

KAARISH SHAH MANIAR

kkm2152@columbia.edu | kaarishshahmaniar.com

EDUCATION

Columbia University

New York, N.Y.

Ph.D. Political Science (Political Theory)

Exp. 2027

Dissertation: *The Monopoly Question: Corporations & 'Economic' Constitution in Early Modern England*

Supervisors: Turkuler Isiksel (Chair), David C. Johnston

Minor: History (distinction)

M.Phil. Political Science

2025

M.A. Political Science

2024

Georgetown University

Washington, D.C.

A.B. Government

2020

Thesis (distinction): *Monopoly as Private Government: Antitrust in Pursuit of Democracy*

Committee: Stefan Eich (Chair), Shannon C. Stimson, Joseph Hartman

Minor: Philosophy, Economics

OTHER EDUCATION

University of Oxford

Oxford, U.K.

Visiting Student, Department of Politics & International Relations

2025 – 2026

Associate Member, Oriel College

Supervisor: Teresa M. Bejan

Folger Shakespeare Institute

Washington, D.C.

Early Modern English Paleography Summer Course

2025

Supervisor: Heather Wolfe

RESEARCH

Publications

“Levelling Monsters: Monopoly, Rights, and Public Authority,” *Modern Intellectual History* (Forthcoming)

“Corporation as Oligarch, Monopoly as Mechanism,” *Political Theory* (Revise & Resubmit)

“Monopoly,” *Political Concepts* (Revise & Resubmit)

Works in Progress

A paper that identifies connective tissue between early Americans’ and seventeenth century English radicals’ conceptions of common law juries as popular legislators.

A paper situating the university’s corporate structure at the nexus between feudal guild and modern corporation.

A paper investigating medieval and early modern conceptions of predatory pricing, price discrimination, and equality on the market.

A paper on monopolies in the poetry of George Wither, whom the Levellers often reprinted and recommended.

A paper synthesizing the role of commerce, contracts, corporations, and merchants across Kant’s writings.

EMPLOYMENT

Columbia University

New York, N.Y.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- 'Introduction to Political Theory' (Prof. Karuna Mantena) *Fall 2024, 2026*
- 'Democracy, Technology, and the Public Sphere' (Dr. Xavier Flory) *Spring 2026*
- 'Modern Political Thought' (Prof. Nadia Urbinati) *Spring 2024, 2025*
- 'Introduction to Political Theory' (Dr. Nathan Feldman) *Summer 2024*
- 'Democracy: Principles, Critics, and Problems' (Prof. Nadia Urbinati) *Fall 2023*
- 'Democracy: Theory & Practice' (Dr. David Ragazzoni) *Summer 2023*

Research Assistant for Professor Suresh Naidu (Economics)

2025 – Present

Lumiere Education

2023 – Present

Mentor

- Supervise high school students' independent research projects lasting 9 to 15 weeks. Design customized syllabi, conduct weekly tutorials, and offer ongoing feedback on students' work.
- Supervised ten papers in history and political science, including: Greek and Roman popular rhetorical style, the Chinese Exclusion Act and elite politics, Alice Paul's feminist theory, ancient influence in Churchill's thought, democratic thought during Indian partition, and South Korean *chaebols* and competition policy.

U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division

Washington, D.C.

Paralegal Specialist, Technology & Digital Platforms Section

2020 – 2022

- Contributed to [*U.S. v. Google*](#) from preliminary investigation through litigation, culminating in the August 2024 federal ruling finding Google in violation of Sherman Act Section 2.
- Reviewed 51 Hart-Scott-Rodino Act merger filings, exceeding \$76 billion in aggregate deal value. Recommended investigations that resulted in an FTC referral and multiple preliminary investigations.
- Assisted with private equity roll-up investigations under a pilot internal tracking program. Identified multiple Clayton Act Section 8 interlocking directorates, which prompted the formation of a dedicated front office litigation team.

Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider, LLP

Hartford, CT & Washington, D.C.

