

Arman Sidhu

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Last Updated: March 2026

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Politics, governance, and political economy of K–12 education

Elections concerning K–12 education, voter behavior, and special interest groups in education policy

Workforce development, career and technical education policy, and industrial policy

EDUCATION

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.), Leadership and Innovation

Arizona State University, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College (Expected December 2026)

GPA: 4.0/4.0

Dissertation: *Bonding Issues: A Mixed Methods Study of Voter Attitudes, Beliefs, and Behaviors in Arizona School Bond Elections*

Committee: Dr. Jane Neapolitan (Chair); Dr. Megan Garvy; Dr. Morgan Camu

Master of Arts (M.A.), Political Science

University of Illinois at Springfield, College of Public Affairs and Education (May 2021)

GPA: 4.0/4.0

Thesis: *Chinese Industrial Policy and OFDI: An Application of the Investment Development Path Theory*

Committee: Dr. Ali Nizamuddin (Chair); Dr. Pinky Wassenberg; Dr. Feng-Shun Bin

Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Computer Information Systems (Minor in Political Science)

Arizona State University, Barrett, the Honors College (December 2015)

GPA: 3.6/4.0

Thesis: *Policy Strategies for Transnational Governance and Armament Control of Cyber-Weapons*

Committee: Dr. Daniel Berliner (Chair); Dr. Raghu Santanam

PROFESSIONAL CAREER EXPERIENCE

Senior Policy & Legislative Analyst, Foundation for Excellence in Education	Nov. 2023–Present
Nonprofit Microschool Founder & Executive Director, iCubed Learning Inc.	Dec. 2022–Present
K–8 School Principal & Middle School Administrator, Leona Group Schools	Jul. 2020–Dec. 2022
Middle School Teacher, Mesa Unified School District & Isaac School District	Jul. 2017–Jul. 2020

HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHING & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty, Rio Salado College	May 2023–Jun. 2024
Adjunct Faculty, Friendly House Inc.	Mar. 2020–Jul. 2021
Research Assistant, Innovative Learner & User Experience Lab, Arizona State University	May 2015–Aug. 2015
Research Assistant, Culture & Decision Science Network Lab, Arizona State University	Aug. 2014–Jan. 2015
Research Assistant, Center for Law & Global Affairs, Arizona State University	Dec. 2012–May 2013

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, & FUNDING

Awards

- Early Alumni Achievement Award, Barrett, the Honors College at Arizona State University
- Promising Prairie Star Award for Early Alumni, University of Illinois at Springfield
- Best Thesis Award, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Springfield

Fellowships

- Frederic Bastiat Fellowship, Mercatus Center
- Don Lavoie Fellowship, Mercatus Center
- Generation Liberty Fellowship, State Policy Network
- Education Reformers Academy Fellowship, Reformers Academy
- Nonresident Research Fellowship, Rise to Peace NGO (Washington, D.C.)
- Nonresident Research Fellowship, Guru Arjan Dev Institute of Development Studies (Punjab, India)

Funding - Scholarships & Grants

- National Graduate Scholarship Recipient, American Association for School Administrators (AASA)
- Dissertation Impact Scholarship Recipient, Arizona State University Mary Lou Fulton Teachers' College
- Microschool Start-Up Grant, VELA Education Fund

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Board Memberships & Service

- Charter School Governing Board Member, City View High School
- Board Member, Arizona Center for Youth Resources
- Board Member, Chandler Public Library

Advisory & Committee Service

- Advisory Board Member, Teaching Lab
- Advocacy Committee Member, Arizona Library Association

Editorial & Professional Review

- Professional Peer Reviewer, HundrED Academy
- Review Board Editor, Global Affairs Theoretical & Empirical Journal
- Associate Editor, Science in Society Review

Professional Development Programs

- Program Graduate, Young Voices Contributor Program
- Program Graduate, KaiPod Catalyst Microschool Incubator Program
- Program Graduate, City of Chandler CIVICS Program

