

TIFFANY AMELINE ZHU | CURRICULUM VITAE

Philosophy and Religious Studies
Old Dominion University
Norfolk, VA 23529

tzhu@odu.edu

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

AI ethics, Epistemology

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Cognitive science, Philosophy of language, Chinese philosophy (especially Daoism)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025 Assistant Professor, Global Ethics and Technology
 Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Old Dominion University

2024-25 Faculty Fellow
 California Center for Ethics and Policy and Department of Philosophy
 California State Polytechnic University Pomona

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy
 University of California Irvine, 2025
 Dissertation Title: “Belief, Commitment, and Hypocrisy in Groups”
 Committee: Margaret Gilbert (Co-Chair), Duncan Pritchard (Co-Chair), Jeffrey Helmreich

M.A. Philosophy
 Georgia State University, 2019
 Thesis Title: “Experience-Based Intuitions”
 Committee: Neil Van Leeuwen (Chair), Edward Nahmias

B.A. Communication and Art History
 University of California Los Angeles, 2010

PUBLICATIONS

Ritchie, K., Curiel, A., Zhu, T., Pederneschi, A., & Vasil, N. (2025). The scope of generic generalizations: Developmental changes in judgments about contextually-restricted generics. *Proceedings of the Annual Meetings of the Cognitive Science Society*.

Works in progress

1. How should AI talk about us? LLMs and social generics (in review)
2. Living in a bubble: How children and adults use generics to talk about social kinds in unique sociocultural contexts, co-authored with Ny Vasil, Alejandro Curiel, Anna Pederneschi, and Katherine Ritchie (in review)
3. Social generics in LLMs: A cross-model evaluation
4. AI image generators and the visual representation of identity
5. Drinking the Kool-AId: Harms of AI reliance in higher education, co-authored with Jonathan S. Takeshita, Joel Bock, and Ambrosio Valencia-Romero

PRESENTATIONS

Peer-reviewed

2025 “How should AI talk about us? LLMs and social generics”
 Interdisciplinary Conference on AI Assertion, University of Graz, Austria

2025 “The scope of generic generalizations: Developmental changes in judgments about contextually-restricted generics”
 Collaborators: Katherine Ritchie, Alejandro Curiel, Anna Pederneschi, and Ny Vasil
 Cognitive Science Society

2025 “Do ducks lay eggs? How interactivity shapes generic generalizations” (poster)
 Collaborators: Jacqueline Beck, Yanting Li, Rajeev Dutta, Anna Pederneschi, Alejandro Curiel, Camryn Graver-Dowd, Isabel Greysen, Karime Ultreras-Castro, and Katherine Ritchie
 Cognitive Science Society

2024 “What do social generics convey?”
 Collaborators: Rajeev Dutta, Yanting Li, Anna Pederneschi, Katherine Ritchie, and Ny Vasil
 International Social Ontology Society

2024 “Diagnosing epistemic pathologies: Collective distrust”
Collaborator: Anna Pederneschi
International Social Ontology Society

2024 “Contextually-restricted generalizations about social groups: A solution or a problem?”
Collaborators: Anna Pederneschi, Rajeev Dutta, Yanting Li, Alejandro Curiel, Katherine Ritchie, and Ny Vasil
Society for Philosophy and Psychology

2024 “Group hypocrisy as a problem for non-summative accounts of group belief”
American Philosophical Association Pacific Division symposium

2023 “The joint commitment account of collective religious belief”
American Philosophical Association Pacific Division poster session

2022 “Collective belief in religion”
Religion and Spirituality in Society

2022 “Phenomenal meaninglessness”
Southern Society of Philosophy and Psychology

Invited

2024 “Psychological and structural approaches to combating misinformation”
California Center for Ethics and Policy panel, Cal Poly Pomona

Workshop

2024 “Artificial intelligence and social generics”
Genericity, Stability, and Structure workshop, CSU East Bay

University Events

2025 “How should AI talk about us?”
Researcher Highlight, Old Dominion University

2025 “AI and qualitative research across disciplines”
The AI-Driven Future of Higher Education and Work conference, Cal Poly Pomona

2024 "How should AI talk about us?"
World Philosophy Day faculty spotlight, Cal Poly Pomona

