

# Sima Biondi

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## Education

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September 2022 – ongoing	<b>Harvard University</b> <i>Ph.D. Candidate</i> in Government <i>Graduate Affiliate</i> , Institute for Quantitative Social Science
September 2015 – June 2019	<b>Stanford University</b> <i>B.A.</i> in Political Science <i>Minor</i> in Mathematical and Computational Science

## Research Interests

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Political economy, historical state-building, inequality, corruption, colonialism

## Research in Progress

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- \* "Concentrating like a colonist: land inequality in British Egypt"
  - Colonialism's consequences for within-country land inequality are undertheorized. Focusing on British Egypt, this project argues that variation in the protectorate state's legibility exacerbated land inequality.
- \* "A Monarch's MapQuest: How ruler-elite relations shape state power"
  - Leveraging the exogenous shock of the Black Death, this project tests social theories of state-building developed in primarily non-Western contexts to a well-trodden case in the canonical state-building literature: late medieval England.
- \* "Corruption is a Governing Sin: Patrimonialism and State Formation"

## Fellowships and Grants

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April 2024	<b>NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program</b> <i>Honorable Mention</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Awarded Honorable Mention in the National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP) competition for "Corruption is a Governing Sin: Patrimonialism and State Formation"</li></ul>
August 2023	<b>Stone Ph.D. Scholarship in Inequality and Wealth Concentration</b> <i>Fellowship</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Awarded 1-year fellowship from Harvard Kennedy School's Stone Program in Wealth Distribution, Inequality, and Social Policy for ongoing research on historical corruption and state building</li></ul>
May 2023	<b>NSF, Society for Political Methodology</b> <i>Conference Grant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Awarded NSF grant to attend the Society for Political Methodology's annual conference (PolMeth) in July 2023</li></ul>

April 2023 | **Institute of Quantitative Social Science**

*Research Grant*

- Awarded IQSS Research Grant to conduct archival research at the Archivo de las Indias (AGI) in Seville, Spain for ongoing research project with Professor Yuhua Wang on Spanish colonial patronage

## Conferences

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July 2023 | **A Monarch's MapQuest: How ruler-elite relations shape state power**

*Poster Presentation*

- Presented at the Society of Political Methodology's Conference 2023 at Stanford University, CA.

## Work Experience

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November 2020 – | **University of Chicago Law School, Law and Economics Institute**

June 2022 | *Research Specialist for Professor Eric Posner*

## Skills and Languages

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**Software:** R, Python, LaTeX

**Languages:** Spanish (proficient), Italian (proficient), Farsi (basic), Arabic (basic)