

# KENTARO NAKAMURA

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

## EDUCATION

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### 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

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

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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### 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

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### 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

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**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

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### **Debriefly**

Survey Software for Automated Cognitive Debriefing (Available upon Requests)

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

Python module for Generative-AI Powered Inference.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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

<b>Research Assistant of Prof. Matthew Baum</b> Shorenstein Center, Harvard Kennedy School	Nov.2023 – Present Cambridge, USA
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<b>Data and Causal Inference Analyst</b> Chicago Projects on Security and Threats (CPOST), University of Chicago	Sep.2022 – Aug.2023 Chicago, USA
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- Designed experiments, discussed identification strategies, and implemented causal mediation analysis

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

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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<b>Teaching Fellow: GOV2002 (Causal Inference with Applications; Prof. Kosuke Imai)</b> Harvard University	Fall 2025 Cambridge, USA
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<b>Teaching Assistant at the Center for Data Science</b> Waseda University	Sep.2020 – Mar.2021 Tokyo, Japan
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- Checked class materials and answered the questions about Statistics and Machine Learning

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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

## ACADEMIC SERVICES / DISCUSSANT ROLES

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**Discussant:** SPSA (2023), APSA (2025)  
**Reviewer:** Political Analysis, International Studies Quarterly  
**Others:** Coordinator of Applied Statistics Workshop, Harvard University (2024-2025)

## SKILLS

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

## REFERENCES

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Available upon request

*Last updated on September 22, 2025*