

# My (Chiffon) Nguyen

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Human-AI systems that reflect diverse human patterns: **languages & cultures** (multilingual and multicultural AI), **values** (pluralistic alignment, robust evaluation, and ML fairness), and. **society** (cooperative AI, human-AI collaboration, and social impacts of AI), while maintaining trustworthiness. Key fields: NLP, human-AI interaction, AI alignment, AI control

## EDUCATION

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**Minerva University, College of Computational Sciences**

Sep 2021 — May 2025

*B.S in Computational Sciences (Machine Learning and Statistics), GPA: 3.7/4.0*

*San Francisco, CA, USA*

- Relevant Coursework: Machine Learning (A), AI Ethics, Bayesian Modeling (A), Statistical Modeling and Causal Inference (A), Optimization Methods (A), Probability and Statistics (A-), Software Engineering
- Certifications: [Natural Language Specialization](#) (deeplearning.ai, 2024), [Machine Learning Specialization](#) (2022)
- Self-study: [ARENA AI Safety](#) (2025 ongoing), [AI Alignment](#) (Bluedot Impact, 2025)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**AI Research Fellow**

Sep 2025 — Present

Algoverse AI Research

*Remote*

- Researching AI alignment under [Eyon Jang](#), aimed for a ICML 2026 workshop paper

**Machine Learning Research Assistant**

Jun 2024 — Aug 2024

AI & Mixed Reality Lab, Landshut University of Applied Sciences

*Landshut, Bavaria, Germany*

- Implemented **3D object detection pipeline** using LiDAR point clouds and PointPillars algorithm in PyTorch and [NVIDIA TAO Toolkit](#) for autonomous navigation research
- Conducted comparative analysis of model performance across standard vs. synthetic datasets

**Causal Inference Research Intern (Replication and Extension)**

Nov 2023 — Dec 2023

Minerva University (Advisor: Professor Alexis Diamond)

*Remote*

- Replicated and extended [Chrisinger \(2021\)](#)'s causal inference of Philadelphia's beverage excise tax effects on SNAP benefit redemption using synthetic control in R, analyzing policy impacts across 4+ counties and 50+ months of longitudinal data
- Identified critical limitations in dataset reliability and **magnitude discrepancies** between original and replicated results
- Conducted new **leave-one-out robustness analysis** on synthetic control models, showing model instability

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Minerva University**

Lead Tutor, PR51 Programming with Python

Spring 2025

- Taught weekly labs for 40+ first-year students of diverse learning backgrounds, covering computer systems, Python fundamentals, object-oriented programming, debugging, security, and data structures
- Extracted 20 data-driven pedagogical insights using Google Drive API, Google Sheet trackers, student and tutor surveys, improving hands-on learning and student engagement for the next class iteration

Lead Teaching Assistant, FA50/FA51 Critical, Statistical and Algorithmic Thinking

Fall 2023 - Spring 2024

- Guided 150+ students annually in formal logic, probability and statistics, algorithmic thinking, and simulation, through office hours, personalized feedback on 25 quizzes; assisted professors in grading 6 assignments annually.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SERVICES

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- Aug 2025 - Present: **Communication and Design Engineer** at [SEACrowd](#) (AI research for Southeast Asia), building website and managing crowdsourced data annotation for underrepresented languages
- Feb 2025: Dataset contributor for [Humanity's Last Exam benchmark](#) dataset and SEA-VL

## SELECTED PROJECTS

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**Conscious AI Usage Tips** ([github.com/mychiffonn/conscious-ai-tips](https://github.com/mychiffonn/conscious-ai-tips))

Sep 2025 — Oct 2025

Full-stack website compiling tips for conscious and environmentally aware usage and development of AI models, with advanced filtering and sorting. Developed with HTML, PicoCSS, JavaScript, PostgreSQL (Render)

### Astro Academic Portfolio Theme for Researchers ([github.com/mychiffonn/website](https://github.com/mychiffonn/website))

Aug 2025 — Present

High-performance academic theme, enabling fast, accessible, and multilingual publishing of publications and technical blogs while ensuring top-tier SEO (80+) and Lighthouse (100) scores using Astro, TailwindCSS and shadcn/ui

### Mnemonic Generation for Vocabulary Learning ([github.com/mychiffonn/mnemonic-gen](https://github.com/mychiffonn/mnemonic-gen))

Oct 2024 — Mar 2025

- Designed an AI chatbot that generated mnemonic devices for learning and memorizing vocabulary, **synthesizing 50+ papers** across linguistics, psycholinguistics, language education, and large language models
- Applied **chain-of-thought distillation pipeline**: generated 10k synthetic reasoning examples from teacher model DeepSeekR1, fine-tuned student model Gemma3-1b using LoRA via trl and unsloth libraries
- Implemented **Direct Preference Optimization** on 500 annotated preference pairs, achieving statistically significant improvements in alignment with learner judgments on cognitive science principles such as memorability and imageability

### SeizureSavvy ([github.com/mychiffonn/SeizureSavvy](https://github.com/mychiffonn/SeizureSavvy))

Feb 2024 — Apr 2024

- Managed a team of 4 to build a Progressive Web App for intuitive seizure management with machine learning-based predictive alerts in Flask (Python), React, and Chakra UI
- Enhanced data logging and medication tracking, increasing user data accuracy by 35%
- Conducted code reviews in Python and React JavaScript, cutting 40% critical bugs and enhancing application stability

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- **Programming Languages:** Python, TypeScript, R, SQL, Bash
- **Machine Learning & Statistics:** PyTorch, trl, unsloth, scikit-learn, LangChain/LangGraph, LlamaIndex, SciPy, PyMC
- **Web:** React, Astro, Express, FastAPI, PostgreSQL, Flask, Jekyll, Tailwind CSS, shadcn/ui
- **Tools & Technologies:** Git, Docker, Render, Railway, Netlify, LaTeX, Zotero, Typst

## MENTEES

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- Hien T. Mai (Minerva University) - *Sep 2025 - present*