Adam Michael Auerbach

CONTACT INFORMATION

217 Rosenkranz Hall
Yale University
New Haven, CT 06520

email: adam.auerbach@yale.edu

APPOINTMENTS

Yale University
- Associate Professor, Department of Political Science — 2025-present
  - Faculty Fellow, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies
  - Faculty Affiliate, South Asian Studies Council
  - Faculty Affiliate, Yale Urban Initiative

Johns Hopkins University
- Associate Professor, School of Advanced International Studies — 2024-2025

American University
- Associate Professor, School of International Service — 2021-2023
- Assistant Professor, School of International Service — 2014-2021

University of Notre Dame
- Visiting Fellow, Kellogg Institute for International Studies — 2013/14

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Ph.D., Political Science — 2013
  - *Major Field*: Comparative Politics
  - *Doctoral Minor*: Anthropology
  - *Dissertation Committee*: Yoshiko Herrera (chair), Rikhil Bhavnani, Ivan Ermakoff, Melanie Manion, Nadav Shelef, and Aseema Sinha
  - *Dissertation*: Demanding Development: Democracy, Community Governance, and Public Goods Provision in India's Urban Slums
  - – Gabriel A. Almond Award for Best Dissertation in Comparative Politics, APSA
  - – Best Dissertation Award, Urban Politics Section, APSA
  - – Best Fieldwork Award, Comparative Democratization Section, APSA
- M.A., Agricultural and Applied Economics — 2010
- M.A., Political Science — 2007

Allegheny College
- B.A., Political Science and Asian Studies, *magna cum laude* — 2005

AFFILIATIONS

- Non-Resident Visiting Scholar, CASI, University of Pennsylvania — 2020-2025
- Non-Resident Fellow, Mahbub ul Haq Research Centre, LUMS — 2022-
- Fellow, GLD Institute, University of Gothenburg — 2024

BOOKS

Auerbach, Adam Michael. 2020. *Demanding Development: The Politics of Public Goods Provision in India's Urban Slums*. New York: Cambridge University Press (Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics Series).
- – Dennis Judd Best Book Award, Urban and Local Politics Section, APSA
- – Reviewed in *Commonwealth and Comparative Politics*, *Democratization*, *Economic and Political Weekly*, *Environment and Urbanization*, *Environment and Urbanization Asia*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *LSE Review*

of Books, *Pacific Affairs*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Seminar*, *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, *Studies in Indian Politics*, *The Book Review Literary Trust*, *The Hindu*, *Urban Affairs Review*, *Urbanisation*, and *Urban Studies*
  - Featured in the *Grand Tamasha Podcast*, *Ideas of India Podcast*, *IDS Between the Lines Podcast*, *New Books Network Podcast*, *The Print*, and *SSRC's Layered Metropolis Series*

Auerbach, Adam Michael and Tariq Thachil. 2023. *Migrants and Machine Politics: How India's Urban Poor Seek Representation and Responsiveness*. Princeton: Princeton University Press (Princeton Studies in Political Behavior Series).
  - Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy Book Prize, Association for Asian Studies
  - Francine Frankel Book Prize, South Asia Section, APSA
  - Giovanni Sartori Book Award, Qualitative and Multi-Method Research Section, APSA
  - Best Book Award, Experimental Research Section, APSA
  - Honorable Mention, Luebbert Book Award, Comparative Politics Section, APSA
  - Grand Tamasha's Best Books of 2023
  - Reviewed in *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, *Journal of Urban Affairs*, *LSE Review of Books*, *Pacific Affairs*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *The Wire*, *Doing Sociology*, *International Social Science Review*, *Survival: Global Politics and Strategy*, and *Urbanisation*
  - Featured in the *Grand Tamasha Podcast*, *New Books Network Podcast*, and *The Urban Political Podcast*

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Auerbach, Adam Michael and Tanu Kumar. 2026. "Politics in the Urban Periphery: Citizen-Led Expansion and Informality at the Edges of India's Cities." *Journal of Development Studies* 62(3): 427-44.

