

MAITHREYI GOPALAN

Department of Education Policy Studies (734)-604-4393
The Pennsylvania State University smg632@psu.edu
302B, Rackley Building, University Park, PA 16802 <https://ed.psu.edu/directory/smg632>

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Department of Education Policy Studies Aug 2018 - Present
The Pennsylvania State University

Co-Funded Faculty, Social Science Research Institute Aug 2018 - Present
The Pennsylvania State University

Faculty Affiliate, Population Research Institute Aug 2018 - Present
The Pennsylvania State University

Assistant Professor (By courtesy), School of Public Policy Jan 2019 - Present
The Pennsylvania State University

EDUCATION

PhD, Public Affairs 2018
Paul O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA), Indiana University,
Bloomington, IN
Major Fields: Policy Analysis and Public Finance; Minor: Psychology

MA, Economics 2004
Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, India

BA, Economics 2002
University of Madras, Chennai, India

PUBLICATIONS

+ Indicates equal authorship; Graduate student co-authors underlined

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Yang, L.K.. & **Gopalan, M.**, The Effect of School Shootings on School District Finance and Staffing Decisions (Forthcoming at *Education Finance and Policy*).

Murphy, M.C., **Gopalan, M.**, Carter, E., Emerson, K., Bottoms, B., Walton, G. (2020). Effects of a social-psychological intervention on persistence and academic achievement of freshmen students in a large public university. *Science Advances*, 6(29), eaba4677.

<https://advances.sciencemag.org/content/6/29/eaba4677>

Gopalan, M., Rosinger, K. & Ahn, J. (2020) Use of Quasi-Experimental Research Designs in Educational Research: Growth, Promise, and Challenges. *Review of Research in Education*, 44(1). <https://doi.org/10.3102/0091732X20903302>

Gopalan, M., † & Brady, S. T. † (2020). College students' sense of belonging: A national perspective. *Educational Researcher*, 49(2). <https://doi.org/10.3102/0013189X19897622>

Gopalan, M. (2019). Understanding the Linkages between Racial/Ethnic Discipline gaps and Racial/Ethnic Achievement Gaps in the US. *Educational Policy Analysis Archives*, 27, 154. <https://doi.org/10.14507/epaa.27.4469>

Yeager, D. S., Hanselman, P., Walton, G. M., Murray, J. S., Crosnoe, R., Muller, C., ...**Gopalan, M.,**...Dweck, C. S. (2019). A national experiment reveals where a growth mindset improves achievement. *Nature*, 573 (7774). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-1466-y>

Awarded Best Publication in 2019 by Behavioral Science and Policy Association

Gopalan, M., & Nelson, A. A. (2019). Understanding the Racial Discipline Gap in Schools. *AERA Open*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2332858419844613>

Among top-10 most read articles in *AERA Open* in the first quarter of 2020

Gopalan, M. & Pirog, M. (2017). Applying Behavioral Insights in Policy Analysis: Recent Trends in the United States. *Policy Studies Journal*, 45: S82–S114. <https://doi.org/10.1111/psj.12202>

Publications Under-Review or Revision

Bullinger, L.†, **Gopalan, M.**†, & Lombardi, C.† Impacts of Publicly Funded Health Insurance for Adults on Children's Academic Achievement (Working Paper Available here: <https://edworkingpapers.org/sites/default/files/ai21-406.pdf>).

Gopalan, M.†, Lombardi, C.† & Bullinger, L.† Effects of Parental Public Health Insurance Eligibility on Parent and Child Health Outcomes (Working Paper Available).

Gopalan, M., Linden-Carmichael, A. & Lanza, S. College Students' Sense of Belonging and Mental Health Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic (Working Paper Available).

Gopalan, M. & Edara, R., Health Policies as Education Policies? A Review Of Causal Evidence And Mechanisms (Working Paper Available)

Works in Progress (Selected)

Gopalan, M., Hanselman, P., Yeager, D., Does Being a Learner Really Matter? Estimating Impacts of Learning-Oriented Behaviors on Adolescent Achievement Using Data from a Multisite Randomized Control Trial (Working Paper Available).

Gopalan, M. & Lewis, M., Civil Rights Complaints Against School Districts in the US: A Descriptive Exploration.

