

KENTARO NAKAMURA

Contact: knakamura [at] g.harvard.edu

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

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

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 13, 2025