

# Gerald Nelson Jr.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Phone: (347) 791 7039

## EDUCATION

**Pennsylvania State University**, State College, PA  
Doctor of Philosophy, expected May 2025

**Vanderbilt University**, Nashville, TN  
Bachelor of Arts, May 2018  
Major: Philosophy  
Minor: Japanese Language and Culture

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- *Areas of Specialization*
  - Asian Philosophy (with a focus on the Kyoto School), 20th-century continental philosophy (with a focus on Levinas), Ethics
- *Areas of Competence*
  - African American Philosophy, Caribbean Philosophy, Critical Philosophy of Race

## PUBLICATIONS

- *Published*
  - “A Nishitanian Ethics of Sympathy,” *The Journal of East Asian Philosophy*, vol. 3 (2024)

## TRANSLATIONS

- *Forthcoming*
  - Translation from Japanese to English of Nishida Kitarō’s “On Descartes’ Philosophy,” *European Journal of Japanese Philosophy*, vol. 9 (2024)

## TEACHING

- *Instructor*
  - Ethics — Spring 2024
  - Asian Philosophy — Fall 2023
  - Ethical Leadership — Summer 2023
  - Ethics — Spring 2023
  - Asian Philosophy — Spring 2022
- *Teaching Assistant*
  - Social and Political Philosophy — Fall 2021

**HONORS**

- President of Vanderbilt Japanese Cultural Foundation (2013– 2014)
- Dean’s List at Vanderbilt University (2014 - 2016)
- Posse Foundation Full Tuition Leadership Scholarship (2012– 2017)
- Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Summer Fellow (2022)
- Shoyu Scholarship for Japanese Language Study (2022-2023)

**PRESENTATIONS**

- *Peer-reviewed*
  - “Intersubjectivity as Openness and Expression: A Deleuzian Approach to Intersubjectivity,” Boston College Philosophy Graduate Conference, March 2021.
  - “Nishitani’s Concept of Absolute Autonomy,” European Network of Japanese Philosophers Conference, September 2023.
  - “A Nishitanian Ethics of Sympathy,” International Society for East Asian Philosophy Conference, September 2023.
  - “Black Experience Interpreted as Species: Frantz Fanon and Tanabe Hajime,” Philosophy of the Black Experience Conference, March 2024.
- *Invited Talks*
  - “Keiji Nishitani’s Ethics of Mysticism,” Nishitani Keiji Workshop on the Philosophy of Religion, May 2023.
  - “The Reality of Doubt: Nishida’s Rereading of Descartes and His Legacy,” Nishida’s Philosophy Permanent Seminar, Nov 2023.

**LANGUAGES**

- *Language:*
  - Business-level fluency in the Japanese language
    - Graduate of Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies in Yokohama (2022-2023)
    - JLPT N2 Certificate (Second highest fluency certificate offered for the national exam in Japan)

**GRADUATE COURSEWORK**

- Spinoza, Spring 2022
- Merleau-Ponty, Spring 2022
- Ancient Ethics, Fall 2021
- Ethics of Vulnerability, Fall 2021
- Kant, Spring 2021
- Fanon, Spring 2021
- Nietzsche, Fall 2020
- Rousseau, Fall 2020
- Deleuze’s *Difference and Repetition*, Fall 2020