

KENTARO NAKAMURA

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Website: <https://k-nakam.github.io>

EDUCATION

Harvard University

Ph.D. | *Public Policy* (Politics and Institution Track)

- Affiliation: Institute of Quantitative Social Science (IQSS)

Sep.2023 – Present

Cambridge, USA

University of Chicago

Master of Science | *Statistics*

Sep.2021 – Jun.2023

Chicago, USA

Waseda University

Bachelor of Arts | Major: *Political Science*, Minor: *Law*, Certificate: *Data Science*

- Best Paper Award (Excellent work at the Category of Mathematical and Statistical Measurement)

Apr.2017 – Sep.2021

Tokyo, Japan

George Washington University

Exchange Program

Aug.2019 – May.2020

Washington D.C., USA

RESEARCH INTEREST

Causal Inference with Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Political Communication, Political Violence

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Understanding the Impact of Military Service on Support for Insurrection in the United States

Journal of Conflict Resolution, with Robert Pape, Keven Ruby, and Kyle Larson [\[URL\]](#)

- Analyzed why and how civilians with prior military experiences are prone to support political violence.

Balancing Opportunities and Incentives: How Rising China's Mediated Public Diplomacy Changes under Crisis

International Journal of Communication [\[URL\]](#)

- Estimated the strategic shift of the rising China's public diplomacy under crisis by machine learning

SELECTED WORKING PAPERS

Causal Representation Learning with Generative Artificial Intelligence: Application to Texts as Treatments

Working paper, with Kosuke Imai [\[URL\]](#)

- Developed new experimental designs to use texts created by deep generative model as a treatment

Gen-AI Powered Inference

Working paper, with Kosuke Imai [\[URL\]](#)

- Proposed a new framework to use the internal representations of deep generative models for statistical inference

Surrogate Representation Inference for Noisy Text and Image Annotations

Working paper [\[URL\]](#)

- Proposed a framework to improve efficiency with noisy and partially observed annotations
- Best poster award at the 2025 Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Kentaro Nakamura (2025). "Surrogate Representation Inference for Noisy Text and Image Annotations", *Applied Statistics Workshop, Harvard University*

Kentaro Nakamura (2025). "Gen-AI Powered Inference", *2025 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association*

Kentaro Nakamura (2025, Poster). "Efficient Statistical Inference from Partial and Noisy Annotations: Application to Text-as-Outcome", *2025 Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology*

Kosuke Imai, Kentaro Nakamura (2025). "Gen-AI Powered Inference", *2025 Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology*

Kentaro Nakamura (2025). "Causal Representation Learning with Generative Artificial Intelligence: Application to Texts as Treatments", *Applied Statistics Workshop, Harvard University*

Kosuke Imai, Kentaro Nakamura (2025). "Causal Representation Learning with Generative Artificial Intelligence: Application to Texts as Treatments", *Japanese Society for Quantitative Political Science 2025 Winter Meeting*

Kentaro Nakamura (2024, Poster). "Causal Inference with Unstructured High-Dimensional Treatments using Deep Generative Models: Applications to Images and Texts", *2024 Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology*

Kentaro Nakamura (2023). "Improving Text as Treatment Framework", *Japanese Society for Quantitative Political Science 2023 Summer Meeting*

Kentaro Nakamura, Yuki Mikiya (2023). "International Credibility for Domestic Legitimacy? How Authoritarian Country Coordinated its Narratives during the Crisis", *Southern Political Science Association*

Kentaro Nakamura (2022). "How Rising Powers' Public Diplomacy Changes under Difficulties: the case of China", *Japanese Society for Quantitative Political Science 2022 Winter Meeting*

SOFTWARE

Debriefly

Survey Software for Automated Cognitive Debriefing (Available upon Requests)

gpi-pack [\[URL\]](#)

Python module for Generative-AI Powered Inference.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant of Prof. Gary King

Harvard University

May.2024 – Present
Cambridge, USA

- Worked on the project of the automated cognitive debriefing (co-author)

Research Assistant of Prof. Matthew Baum

Shorenstein Center, Harvard Kennedy School

Nov.2023 – Present
Cambridge, USA

Data and Causal Inference Analyst

Chicago Projects on Security and Threats (CPOST), University of Chicago

Sep.2022 – Aug.2023
Chicago, USA

- Designed experiments, discussed identification strategies, and implemented causal mediation analysis

Research Assistant of Prof. Shuhei Kurizaki

Waseda University

May.2020 – Sep.2021
Tokyo, Japan

- Conducted the qualitative research on the foreign takeover in Europe (Co-Author since September 2020)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow: GOV2002 (Causal Inference with Applications; Prof. Kosuke Imai)

Harvard University

Fall 2025
Cambridge, USA

Teaching Assistant at the Center for Data Science

Waseda University

Sep.2020 – Mar.2021
Tokyo, Japan

- Checked class materials and answered the questions about Statistics and Machine Learning

HONORS AND AWARDS

Society of Political Methodology Best Poster Award	Jul.2025
Best Method Poster presented by graduate students at PolMeth2025 (Emory) [News]	
The Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS) Research Grant	Apr.2025
Research Grant for Dissertation Research (USD2,000)	
The Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS) Research Grant	Apr.2025
Research Grant for the joint project with Jing Ling Tan and George Yang (USD2,000)	
Harvard Kennedy School Travel Grant	Jan.2025
Travel Grant for attending JSQPS2025 Winter Meeting (USD1000)	
The Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS) Travel Grant	Jul.2024
Travel Grant for attending PolMeth2024 (USD500)	
Japanese Student Service Organization Scholarship	Sep.2023 - Aug.2026
Merit-based scholarship. Partial tuition coverage (JPY 3 million yen) and monthly stipends.	
Graduate Council Research & Personal Development Fund, University of Chicago	Jan. 2023
Travel Grant for attending SPSA2023 (USD600)	
Tuition Fellowship, University of Chicago	Sep. 2021 - Jun. 2023
Equivalent to 25 percent of my approved tuition. Increased to 30% from 2nd year	
Statistics Consulting Cup Awards	Dec.2021
Best Prize in the Consulting Program at the Department of Statistics. [News]	
NSK Ltd. Scholarship	Sep.2021 – Jun.2023
Scholarship provided only for top four students in Japan. JPY13,600,000 ≈ USD100,000	
Japanese Student Service Organization Scholarship	Mar.2021
Declined to accept NSK Scholarship. Merit-based scholarship.	
Best Paper Award (Category of Mathematical and Statistical Measurement)	Feb.2021
Thesis Competition of the Waseda Association for Political Science and Economics [News]	
Japanese Student Service Organization Scholarship	Aug.2019 – May.2020
Merit based scholarship to support exchange program. JPY900,000. ≈ USD7,000	

ACADEMIC SERVICES / DISCUSSANT ROLES

Discussant: SPSA (2023), APSA (2025)

Reviewer: Political Analysis, International Studies Quarterly

Others: Coordinator of Applied Statistics Workshop, Harvard University (2024-2025)

SKILLS

Languages: Japanese (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (B1; Intermediate)

Programming: (Proficient) Python(3.X), R, C++ (Rcpp), LATEX, ArcGIS, STATA, HTML / (Experience) C, SQL

REFERENCES

Available upon request

Last updated on September 22, 2025