Lombardi, C.† & Bullinger, L.† & **Gopalan, M.**† Effects of Parental Health Insurance Eligibility on Health-Related Financial Well-being.

Other Publications (Book Reviews, Reports, Preprints, and Permanent Working Papers)

Gopalan, M. (2020) Review of Ghosts in the Schoolyard: Racism and School Closings on Chicago's South Side by Eve L. Ewing. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. *American Journal of Education*.

Gopalan, M., & Tipton, E. (2018) Is the National Study of Learning Mindsets Nationally Representative?. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/dvmr7> (Preprint)

Lozano, F., † **Gopalan, M.**, † Pirog, M. Expanding Access to Underrepresented Students in Universities: The Impact of a Subsidized Student Loan Program in Colombia (Working Paper Available).

Nelson, A.A, **Gopalan, M.**, Farnworth, M (2017). Disproportionality in Indiana: Racial and Special Education Disparities in Student Disciplinary Outcomes. A report prepared for the Indiana Department of Education.

COMPETITIVE GRANTS & AWARDS*

Funded

American Educational Research Association – Study of Deeper Learning (AERA-SDL)

Fellowship

2020-2021

Teacher Mindsets and Instructional Practices for Supporting Deeper Learning in High School Students (\$24,997)

Funding Agency: William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Spencer Foundation

2020-2021

The Effect of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Medicaid Expansions on Children's

Development (\$41,650)

Population Research Institute, The Pennsylvania State University 2019-2020
Seed Grant for The Effect of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Medicaid Expansions on
Child Health and Development (\$7,500 Seed Grant)

National Study of Learning Mindsets Early Career Fellow 2018-2019
Exploring Treatment Compliance and Effects of Mediating Processes of Growth
Mindset Interventions on Student Achievement (\$8,000)
Funding Agency: Bezos Family Foundation; Support from Mindset Scholars Network
and the University of Texas at Austin's Population Research Center

National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation 2017-2018
Examining Disparities in Non-Cognitive Educational Outcomes in the United States
(\$27,500)

Russell Sage Foundation and William T Grant Foundation Jan-May 2017
Understanding the Linkages between Racial Achievement Gap and Racial Disciplinary
Gap in the U.S (\$6,086)

Character Lab 2016-2019
Re-thinking Discipline in "no-excuses" charter schools: A randomized intervention to
decrease adverse disciplinary outcomes (\$348,000)
PI: Mary Murphy
Role: Co-author of grant proposal

Under Review

National Institute of Health K01 – Primary Investigator
Impact of Adolescent Mental Health on Life Course Outcomes in the Transition to
Adulthood: A Biopsychosocial Perspective (\$646,152)

National Institute of Health R21 – Co-Investigator (PI: Ashley Linden-Carmichael)
Coordinated Data Analysis to Assess Short- and Long-Term Changes in College
Student Alcohol Use Patterns Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic (\$441,379)

* Role: Principal Investigator unless otherwise specified

OTHER HONORS AND AWARDS

National Study of Learning Mindsets Visiting Fellow Jan 2020 – May 2020
Population Research Center, University of Texas, Austin

School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University

Aug 2017

Merit-based Fellowship Award (\$3,000)

Educational Pioneers Graduate Fellow

June 2013 – Aug 2013

Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

2020 International Conference of Experimental Public Management Research, Korea Development Institute School of Public Policy and Management, December, 2020

2019 International Conference of Experimental Public Management Research, Korea Development Institute School of Public Policy and Management, Seoul, December, 2019

How does adopting a Growth Mindset Improve Academic Performance? Probing the Underlying Mechanisms in a Nationally-Representative Sample. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Mindset Scholars Network, October, 2019

Exploring Treatment Compliance and Effects of Mediating Processes of Growth Mindset Interventions on Student Achievement. University of Texas, Austin Population Research Center, September, 2018.

Disentangling the Racial Disciplinary Gap in the US. Penn State College of Education, The Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA. December, 2017.

Social Psychological Insights for Education Policy – Context Matters. MDRC, NY. November, 2017.

Understanding the Linkages Between Racial Achievement Gaps and Racial Disciplinary Gaps in the US. Russell Sage Foundation and WT Grant Foundation Meeting on Improving Education and Reducing Inequality in the United States: Obtaining New Insights from Population-Based Academic Performance Data. New York, NY. September, 2017.