Auerbach, Adam Michael, Abdullo Abdukhalilov, Audrey Sacks, and Dilmurad Yusupov. 2026."Climate Change and Disability-Inclusive Adaptation: Qualitative Evidence from Uzbekistan." *Journal of Development Studies* 62(1): 128-45.

Auerbach, Adam Michael, Shikhar Singh, and Tariq Thachil. 2025. "Who Knows How to Govern? Procedural Knowledge in India's Small Town Councils." *American Political Science Review* 119(2): 708-26.
  - Featured in the World Resource Institute's *City Fix* Blog and APSA's *Political Science Now* Blog

Auerbach, Adam Michael, Jennifer Bussell, Simon Chauchard, Francesca Jensenius, Gareth Nellis, Mark Schneider, Neelanjan Sircar, Pavithra Suryanarayan, Tariq Thachil, Rahul Verma, and Adam Ziegfeld. 2022. "Rethinking the Study of Electoral Politics in the Developing World: Reflections on the Indian Case." *Perspectives on Politics* 20(1): 250-64.

Auerbach, Adam Michael and Tariq Thachil. 2021. "How Does COVID-19 Affect Urban Slums? Evidence from Settlement Leaders in India." *World Development* 140: 1-11.
  - Featured in the *Hindustan Times* and *Governance Uncovered Podcast*

Auerbach, Adam Michael and Gabrielle Kruks-Wisner. 2020. "The Geography of Citizenship Practice: How the Poor Engage the State in Rural and Urban India." *Perspectives on Politics* 18(4): 1118-34.
  - Featured in *The Print* and *Ideas for India*

Auerbach, Adam Michael and Tariq Thachil. 2020. "Cultivating Clients: Reputation, Responsiveness, and Ethnic Indifference in India's Slums." *American Journal of Political Science* 64(3): 471-87.
  - 2021 *American Journal of Political Science* Best Article Award

– 2021 Political Ties Award for Best Article on Political Networks, Political Networks Section, APSA
– 2020 Honorable Mention, Best Paper Award, Democracy and Autocracy Section, APSA

Auerbach, Adam Michael and Adam Ziegfeld. 2020. "How Electoral Quotas Influence Political Competition: Evidence from Municipal, State, and National Elections in India." *Journal of Politics* 82(1): 397-401.

Auerbach, Adam Michael and Tariq Thachil. 2018. "How Clients Select Brokers: Competition and Choice in India's Slums." *American Political Science Review* 112(4): 775-791.
– 2019 Heinz I. Eulau Award for best article published in the *American Political Science Review*
– Featured in *LiveMint*, *Ideas for India*, *Hindu Business Line*, *Place (Thomson Reuter's Foundation)*, and *India in Transition*

Auerbach, Adam Michael, Adrienne LeBas, Alison Post, and Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro. 2018. "State, Society, and Informality in Cities of the Global South." *Studies in Comparative International Development* 53(3): 261-280.
– Part of the special issue, "The Politics of Urban Informality" (co-edited with Adrienne LeBas, Alison Post, and Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro)

Auerbach, Adam Michael. 2018. "Informal Archives: Historical Narratives and the Preservation of Paper in India's Urban Slums." *Studies in Comparative International Development* 53(3): 343-364.
– Part of the special issue, "The Politics of Urban Informality" (co-edited with Adrienne LeBas, Alison Post, and Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro)

Auerbach, Adam Michael. 2017. "Neighborhood Associations and the Urban Poor: India's Slum Development Committees." *World Development* 96(C): 119-135.

Auerbach, Adam Michael. 2016. "Clients and Communities: The Political Economy of Party Network Organization and Development in India's Urban Slums." *World Politics* 68(1): 111-48.

