

ALLISON SPENCER HARTNETT

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

London School of Economics and Political Science Visiting Fellow, Department of Government	August 2024 - June 2025
University of Southern California Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Middle East Studies	July 2020 - present
Yale University Pre- and Post-Doctoral Associate and Lecturer, Leitner Program in International and Comparative Political Economy, MacMillan Center, Department of Political Science	September 2018 - June 2020
Harvard Kennedy School of Government Pre-Doctoral Fellow, Middle East Initiative, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs	2017-2018

CAREER BREAKS

Maternity Leave	October 2021 - December 2021
Maternity Leave	August 2025 - October 2025

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Comparative politics, historical political economy, elites, political institutions, authoritarianism, inequality and redistribution, quantitative methods.

EDUCATION

University of Oxford DPhil in Politics MPhil in Modern Middle East Studies (Dissertation awarded Distinction)	2013 - 2019 2011 - 2013
Boston University BA in History and Islamic Studies, Minor in Muslim Civilizations Awarded <i>summa cum laude</i> with Distinction, Phi Beta Kappa	2005-2009
Additional Training ICPSR Summer Program (Machine Learning, MLE, Causal Inference) Applied Geographic Information Systems, Virginia Commonwealth University Critical Language Scholarship (Advanced Arabic), Amman Jordan Arabic Language Institute (Advanced Arabic), American University in Cairo Middlebury Summer Language School (Arabic)	2019 2010 2009 2008 2007

PUBLICATIONS

Book Manuscript (in progress)

- **Hartnett, A.S.** *Regressive Redistribution: Elite Origins of Inequality in Post-Colonial Autocracies*. (Expected Submission Fall 2026)

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

- **Hartnett, A.S.** and M. Saleh. “Precolonial Elites and Colonial Redistribution of Political Power.” *American Political Science Review* 119(4): 1723-41. doi: 10.1017/S0003055424001321.
 - Best Paper Award (2026) by the APSA-MENA Section. Special Mention for the Wallerstein Prize (2026) from APSA Political Economy Section.
 - Previous Draft awarded Best Paper on Social Entrepreneurship and Inclusion (APSA Inequality Section 2021) and Best Paper Honorable Mention (APSA MENA Section 2022).
- Cheng, C., J. Barceló, **A.S. Hartnett**, R. Kubinec, and L. Messerschmidt (2020). COVID-19 Government Response Event Dataset (CoronaNet v.1.0). *Nature: Human Behaviour*, 4(7), 756-68. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-020-0909-7>.
- **Hartnett, A.S.** (2018). “The Effect of Refugee Integration on Migrant Labor in Jordan.” *Review of Middle East Studies*, 52(2), 263-282.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- **Hartnett, A.S.** (2021). “The Arab Spring.” *Oxford Bibliographies in Political Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/OBO/9780199756223-0337>
- Cammett, M., **A.S. Hartnett**, and G. Koehler-Derrick (2021). “Colonial Legacies and Welfare Provision in the Middle East and North Africa.” *Oxford University Press Handbook on Politics of Muslim Societies*, Melani Cammett and Pauline Jones (eds.). pp. 739–768. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190931056.013.11>.

Working Papers

- **Hartnett, A.S.** and M. Saleh. “The Other First Wave: Elite Conflict and Democratization in Agrarian Autocracies.” (Under Review)
- **Hartnett, A.S.** and A.E. Mohamed. “Strategic Indoctrination and Political Control: The Case of Religious Schooling.” (Under Review)
- **Hartnett, A.S.** “After the Commons: Economic Opportunity and Colonial Legacies of Land Privatization.”
- **Hartnett, A.S.** and M. Rogers. “Authoritarian Malapportionment.”
- Moshrif, R., M. Saleh, and **A.S. Hartnett**. “Redistribution Without Inclusion? Land Reform and Political Turnover in Egypt, 1936–1976.”
- Fabbe, K., **A.S. Hartnett**, S. Monroe. “In the Shadows? Informal Enterprise and the State in Jordan.”
- **Hartnett, A.S.** and A. Gard-Murray. “Does Aid Buy Trust? Evidence from Poland.”
- **Hartnett, A.S.**, T. Babalola, and J. Sakr. “In the Eye of the Beholder: Proximity to Power and the Relativity of Regime Type.”

Works in Progress

- **Hartnett, A.S.** and S. Schick. “Billionaires and Regime Type.”
- **Hartnett, A.S.** “Selectorate Dynamics in Autocracies: Colonial and Post-colonial Minister Appointments in the Middle East and North Africa.”
- **Hartnett, A.S.** “Surviving Decolonization: Elite Expropriation and Autocratic Leader Tenure in Post-Colonial Contexts.”
- **Hartnett, A.S.**, N. Lotito, E. Nugent. “The Colonial Origins of State Repression in MENA.”