First Day of Class: Authentic Learning From the First Day and Beyond. Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning Panel, Indiana University. Bloomington, IN. August, 2015.

Conference (Selected)

2021: Association of Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference

2020: Association of Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference

- American Education Research Association Annual Conference (Cancelled due to Covid-19); Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference
- 2019: Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness Annual Conference
Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference
- 2018: Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Conference
American Education Research Association Annual Conference
- 2017: Association of Public Policy and Management Fall Conference
Western Economic Association International Conference
- 2016: Association of Public Policy and Management Fall Conference
Association of Education Finance and Policy Annual Conference
- 2015: Association of Public Policy and Management Fall Conference
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Association of SPEA PhD Students Annual Conference

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Institute for Research on Innovation & Science Summer Institute June 2020
Selected Participant- Big Data in Social and Education Sciences at University of Michigan

Institute of Education Sciences (IES) Summer Institute July 2019
Selected Participant- IES Cluster Randomized Training at Northwestern University

Columbia Population Research Center Workshop June 2016
Selected Participant- Fragile Families Summer Data Workshop at Columbia University

Harvard Kennedy School Behavioral Insights Workshop June 2017
Selected Participant- Behavioral Insights Group Doctoral Workshop at Harvard Business School

TEACHING

The Pennsylvania State University

- Education Theory and Policy - Proseminar Fall 2020 - Present
Graduate Seminar
- Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Educational Inequality Jan 2019 - Present
Graduate Seminar
- Economic Foundations of Education Policy Aug 2018 - Present
Undergraduate course

Indiana University[±]

Statistical Modeling and Research Methods–V370 Undergraduate course	Jan 2017 - May 2017
Macroeconomics for Public Affairs – V260 Undergraduate course	Jan 2014 - May 2015
Statistics for Research in Public Affairs-V606, V607 Doctoral course (Teaching Assistant)	Aug 2015 - May 2017

± Instructor of Record unless otherwise specified

Graduate Student Supervision

Rohitha Edara, PhD, Chair
Ruxandra Apostolescu, PhD, Committee Member
Keiana Mayfield, PhD – Human Development and Family Studies, Outside Committee Member
Israa Samarin, Workforce Education and Development, Outside Committee Member
Jee Bin Ahn, PhD, Committee Member (Graduated: 2020)
Emma Thompson, MA, Chair (Graduated: 2020)
Jessica Kim-Schmid, MA, Chair (Graduated: 2020)
Samantha Koon, MA, Chair (Graduated: 2021)

SERVICE

Department Service:	Graduate Admissions Committee, Education Theory and Policy Program (PhD and MA); Curricular Review Committee for Education Policy Studies
College Service:	Graduate Studies and Research Policy Committee, Search Committee for Grants & Contracts Manager
University Service:	SSRI Faculty Burden Committee, SSRI Seed Grants Reviewer
Other Service:	Served on the COVID-19 Health Equity Response Team, PA Department of Health, Office of Health Equity
Reviewer:	Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Educational Researcher, Psychological Science, Educational Policy Analysis Archives, Policy and Politics, American Educational Research Journal, Journal of Adolescence, American Journal of Education, AERA Open, Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis, Economics of Education Review
Professional Memberships:	Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management

Other Affiliations: American Educational Research Association
Association of Education Finance and Policy
Society for Research of Educational Effectiveness
Research Affiliate, [The College Transition Collaborative](#)
Association of SPEA Ph.D. Students Executive Board
(2013-2016)

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

[Education Week](#), [EdSurge](#), [FutureEd](#), [Inside Higher Ed](#), [Education Dive](#),
Inside Higher Ed ([here](#) and [here](#)), [74Million](#)

OTHER EXPERIENCE

UBS AG Associate Director (Portfolio Risk Research Analyst) London, United Kingdom	Jun 2011 – Jun 2012
Moody's Analytics UK Ltd. Associate (Portfolio Advisory Services) London, United Kingdom	Dec 2008 – Jun 2011
Dun & Bradstreet Predictive Sciences & Analytics Pvt. Ltd. Manager (Analytics Sciences) Chennai, India	Nov 2006 – Nov 2008
GE Consumer Finance India - Bankcards Assistant Manager (Risk Analytics) New Delhi, India	Jun 2005 – Nov 2006