

Priyanka Vyas

Doctoral Candidate

Public Policy and Political Economy Program

School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

800 West Campbell, Richardson, TX 75080

University of Texas at Dallas

Email: priyanka.vyas@utdallas.edu

My website: <http://priyankavyas.info>

ABOUT: I joined the PhD program in public policy and political economy at the University of Texas, Dallas in August 2012, a year after I obtained my master's degree in public administration and policy from North Carolina State University. My research interests were shaped while I worked as a journalist for a leading business newspaper in New Delhi. Since then I have been interested in issues related to how governments can improve the quality and the delivery of services, scaling of innovative models in government services, among others.

At present I have developed a profound interest in applying the theories of geography towards finding solutions for health policy problems. If our research interests can be influenced by the air we breathe, then I owe my interest in the field to the department of Geographic Information Sciences under the umbrella of EPPS. Over the past two years I have spent significant time developing skills in spatial statistics and pattern analysis for health.

Research Interests: Access to health services and delivery, quality, health services utilization pattern, health geography, innovation, and accountability in health, disease mapping, spatio-temporal patterns, spatial statistics

Additionally I have experience and interest in content analysis, survey design, in-depth interviews, and conducting focus groups. My expertise in software includes R, Stata, Arcgis, Geoda, QDA Miner, Nvivo, and to an extent SAS

EDUCATION:

- University of Texas at Dallas 2016
PhD in Public Policy and Political Economy
 - North Carolina State University 2011
Master of Public Administration & Policy,
 - Wilson College, Mumbai 2006
B.A, Political Science
-

ONGOING PROJECTS:

- Spatial analysis of child immunization in Bangladesh at the community level
 - Modeling the theory of urban hierarchy and central place to predict health services utilization pattern in a developing country
 - Evaluating the role of spatial tools for health policy making and intervention analysis in developing countries
 - Analyzing causes of fall and struck by accidents affecting construction workers in the gulf countries using content analysis of accident records
 - Analyzing corruption in public sector programs in India using content analysis
-

PAST PROJECTS:

- Field work in Bangladesh in May 2014 based on an expert survey of government officials, non-profit organizations on the application of GIS for health policy decision-making in Bangladesh
 - Independent consultant for GIS maps for University of Manchester, UK
 - Extraction of demographic information from life tables in multiple countries from February 2012 to July 2012 for Dr. Karen Eggleston, Director, Walter H Shorenstein Asia Pacific Research Center, Stanford
-

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS:

- UT Southwestern Global Health Student Conference 2015
 - Association of Policy Analysis and Management Conference 2014
 - Western Social Science Association Conference 2013
 - Winner of a student policy team debate at American Society of Public Administration conference 2011
 - Represented North Carolina State University in a global health case competition organized by Triangle Global Health Consortium 2011
-

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Graduate Teaching Assistant at the University of Texas, Dallas 2013-14

- Assisted undergraduate students for the course in statistics for social sciences with lab for fall and spring 2013
- Assisted graduate students in quantitative data analysis course for fall 2014

Research Assistant at the University of Texas, Dallas 2013-14

- Analyzed 500 plus accident records using content analysis software QDA Miner

- Involved in conception, design, and creation of a survey instrument for field study on the role of GIS for health policy making in Bangladesh in summer of 2014
- Assisted in grant writing to an associate professor for the EPPS Dean's Advisory Grants Council

Research Assistant at Stanford University, Palo Alto 2012

- Involved in extraction of demographic information and calculating median survival age for men and women from life tables for several countries

Talley Student Center at North Carolina State University 2009-11

- Respond to student and parent queries about NC State University or any campus activities
- Ensure that customer needs are met for student center events

Policy Research Intern at Public School Forum at North Carolina 2010

- Cross-country analysis of education indicators and policy outcomes
- Collected information and data from various government websites and policy research institutes and responded to legislative or stakeholder queries
- Research supported forum's annual study group, which takes stock of research issues to be taken up by organization
- Updated Education Policy Primers-a 14 section report encompassing issues ranging from school accountability, choice and No Child Left Behind to school finance teachers, dropouts and school violence and student achievement
- Designed independently an evaluation survey on the forum's Education Policy Fellowship Program

Senior Reporter at Hindu Business Line 2006-09

- Gathered information, discovered industry trends and reported daily stories on insurance, banking, IT and the automobile industries
- Interviewed top officials like Chief Executive Officers, Chief Financial Officers of top domestic and multinational companies, senior government officials and industry lobbying bodies, non-government organizations and ordinary people at the grass roots level affected by certain issues
- Researched data, analyzed numbers to follow trends in the global automobile industry
- Commissioned to attend Asia Pacific sales meet of BMW at Tokyo, Good Year Tires at Kuala Lumpur and KLM Airlines at Amsterdam