Research Projects

- **Hartnett, A.S.** British Empire Colonial Officer Panel Dataset (1862–1966).
- **Hartnett, A.S.** “Landed Elites and Rural Party Formation: Evidence from Poland.”
- Middle East and North Africa Historical Database (MENAHD), with Gabriel Koehler–Derrick (NYUAD) and Melani Cammett (Harvard)

- CoronaNet Government Response Database

Other (Book Reviews, Encyclopedia Articles, Opinion Pieces, Policy Papers, and Essays)

- **Hartnett, A.S.**, E. al-Natour, and L. al-Ajouni (2020) “Drastic Measures: Coercive Enforcement and Economic Effects of Pandemic Suppression in Jordan.” POMEPS Special Issue: The COVID-19 Pandemic in the Middle East and North Africa.
- **Hartnett, A.S.** and L. al-Ajlouni (2019). “Making the Economy Political in Jordan’s Tax Revolts.” *Middle East Report Online*.
- **Hartnett, A.S.** (2018). “Can Jordan’s New Prime Minister Reform the Government?” *The Washington Post Monkey Cage Blog*.
- **Hartnett, A.S.** (2018). “Historical Legacies of State Building in MENA Social Policy,” POMEPS Studies 31: Social Policy in the Middle East, October.
- **Hartnett, A.S.** and G. Wilson (2016). “Guidance on Infrastructure in Post-Conflict Fragile States.” Report commissioned by the United Kingdom DFID Stabilisation Unit.
- **Hartnett, A.S.** (2014). “Protest, Unrest, and State-Society Relations.” International Peace Institute.
- **Hartnett, A.S.** (2014). “Review of *Globalization and Social Movements: Islamism, Feminism and Social Justice*, 2nd ed. by Valentine Moghadam”. *St. Antony’s International Review* 10, No. 1 (May): 135-37.
- **Hartnett, A.S.** (2011). “Energy Policy in Egypt”, “Energy Policy in Jordan”, “Energy Policy in Libya”, and “Energy Policy in Qatar”. *Encyclopedia of Energy*. Golson Media: Croton-on-Hudson, New York.

SELECTED QUANTITATIVE DATASETS

1. Jordanian and Iraqi Parliamentary Elites Biographical Dataset.
2. Middle East and North Africa Colonial and Post-Colonial Minister Elites Biographical Database (Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, Syria).
3. MENA Land Reform Database ($N=1200$ country-year observations)

FIELDWORK AND MENA REGION EXPERIENCE

Jordan	2009 (3 months), 2012 (1 month), 2014 (1 month) 2016 (12 months), 2017 (3 months), 2018 (2 months)
Egypt	2008 (6.5 months)
Morocco	2014-2015 (2.5 months)
UK and USA archival research	2015-2017 (6 months)

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

APSA MENA Section Best Article Award	2026
APSA Political Economy Section Wallerstein Best Article Special Mention	2026
USC Center for International Studies Research Support Grant (10000 USD, Funded)	2023
APSA MENA Section Best Paper Honorable Mention	2023
APSA Inequality Section Best Paper on Entrepreneurship and Inclusion - Faculty	2022
Thomas Jefferson Fund (20000 USD, Submitted - Unfunded)	2021
USC Center for International Studies Undergraduate Research Assistant Grant (3000 USD, Funded)	AY2020, AY2023
USC CIS Research Assistant Grant	AY2020, AY2021
ACOR-CAORC Pre-Doctoral Research Fellowship, Amman, Jordan (17600 USD)	2018
Best Post-Graduate Teacher Award, Oxford University Student Union	2017
Centre for British Research in the Levant Fellowship, Amman, Jordan (7000 GBP)	2016

Writing-Up Grant, Department of Politics and International Relations, Oxford (1500 GBP)	2015
Mellon-Chester Scholarship for Field Research, Department of Politics, Oxford (800 GBP)	2014
Junior Deanship, Keble College, Oxford (24000 GBP)	2013-2015
A.E. Haigh Merit Studentship, Corpus Christi College and DPIP, Oxford (24000 GBP)	2013-2015
Stone Family Foundation Professional Development Grant (2500 GBP)	2013
Carr-Stahl Fieldwork Grant, St. Antony's College, Oxford (500 GBP)	2012
Jordan Fulbright ETA Fellowship, Jordan (Declined)	2011
US Department of State Critical Language Scholarship Advanced Arabic, Jordan (8000 USD)	2009
Richard E. Katz Prize in Religion, Boston University (1000 USD)	2009
University Merit Scholarship, Boston University (half-tuition scholarship)	2005-2009

SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Southern California 2020–present

Department of Political Science and International Relations

- POSC 499 Colonialism and Decolonization in the Middle East and North Africa (U Seminar, Fall 2022)
- IR 499 State Building and Institutions in the Middle East and North Africa (U Seminar, Spring 2021)
- POIR 641 Comparative Politics II (G Seminar, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2024, Spring 2026)
- POSC 120 Comparative Politics (U, Fall 2020, Fall 2022, Fall 2023)

