

CODY TURNER

Department of Philosophy | Bentley University

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Philosophy of Technology, AI Ethics, Virtue Epistemology

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Normative Ethics, Philosophy of Mind

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Tenure-Track Assistant Professor of Philosophy

Fall 2025-

Bentley University

Department of Philosophy

Postdoctoral Research Fellow on AI and Human Cognition

September 2024-September 2025

University of Massachusetts, Boston

Applied Ethics Center and Institute for Ethics and Emerging Technologies

Postdoctoral Fellow

August 2022-August 2024

University of Notre Dame

Notre Dame-IBM Tech Ethics Lab

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy

June 2022

University of Connecticut (2017-2022)

Thesis: *A Virtue Epistemology of Brain-Computer Interface and Augmented Reality Technology*

Committee Members: Susan Schneider, Heather Battaly, Michael P. Lynch (advisor)

Cumulative GPA: 3.982

B.A. in Philosophy

May 2017

College of William & Mary (2013-2017)

Thesis: *The Combination Problem- Russellian Monism, Panpsychism, and Panqualityism*

Advisor: Chris Tucker. Cumulative GPA: 3.95. Philosophy GPA: 4.0

Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

PUBLICATIONS

1. 'Programmed to Please: The Moral and Epistemic Harms of AI Sycophancy', *AI and Ethics* (with Nir Eisikovits) (forthcoming).
2. 'Choosing Less Harmful Alternatives: The Ethics of Harm Reduction in Emerging Technologies', *Science and Engineering Ethics* (2025): 1-21.
3. 'Neural Nexus: The Philosophy and Governance of Neurotechnology', *IEET White Papers* (2025): 1-33.
4. 'Intellectual Humility without Open-Mindedness: How to Respond to Extremist Views' (with Katie Peters and Heather Battaly), *Episteme* (2025): 1-23.
5. 'Online Echo Chambers, Online Epistemic Bubbles, and Open Mindedness,' *Episteme* (2023): 1-26.
6. 'The Metaverse: Virtual Metaphysics, Virtual Governance, and Virtual Abundance' *Philosophy & Technology*, 36, 67 (2023): 1-8.
7. 'Neuromedia, Cognitive Offloading, and Intellectual Perseverance,' *Synthese* 200, 66 (2022): 1-26.
8. 'HoloFoldit and Hologrammatically Extended Cognition,' *Philosophy & Technology* 35, (2022): 1-9.
9. 'Augmented Reality, Augmented Epistemology, and the Real-World Web,' *Philosophy & Technology* 35, 19 (2022): 1-28.
10. 'The Extended Mind Argument Against Phenomenal Intentionality,' *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences* 21 (2021): 747-774.
11. 'The Cognitive Phenomenology Argument for Disembodied AI Consciousness,' in *The Age of Artificial Intelligence: An Exploration*, Vernon Press (2020): 111-132.
12. 'Could You Merge with AI? Reflections on the Singularity and Radical Brain Enhancement' (with Susan Schneider), in *The Oxford Handbook of Ethics of AI*, Oxford University Press (2020): 307-326.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

13. Article on AI opacity, virtue reliabilism, and extended knowledge (under review)
14. Article on virtual avatars, narrative identity, and the extended self (under review)
15. Article on privacy in VR (under review)
16. Article on extended digital memory, narrative identity, and the right to be forgotten (in progress)
17. Article on AI and intellectual humility (in progress)

EDITORIAL WORK

1. Associate Editor, *Journal of Ethics and Emerging Technologies*

2. Editor, *The Ethics and Politics of Neuroenhancement: Brain-Computer Interfaces and Emerging Neurotechnologies*, 2nd Volume of *The Politics of Human Enhancement* Series, De Gruyter (in progress).