EVENTS ORGANIZED

2025	“Generics in context” workshop, UC Irvine
2025	“Algorithmic identities? Race, gender, and power in AI and social media” panel, California Center for Ethics and Policy, Cal Poly Pomona
2025	“AI and us: Building inclusive and adaptive futures together” conference, Cal Poly Pomona
2024	“Genericity, stability, and structural interactions” workshop, CSU East Bay
2024	“Life in groups” conference, UC Irvine
2024	Inaugural graduate student conference, Department of Philosophy and Department of Logic and Philosophy of Science, UC Irvine

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Old Dominion University

Ethics and Metaethics Fall 2025

California State Polytechnic University Pomona

Seminar on AI Ethics and Governance	Spring 2025
Ethics of Artificial Intelligence	Spring 2025
Bioethics	Fall 2024
Philosophy and Religion of China	Fall 2024

California State University Long Beach

The Meaning of Life Spring 2023
Ethics and Society Fall 2022

University of California Irvine

Instructor of Record

Introduction to Ethics	Summer 2022
Teaching Assistant	
Philosophy of Social Science	Winter 2025, Spring 2024, Fall 2022
Modern America: Culture and Power	Fall 2023
Introduction to Ethics	Winter 2025, Winter 2024, Spring 2023, Winter 2022, Spring 2021
Technology and Society	Fall 2024, Winter 2023
Contemporary Moral Problems	Spring 2024, Spring 2022
Feminist Epistemology	Winter 2022
Introduction to Philosophy	Fall 2022, Fall 2021, Summer 2021, Fall 2020
Puzzles and Paradoxes	Winter 2021

Georgia State University

Instructor of Record

Critical Thinking	Fall 2017 to Summer 2019
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Online Course Coordinator

Critical Thinking	Fall 2018 to Summer 2019
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ADVISED STUDENTS

Tanner De Jong	B.A. Science, Technology, and Society, Cal Poly Pomona Thesis: "A future into AI podcasts" (second reader)
Pamla Sianosian	B.A. Philosophy, Cal Poly Pomona Thesis: "AI love: The future? Or the apocalypse?" (second reader)

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

2025	Dean's Advisory Council member, ODU College of Arts and Letters
2025	Search Committee member, ODU Dept of Philosophy and Religious Studies
2019-2025	Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience representative, UCI
2023-2025	Minorities and Philosophy UC Irvine chapter representative
2023-2024	Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee member, UCI Dept of Philosophy
2023	Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl mock trial judge, Cal Poly Pomona
2023	UC Irvine Mentoring Women and Minorities in Philosophy workshop leader
2022	WONDER first-gen applicant workshop panelist, UC Irvine
2020-2022	Campus Communications Director, UC Irvine Associated Graduate Students
2019	Education outreach teacher, TH!NK, UC Irvine
2017-2018	Phi Sigma Tau Atlanta Chapter treasurer

2017 Georgia State University Graduate Student Philosophy Conference referee
2017 National High School Ethics Bowl mock trial judge, Decatur High School

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

2024-2025 Digital Humanities Consortium, Cal Poly Pomona
Co-Directors Alexander Madva and Rachel Van

2023-2025 Graduate Project Fellow
Genericity, Stability, and Structural Interactions Project, UC Irvine and CSU East Bay
Co-PIs Katherine Ritchie and Ny Vasil

2022-2025 Research Assistant to Margaret Gilbert

2022-2024 Graduate Student Associate
Social Unity Research Cluster, UC Irvine
Director Margaret Gilbert, Associate Director Katherine Ritchie

2017 Graduate Laboratory Assistant
Imaging Genetics and Informatics Laboratory, Georgia State University
PI Jessica Turner

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2024 Building Intellectual Community grant, UCI School of Humanities
Research travel award, UCI Department of Philosophy
American Philosophical Association Pacific Division conference travel grant
Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience event grant

2023 Kavka Foundation award, UCI Department of Philosophy
Outstanding DECADE Student Representative award, UC Irvine
American Philosophical Association Pacific Division conference travel grant
Research travel award, UCI Department of Philosophy
Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience event grant

2022 Research travel award, UCI Department of Philosophy
Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience event grant

2020 Commitment to a Better Education grant, UC Irvine
Humanities Out There fellowship, UC Irvine

2019	Graduate teaching award, Georgia State University
2015	NextGen grant, California Center for Cultural Innovation

REFERENCES

Margaret Gilbert

Melden Chair in Moral Philosophy and Distinguished Professor

Department of Philosophy

University of California, Irvine

mpgilber@uci.edu

Jeffrey Helmreich

Associate Professor

Department of Philosophy and School of Law

University of California, Irvine

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Alexander Madva

Professor

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Duncan Pritchard

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Katherine Ritchie

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