

Zaur Kapanadze

Texas Tech University
Department of Political Science
Lubbock, TX 79409-1015
✉ Zaur.Kapanadze@ttu.edu
🐦 @ZaurKapanadze

Research Interests

Business and Politics, Comparative Politics, Democratization, Electoral Systems, Oligarchs, Post-Communist Politics, Political Economy, and Legislative Behavior

Education

- In Progress **Ph.D.**, Texas Tech University, Department of Political Science
Committee: Frank Thames (Chair), Bilyana Petrova, Dennis Patterson, and Kevin Grier
Fields: Comparative Politics and American Politics with a Minor in Methods
- 2023 **M.A.**, Texas Tech University, Department of Political Science
- 2020 **B.A.**, Texas Tech University, Political Science
Cum Laude with a Minor in Russian Language and Area Studies

Research

Journal Articles

Zaur Kapanadze. 2025. Oligarchs and Regional Political Machines: Patronage and Elections in the Republic of Georgia. (Accepted at Europe-Asia Studies).

Selected Works in Progress

Zaur Kapanadze. Are Equalizing Transfers Really Equalizing? Oligarchs and Regional Development in Georgia.

Zaur Kapanadze. Patronage and National Executive: Budget Policy and Oligarchic Interests in the Georgian Parliament.

Zaur Kapanadze. Businessman Deputies and Executive Votes: Government Appointment in the Georgian Parliament.

Zaur Kapanadze. Mandate Divide, Ideology, and Gender Quotas in the 9th and 10th Georgian Parliament.

Conference Papers

Zaur Kapanadze. Are Equalizing Transfers Really Equalizing? Oligarchs and Regional Development in the Republic of Georgia. Boston, MA, 2024. Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies.

Zaur Kapanadze. Oligarchs and Allocation of Equalizing Transfers in the Republic of Georgia. Philadelphia, PA, 2024. American Political Science Association.

Zaur Kapanadze. The Influence of Oligarchic Networks and Regional Political Machines on Electoral Politics: The Case of Georgian Municipal Election (2010-2021). Philadelphia, PA, 2023. Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies.

Zaur Kapanadze. The Influence of Oligarchs and Regional Political Machines on Georgian Elections. Los Angeles, CA, 2023. American Political Science Association.

Workshops and Poster Presentations

Zaur Kapanadze. Are Equalizing Transfers Really Equalizing? Oligarchs and Regional Development in the Republic of Georgia. Chicago, IL, 2025. Politics and Political Economy of Eurasia Workshop. (Scheduled)

Zaur Kapanadze. Mandate Divide, Ideology, and Gender Quotas in the 9th Convocation of the Georgia Parliament (Poster). Denton, TX, 2024. Texas Comparative Politics Circle.

Zaur Kapanadze. The Political-Economy of CSTO Membership (Poster). Lubbock, TX, 2023. Texas Comparative Politics Circle.

Grants and Awards

2024 Graduate School Travel Fund Recipient. Texas Tech University, Graduate School.

2024 Summer Research Support. Texas Tech University, Department of Political Science.

2023-2024 William E. Oden Endowed Scholarship. Texas Tech University, Department of Political Science.

2023 Graduate School Travel Fund Recipient. Texas Tech University, Graduate School.

2022-2023 Kent Presson Scholarship. Texas Tech University, Department of Political Science.

2021-2022 William E. Oden Endowed Scholarship. Texas Tech University, Department of Political Science.

Teaching Experience

Primary Instructor

POLS 1301 American Government (Fall 2024)

Teaching Assistant

POLS 3372 Post-Communist Politics (Fall 2021, Fall 2022, and Fall 2023), POLS 3325 Political Parties (Spring 2022), POLS 2306 Texas Politics and Topics (Summer 2022, Fall 2023, and Spring 2025), POLS 2371 Comparative Politics (Summer 2022, Fall 2022, and Summer 2023), POLS 3302 Comparative Welfare State (Spring 2023), POLS 1301 American Government (Spring 2023), POLS 3300 American Electoral Development (Spring 2024), and POLS 3300 Politics of Income Inequality (Spring 2024).

Course Administrator

POLS 1301 American Government (Spring 2025) and POLS 2306 Texas Politics and Topics (Spring 2025).

Skills, Languages, and Fieldwork

Languages

Georgian, English, Russian, French (DELF A2-Intermediate)

Software

Stata, R, Python, and L^AT_EX

Fieldwork

Tbilisi, Georgia (May 2024 - August 2024)