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics - Political Economic Theory Session (Summer 2020).

Mentoring Faculty in Residence, Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM)
Summer School, Princeton (Summer 2012).

Conference & Workshop Presentations

UVA Global Development Seminar, Jan. 27, 2021 (scheduled)
NYU Political Economy Workshop, Oct. 4, 2019
UBC Political Economy/Development Seminar, May 1, 2019
Texas A&M Political Science Department Methods Workshop, April 15, 2019
USC Conference on American Political Development, Jan. 10-11, 2019
Yale Leitner Political Economy Workshop, Nov. 1, 2018
Conference in Honor of Tom Romer, Princeton University, Oct. 11, 2018
Emory/UNC-Ashville Conference, May 5, 2018
NYU-Abu Dhabi Historical Legacies of Violence Conference, April 6-7, 2018
USC Political Institutions and Political Economy Conference, March 15-16, 2018
Wash U in St. Louis Department-wide Workshop, Jan. 25, 2018
Caltech Political Economy Workshop, Nov. 14, 2017
UCSD – GPS PIPE Workshop, Nov. 7, 2017
University of Utah Business School, Oct. 9, 2017
Stanford Economics Department Theory Workshop, Oct. 4, 2017
UC Irvine Workshop on Economic Interdependence and War, April 21-22, 2017
Collegio Carlo Alberto Economics Department Workshop, June 17, 2016
Pompeu Fabra University Summer Forum, June 13-14, 2016
Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 16-19, 2016
Chicago Harris Conference on Conflict, April 14, 2016
UC Berkeley, BCEP Political Economy Workshop, March 14, 2016
UCLA Comparative Politics Workshop, Feb. 29, 2016
University of Rochester, International Relations Workshop, Feb. 26, 2016
University of Oxford, Nuffield College Political Science Workshop, Feb. 12, 2016
University of Nottingham Political Economy Workshop, Feb. 11, 2016
LSE Political Economy Workshop, Feb. 9, 2016
University of Wisconsin, Madison, American Politics Workshop, Jan. 25, 2016
NYU Political Economy Workshop, Dec. 11, 2015
Yale Cowles Foundation Political Economy Conference, Dec. 4, 2015
American Political Science Association Conference, San Francisco, Sept. 3-6, 2015
Conference in Honor of John E. Roemer, Queen Mary University, London, June 19-20, 2015
UC Berkeley Comparative Politics Workshop, Nov. 6, 2014
Society for Advancement of Economic Theory Conference, Tokyo, Sept. 19-21, 2014
NYU/LSE Political Economy Conference, London, May 29-30, 2014
Yale Conference in Political Economy, May 9-10, 2014
Princeton/Warwick Political Economy Conference in Venice, March 14-15, 2014
Yale Leitner Political Economy Workshop, Feb. 3, 2014
Columbia University Political Economy Seminar, Dec. 3, 2013
University of Warwick Political Economy Workshop, Nov. 4, 2013
Princeton Political Economy Workshop, Sept. 30, 2013
World Bank Development Research Group, Washington D.C., June 5, 2013

Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 11-14, 2013
Inter-American Development Bank, Washington D.C., March 1, 2013
Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society, New Delhi, Dec. 20-22, 2012
Caltech Political Economy Workshop, Sept. 27, 2011

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