TEACHING POSITIONS

Primary Instructor

AI, Technology, and Values (PH 160) Bentley University	Fall 2025 (two sections)
Digital Selves: Ethics and Identity in Emerging Technologies (Honors 292) University of Massachusetts, Boston	Spring 2025
Fundamentals of Technology Ethics and Society (TEC 20101) University of Notre Dame	Fall 2023 (two sections), Spring 2024
Internet Ethics (TEC 33997) University of Notre Dame	Spring 2023-Spring 2024
Contemporary Issues in Computer Science and Engineering (CSE 3000) University of Connecticut	Fall 2019-Spring 2022
Problems of Philosophy (PHIL 1101) University of Connecticut	Summer 2021, Spring 2022
Social Ethics (PHIL 1104) University of Connecticut	Fall 2020
Philosophy in Literature and Film Duke University Talent Identification Program	Summer 2018, Summer 2019
Ethics and the Little White Lie Duke University Talent Identification Program	Summer 2018

Teaching Assistant

Social Ethics (PHIL 1104) University of Connecticut	Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2020, Spring 2021
Philosophy and Logic (PHIL 1102) University of Connecticut	Spring 2019

PRESENTATIONS

“The Promise (and Peril) of Human-AI Co-Intelligence” (Keynote Speaker) UMass Boston, University Conference on Teaching, Learning & Technology Paul English Applied AI Institute and Center for Innovative Teaching	May 2025
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“Virtual Trespassing: Privacy and Sensorial Space in Photographic VR” Digital Worlds Workshop, Departments of Philosophy University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley and University of North Dakota	April 2025
“Ethical Concerns Surrounding Brain-Computer Interfaces” The Ethics, Uses, and Risks of Brain-Computer Interfaces Conference UMass Boston, Applied Ethics Center	April 2025
“Ethics of AI Companions: Therapybots and Deathbots” (Guest Lecturer) UMass Boston, Computer Science Department, ‘AI for All’ Course (CS 480)	April 2025
“AI-Extended Knowledge and Intellectual Humility” Vice Squad Workshop University of Connecticut, Philosophy Department	April 2025
“The Use of AI in Research and Writing” (Invited Speaker) UMass Boston, College of Education, Dissertation Writing Course	April 2025
“AI-Extended Knowledge and Intellectual Humility” Work in Progress Workshop UMass Boston, Philosophy Department	April 2025
“AI Opacity, Virtue Reliabilism, and AI-Extended Knowledge” Mindfest 2025: Sentience, Autonomy, and the Future of Human-AI Interaction Florida Atlantic University, Center for the Future of Mind, AI, & Society	March 2025
“Ethics of AI Companions: the Case of Deathbots” (Invited Teaching Demo) University of Wisconsin-Stout, English, Philosophy & Communication Studies Department	March 2025
“Ethics of AI Companions: the Case of Therapybots” (Invited Teaching Demo) University of Texas at Arlington, Department of Philosophy and Humanities	February 2025
“AI Opacity, Virtue Reliabilism, and AI-Extended Knowledge” (Invited Job Talk) University of Texas at Arlington, Department of Philosophy and Humanities	February 2025
“AI Opacity, Virtue Reliabilism, and AI-Extended Knowledge” (Invited Job Talk) Bentley University, Department of Philosophy	February 2025
“The Philosophy of Photographic Virtual Reality” Work in Progress Workshop UMass Boston, Philosophy Department	October 2024
“Intellectual Humility without Open-Mindedness: How to Respond to Extremist Views” Invited Talk UMass Boston, Applied Ethics Center	September 2024
“Strategies for Teaching Ethics in Computer Science” Mozilla Summer Training Program on Responsible Computing Education Northeastern University, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ethics Institute	July 2024
“The Avatar Extended Self, Virtual Ethics, and Narrative Identity” 4 th TSHD Digital Humanities Symposium on ‘Digital Technologies and Identity’ Tilburg University (hybrid), Tilburg School of Humanities and Digital Sciences	July 2024