Auerbach, Adam Michael. 2015. "India's Urban Constituencies Revisited." *Contemporary South Asia* 23(2): 136-50.
– Part of the special issue, "Indian Elections 2014: Explaining the Landslide"

Current Projects

"The Politics of Comportment: Theory and Evidence from India's Small Towns" (with Shikhar Singh and Tariq Thachil)

"Idle Capital: The Politics of Unspent Funds in India's Municipal Governments" (with Shikhar Singh and Tariq Thachil), *Revise and Resubmit*

"The Politics of Esteem: How Dignity, Recognition, and Social Standing Shape Politics in the Global South" (with Mashail Malik and Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro), *Commissioned by the Annual Review of Political Science*

"Local Journalism and Political Accountability in India" (with Sumitra Badrinathan)

"Urban Politics" (with Bhanu Joshi and Shahana Sheikh), a chapter for the *Cambridge Companion to Indian Politics and Society* edited by Manali Desai and Indrajit Roy, *Forthcoming*

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy Book Prize, Association for Asian Studies 2025

Francine Frankel Book Prize, South Asia Section, APSA 2025

Giovanni Sartori Book Award, QMMR Section, APSA 2024

Best Book Award, Experimental Research Section, APSA 2024

Honorable Mention, Luebbert Book Award, Comparative Politics Section, APSA 2024

Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellowship 2022/23
- *Placement*: Social Sustainability and Inclusion Practice, World Bank

Outstanding Scholarship Award, School of International Service 2022

Dennis Judd Best Book Award, Urban and Local Politics Section, APSA 2021

Political Ties Article Award, Political Networks Section, APSA 2021

GLD, University of Gothenburg, Short-Term Research Grant 2021

American Journal of Political Science Best Article Award 2021

School of International Service Said Fund Grant 2020

American University Faculty Research Support Grant 2020

Heinz I. Eulau Award for Best Article in the *American Political Science Review* 2019

Honorable Mention, Best Paper Award, Democracy & Autocracy Section, APSA 2019

Clarence Stone Scholar Award, Urban and Local Politics Section, APSA 2019

William Cromwell Award for Outstanding Teaching, SIS 2018

American Institute of Indian Studies Short-Term Senior Research Fellowship 2017

American University Dean's Summer Research Award 2015

Gabriel A. Almond Award for Best Dissertation in Comparative Politics, APSA 2015

Best Dissertation Award, Urban Politics Section, APSA 2014

Political Economy of India Fellowship, King's College, London, UK 2013

Best Fieldwork Award, Comparative Democratization Section, APSA 2013

Social Science Research Council IDRF 2010/11

Fulbright-Hays DDRA Fellowship 2010/11

National Science Foundation DDIG 2010/11

American Institute of Indian Studies Junior Fellowship (*declined*) 2010/11

FLAS Academic-Year Fellowships (Hindi, Urdu, and Marathi) 2007-2009, 2010

Department of Political Science Teaching Assistant Award 2009

Scott Kloeck-Jenson Graduate Intern Fellowship 2009

University of Wisconsin International Institute Travel Award 2008

Center for South Asia Pre-Dissertation Travel Award 2008

Fulbright IIE U.S. Student Teaching Fellowship (South Korea) 2005/06

Allegheny College, Department of Political Science, Best Senior Thesis 2005

Allegheny College, Interdisciplinary Studies, Best Senior Thesis 2005

Freeman-Asia/ IIE Grant (Thailand) 2004

Other Writing

Review of Veronica Herrera's *Slow Harms and Citizen Action* in *Urban Studies*, 2026.

Review Exchange with Volha Charnysh and Tariq Thachil in APSA's *Democracy and Autocracy Newsletter*, 2025

"Does Political Decentralization Improve Urban Governance?" (with Shikhar Singh and Tariq Thachil). *The City Fix Blog, World Resource Institute*, 2024

"Climate Change Highlights the Need for Disability-Inclusive Adaptation" (with Audrey Sacks and Dilmurad Yusupov). *World Bank Blog, Development and a Changing Climate*, 2023

"Climate Change and Disability Inclusion in Uzbekistan" (with Audrey Sacks and Dilmurad Yusupov). *World Bank Report 185400*

"Politics in the Urban Periphery: Citizen-Led Expansion and Informality at the Edges of India's Cities" (with Tanu Kumar). *Governance and Local Development Institute Working Paper 63*

Review of Sanjoy Chakravorty and Neelanjan Sircar's (editors) *Colossus* in *The Book Review Literary Trust*, March 2022.

