

# Maria Federica Norelli

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## EXPERIENCE

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NU London at Northeastern Limited London  
*Research Assistant for 'Reverse Engineering Prompts Project: Understanding the AI ethics field' (Apr 2025 - Present)*

- Conduct data gathering from online forums and platforms using APIs to collect large-scale conversational data related to AI ethics.
- Perform data cleaning, preprocessing, and organization to prepare for downstream analysis.
- Apply natural language processing (NLP) techniques to analyze prompt structures and their ethical implications.
- Assist in identifying trends and patterns in prompt usage through qualitative and quantitative analysis.
- Contribute to the development of ethical guidelines and frameworks based on data-driven insights.

Lecturer in Logic at Northeastern University of London London

*Seminars Leader for course LPHIL4228 Introduction to Logic, facilitating interactive sessions for 20 undergraduate students (Jan 2025 – Apr 2025)*

- Designing, planning, and teaching seminar activities based on curriculum requirements and exams.
- Guiding students through propositional and predicate logic exercises.
- Integrating digital learning tools such as Canvas for supplementary materials
- Employing diverse teaching methods, including lectures, presentations, and class activities to deliver curriculum.
- Developing materials to assess and promote student learning objectives.
- Seeking ways to improve performance by reflecting on teaching design, obtaining feedback, and incorporating findings into content delivery.

NU London at Northeastern Limited London  
*Research Assistant for 'Human and Network Sciences: Graph Computing for Humanities and Social Sciences' Project (Apr 2024 - Dec 2024)*

- Develop and deploy Jupyter notebooks designed to introduce humanities and social science researchers to Python for graph computing and social network analysis.
- Engage in the preparation, importing, and cleaning of graph data.
- Run simulations using the PolyGraphs framework to facilitate cross-disciplinary research between humanities and network sciences.
- Analyze output data and assisted in the creation of training materials aimed at enhancing the UK's research capacity in network science.
- Engage in a hands-on case study applying computational philosophy and network science principles to analyze social epistemology challenges.

NU London at Northeastern Limited London  
*Research Assistant (Psychophysics) for 'Cones to Words: Augmenting Color Communication in Context' Project*  
*(Oct 2021 -Mar 2023)*

- Administer standardized tests to research subjects, and/or interview them in order to collect research data.
- Recruit and schedule research participants.
- Prepare tables, graphs, fact sheets, and written reports summarizing research results.
- Provide assistance with the preparation of project-related reports, manuscripts, and presentations.
- Quality data reporting, research, and analysis.
- Collect and log experimental data from lab and online studies.

## EDUCATION

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NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY LONDON London  
*PhD in Philosophy (in progress, expected graduation in Oct 26)*

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY LONDON London  
*Master of Arts (M.A.) Philosophy and Artificial Intelligence (Sep 2022)*

- First-Class Honours Degree
- Relevant Coursework: Mind and Machines, Foundations of Data Science, AI and Data Ethics
- Extracurricular Activities: Founding member of PostGrad Society, Member of Philosophy Society,
- Title of Dissertation: ‘Predicting Without Explaining? An Epistemological Investigation of Deep Learning Systems ‘

UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA Bologna  
*Master of Arts (M.A.) Semiotics (Mar 2019)*

- Awarded *summa cum laude*
- Title of Dissertation: ‘Less is More? On Ockham’s Razor as a theoretical criterion’

UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA Bologna  
*Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Philosophy (Nov 2016)*

- Awarded *summa cum laude*
- Extracurricular Activities: Speaker in Philosophy of Mind Seminar (Fall 2017), Speaker in Violence and Women Seminar (Spring 2015), Speaker in History of Philosophy Seminar on Giovanni Gentile's General Theory of the Spirit as Pure Act (Fall 2015), Advisor in Ancient Greek Seminar on Plato's Parmenides (Spring 2014), Speaker in Ancient Greek Seminar on Plato's Euthyphro (Spring 2013)
- Title of Dissertation: ‘The Evolution of Wittgenstein’s Thought from the *Tractatus* to the *Philosophical Investigations*’

## TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

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- *Democrazia e Opinione Pubblica. Cos'è la Post-Verità?* Dialoghi Etici, patrocinio del Comune di Contursi Terme (SA), 24 April 2021 – speaker.
- *Cultural Differences in the Cognitive Aspects of Colour Geometry*, Wittgenstein and AI: 11th British Wittgenstein Society Conference, organized by New College of the Humanities (London), 29-31 July 2022 – speaker.
- *The Use of Colour Names Over Repeated Trials*, CdC Color Conference organized by Gruppo del Colore, Lecco (Lake Como), Italy, 15-16 September 2023 – speaker.
- *Data, Phenomena and Models in Machine Learning*, 5th "Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence" Conference organized by the Society for the Philosophy of AI, Erlangen, Germany, 15-16 December 2023 – poster presenter.
- *Theoretical Reasoning Research Cluster*: Organized by the Centre of Reasoning, University of Kent (Canterbury), March 2024 – speaker.
- *Addressing Contemporary Human Security Threats: Conversations on Climate, Conflict, Technology, Identity, and Health* PhD Symposium: Organized by NU London (London), May 2024 – poster presenter.
- *AI in Action Bootcamp*: Organized by NU London (London), May 2024 – speaker.
- *Human and Network Sciences Bootcamp*: Organized by NU London (London), October 2024 – speaker.
- *The Interplay of Data Phenomena and Models*, 29th Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, organized by the Philosophy of Science Association (New Orleans), United States of America, 14-17 November 2024 – speaker.
- *Amplifying Humanities Research with AI and Network Science Methods Workshop*: Organized by NU London (London), 7 May 2025 – speaker.
- *Sparsity, Generalization, and Winning Tickets of Deep Neural Networks: The Noise Cancelling Razor of Machine Learning*, 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial meeting of the European Philosophy of Science Association, organized by the European Philosophy of Science Association (Groningen), Netherlands, 27-30 August 2025 – speaker.

## PUBLICATIONS AND AWARDS

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- Recipient of WD Wright Award, November 2023
- *The Use of Colour Names Over Repeated Trials*, in *Color and Colorimetry. Multidisciplinary Contributions*. Vol. XVIII A, 2023. Available: <https://www.rcasb.eu/index.php/RCASB/catalog/book/13>.
- Recipient of PSA Travel Grant, October 2024.
- Norelli, M. F., Votsis, I., & Williamson, J. (2025). The Interplay of Data, Models, and Theories in Machine Learning. *Philosophy of Science*, 1–16. doi:10.1017/psa.2025.10161.
- Recipient of EPSA Travel Grant, May 2025.

## TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

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- *Digital Marketing and Communication*, Bologna Business School (July 2018)
- *Introduction to Research Integrity*, UK Research Integrity Office (Spring 2024)
- *Evidence-Based Postsecondary Teaching*, Northeastern University (Summer 2024)
- *Integrating Teaching Across Contexts*, Northeastern University (Fall 2024)

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS

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- Languages: Italian (native), English (fluent), German (beginner)
- Technology: Data Science (ML modeling and analysis), Programming (Python), Software (MS Office Suite), Operating Systems (Windows, Macintosh OS X)

## REFERENCES

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Dr. Ioannis Votsis, Professor In Philosophy, Northeastern University London

[ioannis.votsis@nulondon.ac.uk](mailto:ioannis.votsis@nulondon.ac.uk) – PhD Supervisor

Dr. Jon Williamson, Samuel Hall Chair of Philosophy, University of Manchester.

[j.williamson@kent.ac.uk](mailto:j.williamson@kent.ac.uk) – PhD Supervisor

Dr. Rogério De Lemos, Senior Lecturer in Computer Science, University of Kent

[r.delemos@kent.ac.uk](mailto:r.delemos@kent.ac.uk) – PhD Supervisor

Dr. Brian Ball, Head of Faculty and Associate Professor in Philosophy, Northeastern University London

[brian.ball@nulondon.ac.uk](mailto:brian.ball@nulondon.ac.uk) – Research Advisor