Yale University 2018–2020

Lecturer, Department of Political Science

- Political Economy of the Middle East (U Seminar, Spring 2020)
- The Political Economy of Authoritarianism (U/G Seminar, Spring 2019)
- MA Thesis Co-Supervisor (2019–2020, 1 student)
- Undergraduate Senior Thesis Supervision (2019, 2 students; 2020, 2 students)

University of Oxford 2013–2018

Departmental Instructor (Tutorial-based)

- Best Postgraduate Teacher Award from the Oxford University Student Union (2017)
- Dissertation supervisor for undergraduate politics thesis (2017-2018)
- Middle East Politics (2013–2017)
- Quantitative Methods for Politics and Sociology (2014–2015)

INVITED TALKS

* indicates a postponement or cancellation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

AY 2024-2025: LSE–UCL Land Politics Seminar (March 2025) ◇ Aarhus Political Science (June 2025)

AY 2023-2024: Authoritarian Political Systems Group (Fall 2023) ◇ Claremont Graduate University (Fall 2023) ◇ UC San Diego (Spring 2024) ◇ UC Riverside (Spring 2024) ◇ Virtual Workshop in Historical Political Economy ◇ Tulane University (Spring 2024)

AY 2021-2022: USC CIS Comparative Politics Workshop (Fall 2021) ◇ Claremont Graduate University (Spring 2022)

AY 2020-2021: USC CIS Comparative Politics Workshop (Fall 2020)

AY 2019-2020: Yale University, Comparative Politics Workshop (Spring 2020) ◇ Wesleyan University Department of Political Science ◇ Harvard MENA Poverty Workshop*

AY 2018-2019: Yale University, Leitner Political Economy Seminar (Spring 2019).

AY 2017-2018: American Center for Oriental Research (Amman, Jordan), Fellow Lecture Series ◊ Harvard Kennedy School, Middle East Initiative Fellow Lecture Series ◊ Columbia University Middle East Global Center (Amman), Jordan ◊ Harvard Kennedy School, Middle East Initiative Panel on the Kurdish Independence Referendum.

AY 2016-2017: London School of Economics, Land, Institutions, and Conflict Workshop ◊ Columbia University Middle East Global Center (Amman, Jordan) ◊ Nottingham Trent University, Department of Politics.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

* indicates a postponement or cancellation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

European Political Science Society	2026
Authoritarianism Mini-Conference, WPSA	2026
Southern California Political Institutions and Political Economy Workshop	2022, 2023
XIX World Economic History Congress, Paris, France	2022
Harvard University Workshop in the Political Economy of MENA	2022
American Economic Association, Annual Meeting	2022
American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	2016 - 2024, 2026
CEPR Economic History Symposium	2021
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	2016, 2017, 2019, 2020*, 2022
Middle East Studies Association, Annual Meeting	2014, 2016 - 2021*(rescheduled to 2022)
Association for Analytic Learning about Muslim Societies, Annual Meeting	2018, 2020*, 2021, 2023, 2024
POMEPS Junior Scholar Working Paper Workshop	2021
POMEPS Junior Scholar Book Workshop	2019
Parliaments Under Fire Conference	2019
New England Middle East Politics Working Group	2018
POMEPS Annual Conference	2018
POMEPS Workshop on Social Policy in MENA	2018
Nuffield College New Politics of Authoritarianism Conference	2017
International Society for New Institutional Economics (now SOIE), Annual Meeting	2014

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Programming	R, Stata, Python, L ^A T _E X	
Software & Tools	Geographic Information Software (ArcGIS and QGIS)	
Languages	English	
	Arabic: Modern Standard, Jordanian	Professional
	Egyptian	Intermediate
	French	Advanced
	Polish State Certificate Examination in Polish as a Foreign Language - B1 Level, Heritage	Advanced

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Service to the Discipline

- Co-organizer of the USC Historical Political Economy Conference with Jeff Jenkins (2024, 2025, 2026)
- APSA Inequality Section Best Paper Prize Committee (2025)
- Board Member-At-Large, APSA MENA Steering Committee (2022-2024)
- APSA MENA Program co-chair (2024 Annual Meeting)
- Best Dissertation Prize Committee, APSA Inequality Section
- Editorial Board, *Journal of Historical Political Economy*

University of Southern California

- USC Center for International Studies Comparative Politics Workshop (co-convenor AY 2022-23, convenor 2023-24, co-convenor 2025-26)
- Departmental A&E Committee, Junior Faculty Representative (AY 2023-2024)
- Departmental Undergraduate Studies Committee, (June-August 2023)
- PhD Candidate Committee Member (Jane Sakr, Shenali Pilapitiya, Jessica Walker, Tolulope Babalola (graduated 2024))
- PhD Student Qualifying Examinations Committees (N=11)
- Search Committee Member, Black and Indigenous Politics (Fall 2021)

Reviewer

- *American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, World Politics, Third World Quarterly, Electoral Studies, Perspectives on Politics, Journal of Political Institutions and Political Economy, Mediterranean Politics, Industrial and Labor Relations Review*