Tiffany Ameline Zhu | Curriculum Vitae

Old Dominion University
Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
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Norfolk, VA 23529
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RESEARCH AREAS

Specialization: Philosophy and Ethics of AI, Epistemology, Philosophy of Language, Social Philosophy
Competence: Chinese Philosophy, Cognitive Science

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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

2024–2025 Faculty Fellow
California Center for Ethics and Policy
California State Polytechnic University Pomona

2022–2023 Adjunct Faculty
Department of Philosophy
California State University Long Beach

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy
University of California Irvine, 2025

M.A. Philosophy
Georgia State University, 2019

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

PUBLICATIONS

[3] Zhu, T.A. (2026). How should AI talk about us? LLMs and social generics. *AI & Society* 41: 7377–7389. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-026-03076-9

[2] Vasil, N., Curiel, A., Zhu, T.A., 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*. https://doi.org/10.1093/chidev/aacag071

[1] Ritchie, K., Curiel, A., Zhu, T.A., Pederneschi, A., & Vasil, N. (2025). The scope of generic generalizations: Developmental changes in judgments about contextually-restricted generics. In D. Barner, N.R. Bramley, A. Ruggeri and C.M. Walker (Eds). *Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*. https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3c17j9r6

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Print Media

"59% of kids use AI to look up information—but it could weaken 'critical thinking skills,' says expert." CNBC. March 13, 2026. Available here: https://www.cnbc.com/2026/03/13/many-kids-use-ai-to-search-for-information-why-thats-a-problem-according-to-experts.html

Podcasts

"How should AI talk about us?" NPR The Academic Minute. May 19, 2026. Available here: https://www.academicminute.org/p/tiffany-zhu-old-dominion-university

CCEP Podcast–Exploring Policy and Ethics in California: Season 5 host. 2025–2026. Available here: https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/ccep-podcasts-exploring-policy-and-ethics-in-california/id1586716112

PRESENTATIONS

Invited

2026 Keynote: "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

Refereed

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

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

Senior Seminar on Global AI Ethics	Spring 2027
AI Ethics and Policy	Fall 2026, Spring 2027
Introduction to Ethics	Spring 2026
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

Online Course Coordinator

Critical Thinking	Fall 2018 to Summer 2019

ADVISING AND MENTORSHIP

2026	Aeve Boucher, M.A. Humanities, Old Dominion University (Committee member)
2024–2025	Tanner De Jong, B.A. Science, Technology, and Society, Cal Poly Pomona Thesis: "A future into AI podcasts" (Second reader)
2024–2025	Pamla Sianosian, B.A. Philosophy, Cal Poly Pomona Thesis: "AI love: The future? Or the apocalypse?" (Second reader)

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND DISTINCTIONS

2026	ODU Faculty Digital Innovation Grant for Authorship Check: Restoring Student-Teacher Trust, with co-PI Teresa Kouri Kissel ($4,000)
2025	UCI Humanities Center Building Intellectual Community Grant for Generics in Context Workshop, co-awardees Raj Dutta, Anna Pederneschi, and Katherine Ritchie ($2,000)
2025	Research travel award, UCI Department of Philosophy
2024	American Philosophical Association Pacific Division conference travel grant
2024	Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience event grant
2023	Kavka Foundation award, UCI Department of Philosophy
2023	Outstanding DECADE Student Representative award, UC Irvine
2023	American Philosophical Association Pacific Division conference travel grant
2023	Research travel award, UCI Department of Philosophy
2023	Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience event grant
2022	Research travel award, UCI Department of Philosophy
2023	Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience event grant
2020	Commitment to a Better Education grant, UC Irvine
2020	Humanities Out There fellowship, UC Irvine
2019	Graduate Teaching Award, Georgia State University
2015	NextGen grant, California Center for Cultural Innovation

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

2026–2027	Undergraduate Philosophy Club Faculty Advisor, ODU
2026–2027	ALAI AI policy committee member, ODU College of Arts and Letters
2025–2027	Dean's Advisory Council member, ODU College of Arts and Letters
2026–2027	Teaching Portfolio Review Committee member, ODU Dept of Philosophy and Religious Studies
2026	Ad hoc reviewer, *Journal of Sociotechnical Critique*
2025–2026	Search Committee member, ODU Dept of Philosophy and Religious Studies

2025–2026 Teaching Portfolio Review 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

2026–present 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, UC Irvine and 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

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2025–2026 Pursue Truth pedagogical workshop, ODU
2025–2026 Early Career Research Academy, ODU