Consulting Engagements

- Advised a market-leading K–12 education publisher on product strategy and alignment with state standards and instructional frameworks
- Consulted with a virtual educator coaching platform specializing in 1:1 pairing of teachers with instructional coaches for mentorship and professional growth
- Provided strategic advisory services to over 10 EdTech companies, ranging from early-stage startups to established firms, focused on remote learning, online tutoring, and instructional technology
- Designed and delivered custom professional development and training programs for more than 15 school districts across Arizona, serving rural, suburban, and urban communities across public, charter, and private school sectors
- Consulted with a leading online teacher materials and curriculum resource platform on educator engagement and content strategy

Community Service & Volunteering

- High School & Middle School Basketball Coach, Various
- Alumni Mentor, Barrett Honors College at Arizona State University
- Scholarship Reviewer, Maricopa County Community College Foundation

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Academic Papers

- Sidhu, A. (Expected 2026). *Bonding issues: A mixed methods study of voter attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors in Arizona school bond elections*. Doctoral dissertation, Arizona State University.
- Sidhu, A. (Under review). *Mine over matter: Hayekian epistemics and the critical minerals planning problem*. Paper submitted to the Markets & Society Conference, Mercatus Center at George Mason University.
- Sidhu, A. (In progress). *Principals of business: A systematic review of specialty MBA programs developed for K–12 school leaders*.
- Sidhu, A. (In progress). *Competing with choice: Pro-market reforms and responsive innovation by public schools in Arizona*.
- Sidhu, A. (2021). *Chinese industrial policy and OFDI: An application of the investment development path theory*. Master's thesis, University of Illinois at Springfield. Best Thesis Award, Department of Political Science.
- Sidhu, A. (2020). *Beyond a breadbasket: Aligning economic reform and education policy in Punjab*. Guru Arjan Dev Institute of Development Studies.
- Sidhu, A. (2018). *Policy strategies for transnational governance and armament control for cyber-weapons*. *Global Affairs Theoretical and Empirical Journal*, Spring 2018. (Adapted from honors undergraduate thesis, 2015.)

Media & Policy Commentary

- Fausel, N. & Sidhu, A. (2026, February 23). Here's how we can keep kids in advanced math. *Arizona Republic*. <https://www.azcentral.com/story/opinion/op-ed/2026/02/23/auto-enrollment-advanced-math-success-opinion/88783481007/>
- Sidhu, A. (2023, October 7). California's New Math Framework Needs a History Lesson. *Townhall*. <https://townhall.com/columnists/youngvoicescontributors/2023/10/07/californias-new-math-framework-needs-a-history-lesson-n2629242>
- Sidhu, A. (2023, August 17). In defense of ESAs: Lessons learned from Arizona. *RealClearEducation*. https://www.realcleareducation.com/articles/2023/08/17/in_defense_of_esas_lessons_learned_from_arizona_973478.html
- Sidhu, A. (2020, August 11). Afghanistan: Reforming higher education institutions. *Rise to Peace*. <https://www.risetopeace.org/2020/08/11/afghanistan-education/asidhu/>

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & MEDIA APPEARANCES

- Sidhu, A. (2026, April). K-12 Education Policy in Practice: From the Statehouse to the Schoolhouse. Invited guest lecturer for ECN 397-01 Economics of Education at Washington & Jefferson College.
- Sidhu, A. (2024, October). Measuring Impact in Microschools: What Really Matters? Invited panel presentation at the National Microschooling Founders & Leaders Summit, Nevada State University.
- Sidhu, A. (2024, June). Open Education Resources 101. Presentation to state education agency leaders, Network of State Innovation Partners convening, ExcelinEd.
- Sidhu, A. (2024, March). Microschools: What SEAs Need to Know. Presentation to state education agency leaders, Network of State Innovation Partners convening, ExcelinEd.
- Sidhu, A. (2023, October 27). Radio guest on *Moving Forward with Young Voices* (KDXI 100.3 FM, St. George, Utah). Segment focused on innovation in school models and education policy.
- Sidhu, A. (2023, September 21). Guest on *Heard Tell Podcast* (Apple, YouTube, Spotify, Substack). Discussion on microschooling, school choice politics, and policy reform.
- Sidhu, A. (2023, September 7). Radio guest on *Moving Forward with Young Voices* (KDXI 100.3 FM, St. George, Utah). Appearance focused on Arizona's ESA program and local microschooling growth.