"How did Slums Survive the Lockdown?" (with Tariq Thachil). *Hindustan Times*, December 14, 2020.

"Citizen-State Relations: Countryside and City" (with Gabrielle Kruks-Wisner). *Ideas for India*, August 2020.

"The Political Geography of Public Service Provision in India's Urban Slums." *Layered Metropolis Series*, Social Science Research Council *Items*, May 2020.

"COVID-19 and Community Leadership in India's Slum Settlements." *India in Transition*, University of Pennsylvania, May 2020.
– Reprinted in *Hindu Business Line*

"Millions of People in India's Slums Can't Keep Each Other at a Distance During Pandemic Lockdown." *Washington Post*, *Monkey Cage*, April 13, 2020.

"India's Urban and Rural Poor Expect Different Things from their Local Governments, and Why it Matters" (with Gabrielle Kruks-Wisner). *The Print*, March 19, 2020.

Review of Jennifer Bussell's *Clients and Constituents* in *India Ink*, Georgetown University, July 2019.

"India's Slum Leaders: Part 1" (with Tariq Thachil). *India in Transition*, University of Pennsylvania, October 10, 2016.
– Reprinted in *Hindu Business Line* and *Ideas for India*

"India's Slum Leaders: Part 2" (with Tariq Thachil). *India in Transition*, University of Pennsylvania, October 24, 2016.
– Reprinted in *Hindu Business Line* and *Ideas for India*

Invited Talks and Workshops

Comparative Politics Workshop, Boston University	2026
Book Workshop Discussant for Alice Xu, University of Pennsylvania	2026
Center for Political Studies Seminar, University of Michigan	2026
Book Workshop Discussant for Paige Bollen, Ohio State University	2026
Bloomberg Center for Cities Conference, Harvard University	2025
Book Discussant for Pradeep Chhibber & Francesca Jensenius, Brown University	2025

South Asia Seminar Series, London School of Economics	2025
Earl W. Adams Jr. Distinguished Speaker Lecture, Allegheny College	2025
Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Seminar Series, Brown University	2025
Politics of Social Stratification Workshop, Georgetown University	2025
Book Workshop Discussant for Mashail Malik, Harvard University	2025
Book Workshop Discussant for Bhumi Purohit, Georgetown University	2024
Comparative Politics Speaker Series, Harvard University	2024
Book Talk, Indian Institute for Human Settlements	2024
Book Workshop Discussant for Bethany Lacina, University of Rochester	2024
Comparative Politics Seminar, Princeton University	2024
Research Seminar, IIS University, Jaipur	2024
Comparative Politics Seminar, UC-Berkeley	2024
Comparative Institutions and Regimes Seminar, University of Oslo	2024
GLD Conference, University of Gothenburg	2024
MHRC Research Seminar Series, Lahore University of Management Sciences	2024
Comparative Politics Workshop, CUNY Graduate Center	2024
Book Workshop Discussant for Alicia Cooperman, GWU	2024
Book Adda, Watson Institute, Brown University	2023
Public Policy Research Seminar Series, University of Massachusetts, Boston	2023
Janaagraha Seminar	2023
Book Talk, University of Pennsylvania	2023
Social Sustainability and Inclusion Seminar, World Bank	2023
Research Seminar, Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University	2023
Book Workshop Discussant for Rodrigo Zarazaga, CIAS Buenos Aires	2023
Comparative Politics Seminar, Yale University	2023
Democracy, Rights, and Development Conference, University of Notre Dame	2023
Book Workshop Discussant for Tanu Kumar, Claremont Graduate University	2023
Book Talk, University of Zurich	2023
Seminar Series, Department of Political Science, Geneva Graduate Institute	2023
UPES Lecture Series, Dehradun	2022
World Bank Cities Seminar, World Bank	2022
Workshop on State-building and Political Development, Princeton University	2022
Book Workshop Discussant for Lama Mourad, George Washington University	2022
State of Cities Speaker Series, IMPRI, Delhi	2022
Asian Politics Online Seminar Series Discussant for Lynette Ong	2022

