

SHOWRAY PAUL

Department of Government and Politics | University of Maryland, College Park

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ACADEMIC CREDENTIAL(S)

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Fall 2026- Continue

Department of Government and Politics

University of Maryland, College Park

Master of Arts (MA)

Fall 2024 – Spring 2026

Department of Political Science, The University of

CGPA 3.98/4.00

Memphis, Memphis, TN 38152

Graduation: 9th May 2026

Master of Arts (MA)

CGPA 3.43/4.00

Department of Political Studies, Shahjalal University of

2021-2022

Science and Technology, Sylhet-3114, Bangladesh

Result published: 12th March, 2024

Bachelor of Social Science (BSS)

CGPA 3.39/4.00

Department of Political Studies, Shahjalal University of

(2017-2021)

Science and Technology, Sylhet-3114, Bangladesh

Result published: 16th May 2023

RESEARCH AREA(S)

International Relations, Political Methods, and Coercive/Persuasive Foreign Policy

MASTER'S THESIS

Economic Sanctions and State Capacity in Target Countries

Chair: Dr. Dursun Peksen; Committee Members: Dr. James Fahey, Dr. Matthias Kaelberer

PUBLICATION(S)

Bhuiyan, M. S., Paul, S., & Abdussabur, M. (2024). Revisiting the causes and effects of recurrent floods in the haor region of Sunamganj, Bangladesh: Evidence from the 2022 flash flood. *Asia Social Issues*, 17(5), e264552-e264552.

BOOK CHAPTER (S)

Akter, F., Paul, S. & Peksen, D. (2025). Economic Sanctions and Human Rights Conditions in Sanctioned Countries. In *Global Perspectives on US Human Rights Diplomacy in the 21st Century*, edited by Fessmann, J., Perez, M. V., Delavega, E., & Gray, M.M.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION(S)

“Economic Sanctions and Foreign Aid: Do Combined Strategies Contribute to Fewer or More Human Rights Violations?”, *Midwest Political Science Association*, 22nd-26th April 2026, Chicago, IL.

“Political Engagement, Strategic Interest, and Lobbying: A Case Study Analysis of Diaspora Influence on U.S. Military and Security Cooperation,” *Northwest Political Science Association*, 06-08 November 2025, Philadelphia.

“Mobilization or Demobilization? How the Accessibility of the Internet and Social/Digital Media Matters,” *Georgia Political Science Association, 05-07 November 2025, St. Simons Island, Georgia (Accepted)*

“From Screens to Streets: Did Digital Platforms Fueled Bangladesh’s 2024 Student-led Protests?” *1st International Conference on Politics, Society and Development, 31 January- 01 February 2025, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet-3114, Bangladesh.*

“Causes and Consequences of Recurrent Floods in Bangladesh: A Study in Sunamganj District”, *2nd International Conference on Social Work and Sustainable Social Development, 5-7 January 2023, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet-3114, Bangladesh.*

WORK(S) IN PROGRESS

“Economic Sanctions and Foreign Aid: Do Combined Strategies Contribute to Fewer or More Human Rights Violations?”

“The Casual Relationship between Economic Sanctions and Political Mobilization: Assessing Collective Mobilization in Target Regimes”

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE(S)

Research Assistant, Coding and updating the “The Government-imposed Restrictions on International Economic Relations (GRIER)”, a new sanctions dataset project funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), Dr. Dursun Peksen (Fall 2025)

Research Assistant, Coding and updating the “*Extraterritorial Voting Rights and Restrictions Dataset (EVRR)*”, Dr. Elizabeth Wellman (*Summer, 2025*)

Research Assistant at “Integration and Development: An analysis of the Strategic Dynamics of Regional Organizations”, SUST Research Centre (*September 2023- July 2024*)

Research Assistant at “Political Influences on Environmental Movements Concerning Climate Change in Bangladesh”, SUST Research Centre (*July 2022- June 2023*)

Research Assistant at “Bangladesh- India Economic Relations: A study on Cross-Border Trade, SUST Research Centre” (*July 2021- June 2022*)

Research Assistant at “Activities of Rohingya: An Analysis of Enterprises in and Around the Rohingya Camps in Bangladesh-2022, SUST Research Centre (*July 2021- June 2022*)

Data Enumerator and Transcriber at “Climate Vulnerability Prediction using Machine Learning Techniques in Wetland Zones of Sunamganj in Bangladesh, SUST Research Centre

