

Fahmida Zaman

Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science | [LinkedIn](#) | Fahmida.zaman14@gmail.com

Education

University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware; Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science and International Relations
Dissertation: Rise of Digital Authoritarianism: Examining mechanisms, Determinants, and Motivation in Non-democracies.

Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois; MS in Political Science, Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Studied Abroad in Peru.

Asian University for Women, BA in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics; Dr. Muhammad Yunus Fellow.

St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minnesota; Non-degree program in International Relations; Participant of the Near East and South Asia Undergraduate Exchange Program, U.S. Department of State.

Areas of Research Expertise

Digital Authoritarianism, Internet Freedom/Digital Rights, Digital Repression, Democratic Backsliding, Media Freedom, Protests/Social Movements, Political Violence, Hybrid Regimes, South Asia, Bangladesh.

Academic Research and Publications

Journal Articles

- Mechanisms of Digital Authoritarianism: The Case of Bangladesh. *SAIS Review of International Affairs* 42, no. 2 (2022): 85-101.
- Protests, Legitimacy, and Hybrid Regime: Shahbag Movement & Road Safety Movement in Bangladesh, *Journal of Governance, Security, and Development*, 1 no. 2 (2020): 24-35.
- Agencies of Social Movements: Experiences from Bangladesh's Shahbag Movement and Hefazat-e-Islam,' *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 53 no. 3 (2018): 339-349.
- Death of 1947 in Bangladesh's Popular Memory,' *South Asia Journal*. May 18, 2016. Available from: <http://southasiajournal.net/death-of-1947-in-bangladeshs-popular-memory/>

Edited Volume

- Co-editor, *Political Violence in South Asia*, eds. Ali Riaz, Zobaida Nasreen, and Fahmida Zaman. Routledge, 2018.

Book Chapter

- Riaz, Ali, and Fahmida Zaman. "Working Under the "Sword of Damocles": Experiences of Journalists in a Hybrid Regime." In *Masks of Authoritarianism*, pp. 37-55. Palgrave Macmillan, Singapore, 2022.
- Zaman, Fahmida. "Representation of political violence in South Asian English fiction." In *Political Violence in South Asia*, pp. 38-50. Routledge, 2018.
- Riaz, Ali, Fahmida Zaman, and Zobaida Nasreen. "Introduction: Perspectives on political violence in South Asia." In *Political Violence in South Asia*, pp. 1-12. Routledge, 2018.

Academic Conference Papers and Presentations

- Fahmida Zaman. Contemporary Developments in Digital Authoritarianism Techniques, *2023 APSA Annual Meeting and Exhibition*, August 31-September 3, 2023, Los Angeles, California.

- Fahmida Zaman. Mechanisms of Digital Authoritarianism in Non-democracies, *Midwest Political Science Association*, April 13-April 16, 2023, Chicago, Illinois.
- Fahmida Zaman. “Mechanisms and Motivations of Digital Authoritarianism: The Case of Bangladesh,” *Bangladesh: A Critical Retrospection of the Past and Forethought of the Future*. The American Institute of Bangladesh Studies (AIBS) & South Asia Institute. November 4-5, 2022, University of Texas, Austin.
- Fahmida Zaman. Why Do Governments Attempts to Control the Internet?, *2021 APSA Annual Meeting and Exhibition*, September 30-October 3, 2021, (Virtual).
- Fahmida Zaman. Social Movements in Bangladesh and Implications for Democracy and State Capacity. *46th Annual Conference on South Asia*, October 16-20, 2019, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Fahmida Zaman. Memories and Identities: 1947 Indian Partition in Bangladeshi Literature. 25th Annual Illinois State University Conference for Students of Political Science, April 21, 2017, Illinois State University.
- Fahmida Zaman. Bangladesh’s Failed State Formation Process and Current Political Turmoil. *45th Annual Conference on South Asia*, October 20-23, 2016, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Fahmida Zaman. The Politics of Fear: Iran’s Nuclear Program and Western Media. *Midwest Political Science Association 74th Annual Conference*, April 7-10, 2016, Chicago.
- Fahmida Zaman. Death of 1947 in Bangladesh’s Popular Memory. *Thirteenth Annual South Asia Graduate Student Conference: Dying in South Asia*, March 3-4, 2016, University of Chicago.
- Fahmida Zaman. Social Movements and Lessons from Bangladesh. *Bangladesh Development and Democracy: Current Problems and Prospect*, November 6-8, 2015, University of California Berkeley.

Academic Research Awards and Fellowships

- Doctoral Fellowship for Excellence, 2023-2024, University of Delaware.
- Graduate Student Fellowship, 2023, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies.
- Summer Doctoral Fellowship, 2022 & 2020, University of Delaware.
- H. Khan Award for Excellence in Graduate Research, 2022, University of Delaware.
- James R. Soles Graduate Grants in Political Science, 2021, University of Delaware.
- Professional Development Award, 2019, University of Delaware.
- Outstanding Graduate Student, 2017, Illinois State University.
- Lela Winegarner Fellow, 2016, Illinois State University.
- Alice Ebel Scholarship, 2015 & 2016, Illinois State University.
- Dr. Muhammad Yunus Fellow, Asian University for Women.

