

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
- M.A. Philosophy
 Georgia State University
- B.A. Communication and Art History
 University of California Los Angeles

PUBLICATIONS

- Zhu, T. (2026). How should AI talk about us? LLMs and social generics. *AI & Society*.
- Vasil, N., Curiel, A., Zhu, T., Pederneschi, A., & Ritchie, K. (2026). Living in a bubble: How children and adults use generics to talk about social kinds in unique sociocultural contexts. *Child Development*.

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*.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Print

“59% of kids use AI to look up information—but it could weaken ‘critical thinking skills,’ says expert.” CNBC. March 13, 2026.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2026/03/13/many-kids-use-ai-to-search-for-information-why-thats-a-problem-according-to-experts.html>

Podcast

“How should AI talk about us?” NPR The Academic Minute. May 19, 2026.

<https://www.academicminute.org/p/tiffany-zhu-old-dominion-university>

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 Greyson, 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

- 2026 “AI image generators in higher education: practices and ethical considerations”
Academic Innovation Summer Conference, Human at the core: Navigating AI in higher education, Cal Poly Pomona
- 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?”
Google Partnership 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

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| Seminar on Global AI Ethics | Spring 2027 |
| AI Ethics and Policy | Fall 2026 |
| Introduction to Ethics | Spring 2026 |
| Ethics and Metaethics | Fall 2025 |

California State Polytechnic University Pomona

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| 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

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| The Meaning of Life | Spring 2023 |
| Ethics and Society | Fall 2022 |

University of California Irvine

Instructor of Record

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| Introduction to Ethics | Summer 2022 |
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Teaching Assistant

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| 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

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| Critical Thinking | Fall 2017 to Summer 2019 |
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Online Course Coordinator

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| Critical Thinking | Fall 2018 to Summer 2019 |
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SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

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| 2026 | Reviewer, Journal of Sociotechnic Critique |
| 2026 | ALAI AI policy committee member, ODU College of Arts and Letters |
| 2025-2026 | Dean's Advisory Council member, ODU College of Arts and Letters |
| 2025-2026 | 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, THINK, 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

2025-2026 Research Scholar
Research Institute of Digital Innovation in Learning, Old Dominion University

2024-2025 Affiliate
Digital Humanities Consortium, Cal Poly Pomona

2023-2025 Graduate Project Fellow
Genericity, Stability, and Structural Interactions Project, UC Irvine & CSU East Bay

2022-2025 Research Assistant to Margaret Gilbert

2022-2024 Graduate Student Associate
Social Unity Research Cluster, UC Irvine

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

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2026 Faculty Digital Innovation Grant (with Teresa Kouri Kissel), Old Dominion University

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