- Sidhu, A. (2023, September 1). Radio guest on *Stacy on the Right* (SiriusXM Patriot Channel 125). Interview on school choice legislation and parent-centered reform, in addition to the microschool model.
- Sidhu, A. (2023, August 31). Television appearance on *The Global Lane* (Christian Broadcasting Network). Segment featured commentary on Arizona's ESA program and national school choice trends.
- Sidhu, A. (2023, August 30). Radio guest on *Need to Know with Jeff Angelo* (WHO NewsRadio 1040 AM, Des Moines). Discussion on Arizona's ESA program and Iowa's school choice movement.

SELECTED CITATIONS & REFERENCES

Work cited or referenced in 90+ academic publications, books, government reports, media outlets, and international reprints across six continents.

Governmental Agencies & Funded Institutions

- U.S.–China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC)
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL)
- U.S. Department of Defense – Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC)
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)
- Finabel - European Army Interoperability Centre
- European Union - European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
- Indian Ministry of Defense - Center for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS)
- Sri Lankan Military Academy Journal (SLMA)

Academic Journals

- Educational Administration: Theory and Practice
- Social Network Analysis and Mining Journal
- Sustainable Development Journal
- Journal of Economics and Administrative Sciences
- Columbia Political Review, Columbia University
- Conjuntura Global Journal, Federal University of Parana (Brazil)
- Sampratyaya Journal, Ananta-Satyabhama Society for Social Research & Action (India)
- Jadavpur Journal of International Relations, Jadavapur University (India)
- Politikon: The IAPSS Journal of Political Science, International Association for Political Science Students

Books

- US Security Interests in the 'New Eastern Mediterranean': Balancing Russia in a Post-Unipolar World Routledge Studies in US Foreign Policy, Taylor & Francis (ISBN: 978-1-0404-4836-6)
- BRICS: Striving to Promote Globalization – Foreign Think Tanks Discuss China and the World, Foreign Languages Press China (ISBN: 978-7-5201-2977-0)
- Indonesian Defense Management in the Context of Trump's Policy: Analysis and Reflection, Indonesia Emas Group (ISBN: 978-6-2387-6270-5)

Public Policy Organizations & Think Tanks

- Hoover Institution, Stanford University
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)
- Strauss Center for International Security and Law, University of Texas at Austin
- United States Naval Institute (USNI)
- French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS)
- Sasakawa Peace Foundation (Japan)
- China Institute for Reform and Development (CIRD)
- Swedish Institute of International Affairs

- Hungarian Institute of International Affairs
- Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA)
- Transnational Institute (TNI)
- Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA)
- Kautilya School of Public Policy (India)
- Usanas Foundation (India)
- New Frontier Foundation (Croatia)
- Policy Center for the New South (Morocco)
- Guyana and North America Trade Association (GNATA)

Popular Media

- Business Insider
- RealClearPolitics
- RealClearWorld
- Yahoo Finance
- MSN News
- Mining.com
- OilPrice.com
- Arab News (Saudi Arabia)
- The New Humanitarian (Switzerland)
- Dhaka Tribune (Bangladesh)
- Minería Sustentable (Argentina)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

- Member, National Microschooling Center
- Member, American Association for School Administrators (AASA)
- Member, Arizona Library Association (AzLA)
- Member, Arizona Association for Gifted & Talented (AAGT)

CERTIFICATIONS

- Secondary Teaching Certificate, Political Science/American Government, Arizona Department of Education
- Secondary Teaching Certificate, Computer Science, Arizona Department of Education
- Secondary Teaching Certificate, Business, Arizona Department of Education
- Adult Education Teaching Certificate, Arizona Department of Education
- STEM Certified Educator, STEM.org