Book Launch Discussant for Rajesh Veeraraghavan, Georgetown	2022
Distributive Politics in South Asia Virtual Seminar, LUMS, Pakistan	2022
Article Workshop Discussant for Tanushree Goyal, Harvard Academy	2022
Comparative Politics Seminar Series, University of Maryland	2021
South Asian Politics Speaker Series, University of Texas-Austin	2021
GLD Conference, University of Gothenburg, Sweden	2021
Workshop on Clientelism, London School of Economics	2021
Workshop on Decentralization and Grassroots Democracy, LSE	2021
Book Talk, Department of Political Science, Ashoka University	2021
Workshop Discussant, Nunn School, Georgia Institute of Technology	2021
Bridging the Gap Seminar, Invited Panelist	2021
Human Capital Initiative Seminar Series, Boston University	2021
Book Talk, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad	2020
Kellogg Institute Lecture Series, University of Notre Dame	2020
Clientelism Workshop, Duke University	2020
Book Talk, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace	2020
Development and Governance Seminar Series, Brown University	2020
School of Public Affairs Speaker Series, American University	2020
Book Talk, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi	2019
CASI Seminar Series, University of Pennsylvania	2019
Political Behavior of Development Conference, MIT GOV/LAB	2019
Frontiers in Global Development Seminar Series, University of Virginia	2019
Book Workshop Dicussant for Bilal Baloch, SAIS, Johns Hopkins University	2019
Political Economy of India Workshop, CEIP (invited discussant)	2019
Democratic Representation in India Conference, Ashoka University	2018
Comparing Patronage Democracies Workshop, Yale University	2018
Brown-Harvard-MIT Seminar on South Asian Politics, Harvard University	2018
Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University	2017
Book Workshop Discussant for Shelby Grossman, Stanford University	2017
Democracy in India Conference, Claremont McKenna College	2017
Queen's Political Studies Speaker Series, Queen's University (Canada)	2017
Political Economy of Contemporary India Conference, IGIDR (Mumbai, India)	2017
Comparative Politics Colloquium, George Washington University	2016
Urban Local Public Service Delivery Roundtable, Urban Institute	2016
Rethinking Electoral Politics in India Workshop, CEIP	2016

	Political Economy of India Workshop, CEIP (invited discussant)	2016
	Woodrow Wilson Center, Urban Sustainability Laboratory (panel discussant)	2016
	Workshop on Urban Poverty in Developing Countries, Duke University	2016
	South Asia Seminar Series, University of Wisconsin-Madison	2016
	Global Poverty Roundtable, Swarthmore College	2016
	Comparative Politics Colloquium Series, Georgetown University	2016
	Political Economy of India Workshop, CASI	2015
	Strengthening Institutions and Governance Workshop, IFPRI	2015
	Gilded Ages Seminar Series, Watson Institute, Brown University	2015
	Workshop on Methodological Innovations in Urban Research, UC-Berkeley	2015
	American University Asian Studies Program Research Series	2015
	South Asia Seminar Series, University of Chicago	2015
	Workshop on Urban Poverty in Developing Countries, Duke University	2014
	Urban Infrastructure Workshop, CASI, University of Pennsylvania	2014
	Urbanization in India Workshop, Princeton University	2014
	SAIS, Johns Hopkins University	2014
	APSA Workshop on Urban Politics, Wilson Center, Washington DC	2014
	Lok Sabha Elections Workshop, King's India Institute, King's College, London	2014
	Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame	2014
	CASI Lecture, University of Pennsylvania	2013
	Ethnic Politics Workshop IV, Arizona State University	2012
	Social Science Research Council Fellows Workshop, New Orleans	2012
	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung International Seminar on Just Cities, Mumbai	2011
	Delhi School of Planning and Architecture Lecture, New Delhi	2011
	Centre de Sciences Humaines Research Workshop, New Delhi	2011

Teaching

The Politics of Contemporary India

Democracy and Development in South Asia

Field Research Methods

The Politics of Local Development

Regular guest speaker at the Foreign Service Institute (2019-current)

Politics, Markets, and States in South Asia, Summer Course, Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania (July 2021)

