

Abirami Venkateswaran

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EDUCATION

University of Maryland, College Park, USA
Ph.D. in Sociology, (currently pursuing 1st year)

Aug 2024 - May 2029 (Expected)

Christ (Deemed to be University), India
M.A. in Applied Sociology, GPA: 8.05/10

Jul 2020 - Jun 2022

Kongunadu Arts and Science College, India
B.A. in English Literature, GPA: 7.29/10

Aug 2017 - May 2020

WORK EXPERIENCE

Arvind International School, India
Middle and High School Teacher

Jul 2022 - April 2024

Served as a middle and high school teacher, instructing students in social science from 6th to 10th grade. As the Head of the School Cultural Committee, I organize diverse cultural events fostering collaboration and celebration within the school community. I am a volunteer for the SPARK Program, an English communication initiative to improve students' language skills.

Johns Hopkins University, USA
Field Research Associate for Dr. Pallavi Shukla

Nov 2019 - Nov 2020

Work included conducting detailed household surveys and semi-structured interviews on caste, class, educational attainment, and employment from more than 800 households in 29 villages. The project aimed to understand the impact of inequality in caste, class, and gender on girls' education and women's paid employment in rural and semi-urban communities in India.

- Created and pilot-tested survey instruments in collaboration with the research team at Johns Hopkins University to refine and improve the relevance of survey instruments
- Digitized and cleaned the data and led the process of data quality control at the field level
- Led the move from in-person data collection to mobile data collection for the field team at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Coded the qualitative data for analysis based on the protocol provided by the research team

Child Rights and You NGO, India
Development Support Intern

Jul 2021 - Sep 2021

Developed comprehensive reports showcasing various programs conducted for children, including arts and crafts workshops. Contributed to effectively implementing child-centric projects by improving data management and reporting practices.

Growth Watch NGO, India
Field Investigator

Jan 2021 - Mar 2021

Conducted on-site surveys in neighborhoods adjacent to the metro line in Bangalore. The objective was to ascertain if the city metro rail corporation had acquired proper permission from residents for property acquisition. Compiled comprehensive reports detailing the narratives and concerns voiced by the residents, contributing valuable qualitative data to the NGO's initiatives.

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Sociology
University of Maryland, College Park

- Introduction to Sociology - Instructor: Chris Malackany
Fall 2024; Spring 2025; Fall 2025
- Social Psychology - Instructor: Jeffrey W. Lucas
Spring 2026 - Present
- Introduction to Sociology - Instructor: Nicholas H. Smith
Spring 2026- Present

Responsibilities:

- Graded exams and written assignments
- Designed and administered quizzes
- Held office hours and clarified course concepts

CERTIFICATIONS

Mass Media and Communication in Journalism

B- Certificate and C- Certificate in National Cadet Corps (NCC) - the youth wing of the Indian Armed Forces