Marketing, Recruiting & Paralegal Assistant

2017 – 2018

- Assisted paralegals in discrete research, editing, and proofreading tasks for ongoing antitrust litigation and intellectual property matters.
- Supported recruiting and marketing divisions in preparing annual award submissions, promoting attorney thought leadership, identifying potential lateral hires, and coordinating public-facing programming.

COURSES

'Monopoly, Markets, and Morality'

'The Theory of Oligarchy'

'Introduction to Political Theory'

'Modern Political Thought'

'Democratic Thought'

'Corporations in Politics'

GRANTS & AWARDS

Graduate Student Research Grant, Institute for Social & Economic Research & Policy <i>Before Antitrust: Recovering Early Modern Anti-Monopoly Thought & Strategy</i>	2026
Giancarlo Doria Prize, Columbia Department of Political Science <i>Levelling Monsters: Monopoly, Rights, and Public Authority</i>	2025
Graduate Student Grant, Columbia World Projects Center for Political Economy <i>Monopoly & the Origins of Democracy in 17th Century England</i>	2025
Dissertation Development Grant, Columbia Department of Political Science	2025

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

Program titles vary

“Sir Edward Coke: Monopoly and the Liberty of Livelihood”

Association for Political Theory – Oct. 2026	Ann Arbor, MI
Academic Society for Competition Law (Refereed) – July 2026	London, UK
Association for Law and Political Economy – Feb. 2026	Richmond, VA

“Between Rights and Liberty: Thomas Paine on Monopoly”

Philosophy Politics & Economics Society – July 2026	London, UK
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“Common Sense & Common Law: From Artificial Reason to Democratic Jury”

University College London, Early America Workshop – July 2026	London, UK
European Law Unbound Society – Sept. 2025	Prague, CZ

“Levelling Monsters: Monopoly, Rights, and Public Authority”

Oxford Political Thought Seminar (Invited Talk) – Nov. 2025	Oxford, UK
American Political Science Association – August 2024	Philadelphia, PA
Midwest Political Science Association – April 2024	Chicago, IL

“Collusion, Combination, and Conspiracy: Monopoly & American Oligarchy”

Philosophy Politics & Economics Society – July 2025	London, UK
Western Political Science Association – April 2025	Seattle, WA

“Monopoly (Before Economics)”

LPE Meets Heterodox Economics, Yale Law School – April 2025	New Haven, CT
Graduate Conference of Political Concepts, New School – March 2025	New York, NY
Oxford Graduate Conference in Political Theory, Nuffield College – April 2023	Oxford, UK

SERVICE

Political Theory Seminar, Columbia University <i>Graduate Student Coordinator</i>	2026 – 2027
Festschrift Honoring Prof. Jean L. Cohen <i>Graduate Student Coordinator</i>	2026

Law & Political Economy Society, Columbia Law School <i>External Affairs Officer</i>	2023 – Present
Alumni Admissions Program, Georgetown University <i>Interviewer</i>	2020 – Present
University Seminars: Studies in Political & Social Thought, Columbia University <i>Rapporteur</i>	2024 – 2025
Graduate Student Conference in Political Theory, Columbia University <i>Lead Conference Organizer</i>	2024 – 2025
Political Science Graduate Student Council, Columbia University <i>Linkage Chair</i>	2023 – 2024
Undergraduate Honors Thesis Seminar, Columbia University <i>Graduate Advisor</i>	2023 – 2024
Mark T. Sheehan High School Mock Trial Organization <i>Mentor</i>	2016 – 2022

LANGUAGES & SKILLS

English (Native proficiency)
Gujarati (Native speaking proficiency)
Hindi (Elementary speaking proficiency)
Spanish (Advanced speaking, reading, writing proficiency)
Latin (Basic reading proficiency)
French (Basic speaking, reading, writing proficiency)
Early modern paleography

REFERENCES

N. Turkuler Isiksel

Associate Professor of Political Science
Columbia University

David C. Johnston

Professor of Political Science
Columbia University

Karuna Mantena

Professor of Political Science
Columbia University

Teresa M. Bejan

Professor of Political Theory
University of Oxford

Richard R. John

Professor of History & Communications
Columbia University

Nadia Urbinati

Kyriakos Tsakopoulos Professor of Political Theory
Columbia University