Doctoral Dissertation Committees: Ari Cohen (American University, 2017); Bhanu Joshi (Brown University, 2025); Chayanit Poonyarat (American University, 2023); Emily Rains (Duke University, 2021); Manu Ramkumar (American University, 2024); Aarti Reddy (American University, 2021); Cherie Saulter (American University, 2022); Brandon Sims (American University, 2022); Hatem Zayed (American University, 2023); Shagun Gupta (American University, current); Sobhi Mohanty (Outsider Reader, Geneva Graduate Institute, 2023); Sam Frantz (Outsider Reader, George Washington University, 2023); Anum Pasha (Outside Reader, George Washington University, 2025); Sofie Heintz (Outsider Reader, University of Zurich, current); Prakhar Misra (JHU, current); Shivani Choudhary (Yale, current); Manasi Rao (Yale, current); Kamya Yadav (UC-Berkeley, current)

Languages

Hindi (advanced)

Fieldwork and International Study

India, *40 total months*: (8-12/2003), (12/2004-1/2005), (6-8/2007), (12/2008-1/2009), (5-8/2009), (9/2010-12/2011), (2-8/2012), (6-8/2015), (5-6/2016), (1/2017), (7/2018), (12/2018), (10/2019), (7/2022), (6/2024), (12/2025-1/2026)

Uzbekistan, 11/2022

United Kingdom, 5-6/2014

South Korea, 6/2005-8/2006

Thailand, 6-8/2004

External Service

Reviewer for *American Journal of Political Science*; *American Political Science Review*; *American Sociological Review*; *Anthropology Today*; *Area*; *Asian Survey*; *British Journal of Political Science*; *Cambridge University Press*; *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*; *Cities*; *Columbia University Press*; *Community Development Journal*; *Comparative Political Studies*; *Comparative Politics*; *Contemporary South Asia*; *Democratization*; *Electoral Studies*; *Environment and Urbanization*; *European Political Science Review*; *Global Public Health*; *Governance*; *India Review*; *Indian Politics and Policy*; *Information, Communication, and Society*; *Information Technology and Politics*; *International Development Planning Review*; *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*; *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*; *Journal of Asian and African Studies*; *Journal of Conflict Resolution*; *Journal of Development Studies*; *Journal of Historical Political Economy*; *Journal of Latin American Studies*; *Journal of Politics*; *Journal of South Asian Development*; *Journal of Urban Affairs*; *Legislative Studies Quarterly*; *Modern Asian Studies*; *Oxford University Press*; *Perspectives on Politics*; *Political Behavior*; *Political Geography*; *Political Science Research and Methods*; *PS: Political Science and Politics*; *Public Choice*; *Representation*; *Routledge*; *Social Forces*; *Sociological Methods and Research*; *Stanford University Press*; *Studies in Comparative International Development*; *Studies in Indian Politics*; *The Professional Geographer*; *Third World Quarterly*; *University of Chicago Press*; *Urbanisation*; *Urban Affairs Review*; *Urban Studies*; *Women's Studies International Forum*; *World Development*; *World Politics*

Chair, Sage Best Paper Prize, Comparative Politics Section, APSA 2026

Editorial Committee Member, *Comparative Politics* 2025-current

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Development Studies* 2025-2030

Editorial Board Member, *Urban Affairs Review* 2022-2025

Secretary/ Vice President, South Asia Section, APSA	2023-current
Best Book Award Committee, Experimental Research Section, APSA	2025
Nominations Committee, QMMR Section, APSA	2025
Kellogg/ Notre Dame MPSA Award Committee	2023
Co-Chair, Urban Politics in the Global South Workshop	2022-2023
Division Co-Chair, Comparative Politics of Developing Countries, APSA	2021
Executive Council Member, Urban and Local Politics Section, APSA	2020-2022
Reviewer, National Science Foundation	2023
Reviewer, SSRC International Dissertation Research Fellowship	2018-2020
Chair, Best Dissertation Award, Urban Politics Section, APSA	2015
Chair, Best Fieldwork Award, Comparative Democratization Section, APSA	2014

References

Available Upon Request

(Updated 4/2026)