KENTARO NAKAMURA

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EDUCATION

Harvard University   Sep.2023 – Present
Ph.D. | *Public Policy* (Politics and Institution Track)   Cambridge, USA
- Affiliation: Institute of Quantitative Social Science (IQSS)

University of Chicago   Sep.2021 – Jun.2023
Master of Science | *Statistics*   Chicago, USA

Waseda University   Apr.2017 – Sep.2021
Bachelor of Arts | *Major: Political Science, Minor: Law, Certificate: Data Science*   Tokyo, Japan
- Best Paper Award (Excellent work at the Category of Mathematical and Statistical Measurement)

George Washington University   Aug.2019 – May.2020
Exchange Program   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

SOFTWARE

Debriefly
Survey Software for Automated Cognitive Debriefing (Available upon Requests)

gpi-pack [URL]
Python module for Generative-AI Powered Inference.

PRESENTATIONS

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*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant of Prof. Gary King — May.2024 – Present
Harvard University — Cambridge, USA
- Worked on the project of the automated cognitive debriefing (co-author)

Research Assistant of Prof. Matthew Baum — Nov.2023 – Present
Shorenstein Center, Harvard Kennedy School — Cambridge, USA

Data and Causal Inference Analyst — Sep.2022 – Aug.2023
Chicago Projects on Security and Threats (CPOST), University of Chicago — Chicago, USA
- Designed experiments, discussed identification strategies, and implemented causal mediation analysis

Research Assistant of Prof. Shuhei Kurizaki — May.2020 – Sep.2021
Waseda University — Tokyo, Japan
- Conducted the qualitative research on the foreign takeover in Europe (Co-Author since September 2020)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant at the Center for Data Science — Sep.2020 – Mar.2021
Waseda University — Tokyo, Japan
- Checked class materials and answered the questions about Statistics and Machine Learning

HONORS AND AWARDS

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 $\approx$ 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. $\approx$ USD7,000

ACADEMIC SERVICES / DISCUSSANT ROLES

Discussant: SPSA (2023)
Reviewer: International Studies Quarterly

SKILLS

Languages: Japanese (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (B1; Intermediate)
Programming: (Proficient) Python(3.X), R, C++ (Rcpp), LaTeX, ArcGIS, STATA / (Experience) C, HTML, SQL

REFERENCES

Available upon request

Last updated on March 4, 2025