“The Epistemology of Photographic Virtual Reality Experiences” Perception in Games and Virtual Worlds Conference University of Bergen (hybrid), Department of Philosophy	May 2024
“Virtual Reality, Photographic Realism, and the Limits of Phenomenal Conservatism” Developing New Skills in VR Conference University of Bucharest (hybrid), Departments of Philosophy and Psychology	April 2024
“AI Assistants, Extended Epistemology, and Algorithmic Opacity” (Invited Job Talk) University of Kentucky, Department of Philosophy	February 2024
“The Ethics of Autonomous Cars and the Right to Drive Question” (Invited Job Talk) Old Dominion University, Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies	January 2024
“Intellectual Humility without Open-Mindedness: How to Respond to Extremist Views” New Directions in Virtue and Vice Epistemology Conference University of Nottingham (online), Department of Philosophy	September 2023
“The Ethics of Emerging AI Assistant Devices” (Keynote Speaker) Berkshire School, Tian Family Endowed Lecture Series (https://www.berkshireschool.org/about-us/news/news-at-berkshire/~board/main-news-feed/post/alumni-spotlight-cody-turner-13)	April 2023
“Augmented Reality, Augmented Epistemology, and the Real-World Web” University of Notre Dame, Technology Ethics Center Faculty Series	November 2022
“Algorithmic Bias, Algorithmic Opacity, and the Control Problem” University of Connecticut, Media Literacy and Data Ethics Course	March 2022
“The Extended Mind Argument Against Phenomenal Intentionality” University of Connecticut, AI, Mind and Society Group	October 2019
“The Subject-Summing Argument Against Panpsychism” University of Connecticut, PGSA Grue Conference	January 2018
“Panqualityism, Panpsychism, and the Combination Problem” College of William and Mary, Summer Research Showcase held by the Roy R. Charles Center for Academic Excellence	September 2016

SERVICE AND MENTORSHIP

Journal Referee: *Philosophy & Technology* (7x), *Synthese* (1x), *Journal of Philosophical Research* (2x), *Res Publica* (1x), *Australian Journal of Philosophy* (1x), *Journal of Ethics and Emerging Technologies* (3x), *The Journal of Moral Education* (1x), *Review of Philosophy and Psychology* (1x)

Manuscript Review: *The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence: A Philosophical Introduction* by Sven Nyholm, Hackett Publishing (2025)

Faculty Advisor (1x): UMass Boston Interdisciplinary AI Hackathon team (Fall 2024)

- Team project: "AI and Mental Health: Addressing the Therapy Gap"
- Selected as finalist (top 4 of 16 teams) for university-wide AI symposium
- Project evaluated AI-based therapeutic chatbots and developed evidence-based guidelines for AI-assisted mental health interventions.

Faculty Consultant: UMass Boston IT AI Governance Working Group (January 2025-September 2025)

- Helping to lead the Ethical AI Use Framework subcommittee

Recommendation Letters (2x):

- Law school admission (Fall 2024)
- Notre Dame Sorin Scholars Program application (Spring 2024)

Expert Consultation (2x):

- Provided expertise on AI and human creativity for Connecticut Public Radio's 'Disrupted' program segment (November 2024)
- Advised on strategic design diploma project on AR applications in urban environments, Oslo School of Architecture and Design (February 2023)

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION, PARTICIPATION, AND COMMENTS

Conference Organization

"Neurotechnology and Society" (Co-Conference Organizer) June 2026
UMass Boston, Applied Ethics Center

"The Ethics, Uses, and Risks of Brain-Computer Interfaces" (Conference Organizer) April 2025
UMass Boston, Applied Ethics Center

Invited Speaker Series (Organizer) Fall 2024
UMass Boston, Applied Ethics Center

Conference Participation

"AI Explainability, Creativity, and Trust" (Session Chair) March 2025
Mindfest 2025: Sentience, Autonomy, and the Future of Human-AI Interaction
Florida Atlantic University, Center for the Future of Mind, AI, & Society

"The Digital Society and Trust" (Workshop Participant) January 2025
University of Massachusetts, Boston Workshop