Data Enumerator and Data Transcriber at “Y- Just: Building Sustainable and Equitable Futures in Bangladesh”, YouthNet Global (*August 2023- November 2023*)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE(S) | Department of Political Science, University of Memphis
TA, POLS 3506 – American Foreign Policy, Dr. Dursun Peksen, Spring 2026
TA, POLS 1301 – Comparative Politics, Dr. Wellman, Spring 2026
TA, POLS 3303 – African Politics, Dr. Wellman, Fall 2025
TA, POLS 1301 – Introduction to Comparative Politics, Dr. Wellman, Fall 2025
TA, POLS 1102 – Introduction to Modern Thought, Dr. Molly Henderson, Spring 2025
TA, POLS 1102 – Intro to Modern Political Thought, Dr. Ebony Dawkins, Fall 2024
TA, POLS 4211 – Constitutional Law: National Powers, Dr. Ebony Dawkins, Fall 2024

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE(S)

Front Desk Assistant, Department of Political Science (Fall 2024-Spring 2026)

Field Coordinator, Bangladesh at [Rescue Aid Trust](#) (*February 2023- August 2024*)

- Coordinated community development and public engagement initiatives, where I successfully implemented a project of over BDT 100,00,000 (around \$90,500)

Intern at [Institute of Development Affairs](#) (*December 2022- February 2023*)

- Assisting in project implementation and field visits for the community's development
- Worked in education, sanitation, and women empowerment projects

LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTARY WORK EXPERIENCE(S)

Political Science Ambassador (Fall 2025-Summer 2026)

- Institute for Intelligent Systems Student Organization (IISSEO), University of Memphis

President at [Tahirpur Association, SUST](#) (*10th April, 2022- 22nd May, 2023*)

- Initiated, organized, and presided over monthly meetings
- Campaigned for civil education, worked against early marriage and drug addiction
- Collected and distributed over BDT 500,000 for 2022 flood victims.

Member of [Bangladesh Youth Action Team](#) – BYAT (*1st August, 2022- Continue*)

- Participated in national dialogue and workshops arranged by UNESCO and ZAGGO
- Worked on projects that address local challenges in Bangladesh.
- Conducted divisional workshops as a trainer.

RESEARCH TRAINING(S)

- Attended a 3-day *Thesis/Dissertation Writers Retreat* session organized by the Central Library, University of Memphis (5th, 6th, 8th August 2025)
- Completed an 8-hour 15-minute course on *Complete Guide to R: Wrangling, Visualizing, and Modeling Data* by LinkedIn Learning (12 July 2025)
- Completed a 2-hour 56-minute course on *R for Data Science: Analysis and Visualization R for Data Science: Analysis and Visualization* by LinkedIn Learning (16 May 2025)
- Workshop on *How to (be) Present at Academic Conferences* by the Dept. of Political Science, University of Memphis (18 September 2024)

CERTIFIED TRAINING(S) AND WORKSHOP(S)

- Certified training on *Active Citizenship* by the British Council, Bangladesh
- Certified training on the *Art and Practice of Leadership* by Bangladesh Youth Leadership Centre (*13-15 October 2022*)

- Workshop on *Orientation of Bangladesh Youth Action Team* by Generation Unlimited, Unicef & JAAGO Foundation (12-13 November 2022)
- Residential training on *Passport2Earning, Leadership & Gender Mainstreaming* by Generation Unlimited, Unicef & JAAGO Foundation (27-29 July 2023)
- Webinar on Poli Sci Roundtable: What to do after graduation by the dept of Political Science, University of Memphis (February 20, 2025)

SOFTWARE SKILL(S)

SPSS, R/R Studio, STATA (learning), MS Office

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

English (Fluent), Bengali (Native), Hindi (Can speak)

AWARD(S) AND SCHOLARSHIP(S)

ISSO Conference Travel Award (Spring 2026)	\$750
Travel Enrichment Fund, The University of Memphis (Spring 2026)	\$400
GVPT Visit Day Fund, University of Maryland (Spring 2026)	\$600
Conference Travel Support, Department of Political Science (Fall 2025)	\$500
GSA Travel Fund, The University of Memphis (Fall 2025)	\$600
Summer Assistantship, The University of Memphis (Summer 2025)	\$4700
Undergraduate Scholarship, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet-3114, Bangladesh (2018-2022)	BDT 36000
Board Scholarship, Sylhet Board, Bangladesh (2017)	BDT24000
Gramin Bank Merit Scholarship, Gramin Bank (2015)	BDT 10000