Research Experiences in the United States

Research Consultant, Media and Democracy, Freedom House, May 2022 – November 2022

- Creating research reports, literature reviews as well as assisting with designing the research methodology.
- Monitoring key trends and preparing case studies on the media markets of 10 countries in Europe (Germany, Italy, France, Poland, Hungary, Estonia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine, Russia) and the United States.
- Developing a network of regional and thematic experts to serve as contributors based in Europe.
- Strengthening thematic expertise within Freedom House and providing input at internal and external meetings.

Summer Researcher, Asia Program, Freedom House, Washington D.C. June 2021 - August 2021

- Produced two recourse reports on Civil Society in India and Religious Freedom in South Asia.
- Provided expert knowledge on the state of internet freedom in South Asia for Freedom on the Net reports.
- Participated in cross-pillar meetings with across teams to support collaborative research projects.

Summer Researcher, Asia Program, Wilson Center, Washington D.C. June 2020 - August 2020

- Interviewed experts in Bangladesh and Washington D.C. on Bangladesh’s COVID-19 response and impacts.

- Created weekly media reports focusing on Bangladesh and wrote opinion pieces on Digital Authoritarianism.

Research Assistant, Department of Government, Illinois State University, August 2015 - June 2017

- Served as the research assistant for *Lived Islam and Islamism in Bangladesh* (Protoma, 2017) by Dr. Ali Riaz; *Bangladesh: A Political History since Independence* (I.B. Tauris, 2016) by Dr. Ali Riaz; *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Bangladesh* (Routledge, 2016) by Dr. Ali Riaz and Mohammad Sajjadur Rahman.

Teaching Experiences

Instructor, Department of Political Science and IR, University of Delaware, Winter 2022

- Developing the curriculum and teaching higher level undergraduate course titled Topic in International Relations with a focus in digital authoritarianism, disinformation, and democracy

Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science and IR, University of Delaware, August 2019 - Present

- Politics and the Environment (Spring 2022).
- Introduction to American Politics (Fall 2021) with teaching responsibilities for discussion sections.
- Research Methods for Political Science (Spring 2021) with teaching responsibilities for discussion sections.
- Introduction to American Politics (Fall 2020) with teaching responsibilities for discussion sections.
- Introduction to Global Politics (Spring 2020) with teaching responsibilities for discussion sections.
- Introduction to Comparative Politics (Fall 2019).

Senior Fellow, Asian University for Women, Bangladesh, August 2018 - July 2019

- Taught a social analysis undergraduate course titled *Politics, Memory, and Identity in South Asia*.
- Guest lectured on nationalism and identity politics as well as leading class discussions in upper-level political science courses such as Global Politics (Fall 2018), Women and Islamic Law (Spring 2019), The United Nations (Spring 2019).

Curriculum Development Expert, Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center, June 2017 - July 2018

- Instructed 40+ students in the 10-week leadership training programs
- Designed curriculum for BRAC-BYLC's *Amra Notun Youth Changemaker's Network* fellowship program focusing on critical thinking, communication, and leadership skills for Bangladeshi youth.

Non-Academic Publications

- Fahmida Zaman and Co-authors, [Race Against Time: How will Rival Powers Lead on Green Innovation](#), Center for Strategic and International Studies, December 10, 2021
- Fahmida Zaman, [Digital Authoritarianism in Bangladesh: What You Need to Know](#), November 8, 2020, The National Interest
- Fahmida Zaman, [2010s: The Decade of Protests](#) January 08, 2020, The Daily Star
- Fahmida Zaman, [Where is thy freedom on the Internet?](#) December 27, 2019, The Daily Star
- Fahmida Zaman, [The 1947 phenomenon: in search of new voices](#), August 25, 2017, The Daily Star
- Fahmida Zaman, [Suffering from an identity crisis?](#) April 14, 2017, The Daily Star

Additional Trainings and Volunteer Work

- Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research: research methods training on Qualitative Research, Process Tracing, Geographic Information Systems, and others at Syracuse University from June 12-25, 2022.
- CSIS Journalism Bootcamp, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS): participated in the weeklong journalism bootcamp at CSIS and worked with CSIS iDeas Lab to produce a 2,500 words multimedia article based on research and interviews with experts from December 4-11, 2021.
- Member, Biden Institute Student Advisory Council, University of Delaware 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

- Member, Voting and Civic Engagement Committee, Biden Institute, University of Delaware, 2019-2020.

Research and Language Skills

Qualitative: Interviewing, case studies, comparative analysis, focus group research; **Quantitative:** surveys research, content analysis; **Data Analysis Tools:** Stata, R, NVivo; **Languages:** Bengali (native), English (fluent), Hindi (speaking and listening).

Professional Membership

American Political Science Association, 2020 – Present
American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, 2019 – Present
European Association of South Asian Studies, 2020 – Present

Peer-Review for Journals

- Journal of Bangladesh Studies
- Journal of Contemporary Asia