"AI for All: Access, Equity, & Action" October 2024
(Panelist and Faculty Mentor for 'AI and Mental Health: Addressing the Therapy Gap' AI Hackathon Team)
University of Massachusetts, Boston, AI Symposium

"Virtual Symposium on Foundation Models in AI" June 2023
(Moderator for Panel on 'Opportunities and Risks in Foundation Models and Guardrails for Enterprises')
University of Notre Dame, IBM Technology Ethics Lab

“Ethics and Epistemology of Virtual Reality” (Session Chair)
Northeastern University, 19th Annual Information Ethics Roundtable

March 2023

“Mindfest” (Workshop Participant)
Florida Atlantic University, Center for the Future of Mind, AI, & Society

March 2023

“Rome Call for AI Ethics: A Global University Summit” (Conference Participant)
October 2022
University of Notre Dame, IBM Technology Ethics Lab

Conference Comments

“Commentary on Charlie Crerar’s article ‘Intellectual Snobs’”
University of Connecticut, Vice Epistemology Conference

April 2019

“Commentary on Zach Blaesi’s article ‘The Moral Parody Argument Against Panpsychism’”
University of Connecticut, Annual Graduate Student Conference

March 2018

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

AI for All: Access, Equity & Action, panelist
Paul English Applied AI Institute, UMass Boston

October 2024

Ethics in Action Podcast, guest host
Applied Ethics Center, UMass Boston
Mini-Series on Brain-Computer Interfaces

September 2024-Present

Tent Talks Podcast, creator and host
Features interviews of philosophers and other academics

Spring 2018-Present

Prosthetic Gods Podcast, guest appearance
Episode on ‘AI Clones’

September 2024

GRANTS

1. Consultant. “Tech Ethics Literacy Initiative.” Mayor’s Youth Council Office, City of Boston (2024-2025). Funded by an internal grant, collaborating with faculty and graduate students to develop a tech literacy curriculum for local high school and undergraduate students. Leading discussions on technology ethics and policy with the Mayor’s Youth Council.

2. Consultant. “Applied Research on Intellectual Humility.” John Templeton Foundation Grant. Co-PIs: Heather Battaly, Don Davis, Joshua Hook, Daryl Van Tongeren, Georgia State University, 2023-2026 (website: <https://www.intellectualhumilityscience.com/>).

HONORS

SET Teaching Excellence Recognition Spring 2018- Spring 2022
University of Connecticut (university-wide award)

Member of Phi Beta Kappa Spring 2017
College of William & Mary

The John E. Rovensky Memorial Prize for Excellence in Independent Study Spring 2013
Berkshire School, (for philosophy independent study on free will)

ORGANIZATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

Research Fellow September 2025-Present
Applied Ethics Center, UMass Boston

Future of Consciousness Fellow Spring 2021-Present
Center for the Future of Mind, AI, & Society, Florida Atlantic University

Faculty Mentor September 2024-September 2025
Paul English Applied Artificial Intelligence (AI) Institute, UMass Boston
Fall 2024 AI Hackathon team project: "AI and Mental Health: Addressing the Therapy Gap"

Research Associate August 2022-August 2024
Notre Dame-IBM Tech Ethics Lab, University of Notre Dame

Instructor Summer 2018, Summer 2019
Duke University Talent Identification Program

CEU Summer University Summer 2019
Cognitive Phenomenology Summer School, Central European University

Uconn-consciousness Club Fall 2017-Spring 2020
University of Connecticut
Founding member/secretary

Philosophy Graduate Student Association (PGSA) Fall 2017-Spring 2022
University of Connecticut
Secretary (2018-2019)

REFERENCES

Kirsten Martin
William P. and Hazel B. White Center Professor of Technology Ethics, University of Notre Dame
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Michael P. Lynch

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Susan Schneider

William F. Dietrich Distinguished Professor of Philosophy of Mind, Florida Atlantic University

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