Nicholas Osaka

nicholas.osaka@gmail.com

Areas of Competency: Philosophy of Technology, Feminist Philosophy, Social Epistemology, Ethics
Areas of Interest: Disability Theory, Queer Theory, Asian Philosophies (incl. Japanese Ethical Philosophies)

EDUCATION

M.A.   Ethics and Applied Philosophy with a graduate certificate in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, University of North Carolina at Charlotte   2024

B.A.   Philosophy (*summa cum laude*), University of North Carolina at Charlotte   2022

B.S.   Computer Science (*summa cum laude*) with a minor in Mathematics, University of North Carolina at Charlotte   2022

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

2024 – Present	Data Platform Engineer	The Hartford
2022 – 2024	Technology, Data, & Analytics Leadership Development Program Associate	The Hartford
	Data Engineering Rotation (12 months)	
	Solution Architecture Rotation (12 months)	

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

Osaka, Nicholas. "Talking Past Meaning Making: Large Language Models and Hermeneutical Dilution" in *Finding our Place in the Digital World: Philosophical Essays on Technology, Phenomenology, and the Environment*, eds. Michael Butler and Ian Werkheiser. Springer Publishing, TBA. [Accepted for inclusion].

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

2024   "Analyzing the Bootstrapping Problem of Web3: A Tri-Conditional Approach" at the 33rd Annual Association for Practical and Professional Ethics International Conference. Cincinnati. February 24, 2023. [Joint presentation with Violet Victoria].

2023   "A Bootstrapping Problem for Web3 Adoption" at the 6th Transatlantic Conference on the Ethics of Business, Trade, & Global Governance: Ethics and Sustainability in Banking and Finance. St. Andrews, Scotland. November 23, 2023. [Joint presentation with Violet Victoria].

"Why a Socialist Cryptocurrency Can Never Exist: The Hermeneutical Resources of Virtual Money and Cryptocurrency" at the 61st Meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy [Friday individual paper session]. Toronto Metropolitan University, Ontario. October 13.

"Feminist Practices of the Nikkei: Japanese Diasporic Feminisms Between and Across Generations" at the 16th meeting of *philo*SOPHIA: a feminist society. UNC Charlotte, NC. June 2.

"Japanese Anarcha-Feminism through the Seitō Literary Magazine" at Marquette University's Annual Graduate Philosophy Conference on Hidden Figures. Marquette University, WI. March 24.

2022   "Japanese Ethical Philosophy and Algorithm Design" at the 22nd Annual Southern Appalachian Undergraduate Philosophy Conference. UNC Asheville, NC. April 16.

Workshop Presentations

2023   "Non-Fungible Tokens and Neoliberal Asset Logics/Economies via the Metaverse" at the Digital Worlds Workshop. University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley, Virtual. April 23.

Invited Commentaries

2024   Comments on Jill Fellow's "Binary Bonding: Programming Care and Scripting the Self", at the Digital Worlds Workshop. University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley, Virtual. April 20.

Invited Presentations/Talks

2024   "Moving Past Models: AI from a Public Policy Perspective." Invited presentation to the Charlotte AI Research club. September 9.

Guest Lectures

2024   "The Future/Past of Work: AI, Labor, and Biopolitics." Lecture in Aileen Benedict's Introduction to Data Mining class, University of North Carolina at Charlotte. October 17.

2023   "Problematizing Classification Systems and Methods: Historical Sketches and Illustrations." Lecture in Aileen Benedict's Introduction to Data Mining class, University of North Carolina at Charlotte. October 6.

2022   "Problems in Computer Vision Classification." Lecture in Aileen Benedict's Introduction to Data Mining class, University of North Carolina at Charlotte. October 5.

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY AND WRITING

2023   "Naming and Muddling: Messiness as Pedagogy." Blog of the American Philosophical Association, Graduate Student Reflection Series. July 5. [Invited]

SERVICE

Profession

2022 – Present	Disability and Accessibility Committee, *philo*SOPHIA: a feminist society
2024	Judge, Association for Practical and Professional Ethics Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl National Competition
2023 – 2024	Organizer, Panel Moderator for the 2024 Ethics and Applied Philosophy Graduate Conference (UNC Charlotte)
2022 – 2023	Organizer, Panel Moderator, and Reviewer for the 2023 Annual Ethics and Applied Philosophy Graduate Conference (UNC Charlotte)
2022	Reviewer for the 2022 Ethics and Applied Philosophy Graduate Conference (UNC Charlotte)

University

2023 – 2024	Co-President, Philosophical Union of UNC Charlotte
2022 – 2023	Treasurer, Philosophical Union of UNC Charlotte

Non-Academic

2024	Reviewer, AI 2030 platform — Encode Justice

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Internal — UNC Charlotte

2024	The Graduate School, Conference Travel Merit Scholarship	$1200
2024	Ann C. Carver Graduate Essay Contest, Honorable Mention	$200
2023	Center for Professional & Applied Ethics, Conference Travel Funding	$750
2023	Graduate and Professional Student Government, Conference Travel Funding	$500
2022	Graduate and Professional Student Government, Conference Travel Funding	$250
2020	Atkins Library Undergraduate Research Award	$1000

External

2022	Prize for Paper Presentation, 22nd Annual Southern Appalachian Undergraduate Philosophy Conference	$100

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy

American Philosophical Association

Association for Computing Machinery — Special Interest Group on Accessible Computing (ACM SIGACCESS)

Association for Professional and Practical Ethics

CERTIFICATIONS

CITI Program IRB Members Certification

CITI Program Social and Behavioral Sciences: Responsible Conduct of Research Certification

CITI Program Engineering: Responsible Conduct of Research Certification

Amazon Web Services Certified Cloud Practitioner