

Guyu Zhu

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Education

2022-Present	Ph.D. , Philosophy, Cornell University <i>Committee:</i> Carlotta Pavese (Co-Chair), Derk Pereboom (Co-Chair), Nico Silins, Annina Loets (External, University of Wisconsin-Madison)
2020-22	Ph.D Program , Philosophy, Florida State University
2018-19	M.A. , Humanities, the University of Chicago
2013-17	B.A. magna cum laude , Philosophy and Mathematics, Bates College

Areas of Interest

AOS	Metaphysics, Philosophy of Language, Philosophy of Action
AOC	Ancient Greek Philosophy, Chinese Philosophy, Value Theory

Publications

1. **Zhu, Guyu.** Abilities as Modal Ties? *Analysis*. 10.1093/analysis/anaf055 (Forthcoming).

Presentations

2026	Central APA, Chicago, Colloquium “Fundamentality in Ability Modals”
2025	Syracuse University, Syracuse-Cornell Graduate Student Workshop “Fundamentality in Ability Modals”

Awards & Honors

2026	American Philosophical Association, <i>Graduate Student Travel Award</i>
2025-26	Cornell University, <i>Sage Fellowship</i>
2022-23	Cornell University, <i>Sage Fellowship</i>
2020-22	Florida State University, <i>Legacy Fellowship</i>
2018-19	University of Chicago, <i>MAPH Scholarship</i>
2017	Bates College, <i>Phi Beta Kappa</i>
2017	Bates College, <i>Judith Magyar Issacson’65 Prize</i>
2016	Bates College, <i>Rawlings Grant for Mathematics</i>

Teaching

Cornell University

2026 Fall	Sole Instructor of Record , <i>Virtue Ethics: East and West</i> , PHIL 1112
2025 Spring	TA , <i>Ethics of Eating</i> , PHIL 1440

2025 Spring	Grader , <i>Math for Philosophy</i> , PHIL 3/6305
2024 Fall	TA , <i>Ethics</i> , PHIL 2410
2024 Spring	TA , <i>Introduction to Philosophy</i> , PHIL 1100
2023 Fall	TA , <i>Ancient Greek and Roman Philosophy</i> , PHIL 2200
2023 Fall	Grader , <i>Modal Logic</i> , PHIL 3340/PHIL 6311

TA-ing at Cornell typically involves leading weekly discussion sections, grading, holding office hours, and attending classes. The typical size of my section is around 25 students.

Florida State University

2022 Spring	TA , <i>Introduction to Philosophy</i> , PHIL 2010
2021 Fall	TA , <i>Ethical Issues and Life Choices</i> , PHIL 2630
2021 Spring	TA , <i>Introduction to Philosophy</i> , PHIL 2010
2020 Fall	TA , <i>Introduction to Philosophy</i> , PHIL 2010

TA-ing at FSU typically involves grading, holding office hours, and attending classes. The typical size of my section is around 60 students. But in Fall 2020, I also led discussions (3 individual discussion sections of 20 students) in addition to the above responsibilities.

Bates College

2017 Spring	TA , <i>Introduction to Abstraction</i> , MATH s21
2017 Winter	TA , <i>Abstract Algebra</i> , MATH 309
2016 Fall	TA , <i>Real Analysis</i> , MATH 301
2016 Fall	Tutor , <i>Linear Algebra</i> , MATH 205

TA-ing for the 300-level math courses at Bates was a special, one-time job offered by the chair of the department. I was responsible for offering weekly Q&A sessions to help students with their problem sets and attending classes. On rare occasions, I gave stand-in lectures in case of a heavy Maine-snowstorm.

Service

Departmental Service

2025-26	Chair of Cornell's Philosophy Graduate Student Organization <i>* Drafted a 9-page Departmental Climate Survey Report with actionable suggestions for the Chair and the Director of Graduate Studies, based on a 40-page climate survey results. *Also organized the graduate students to provide timely feedback on job candidates to the faculty.</i>
2022-24	Co-Organizer (with Z. K. Payne) of Cornell's Work In Progress Workshop <i>* Reinstated and transformed the WIP workshop into a weekly event for the philosophy graduate students.</i>

Languages

English, Mandarin Chinese (Native), Attic Greek (Reading), Latin (Reading), German (Reading)

Selected Coursework

* := course audited

Metaphysics and Epistemology

Self-Knowledge, Nico Silins
Modal Logic, Arc Kocurek
Personal Identity, David Shoemaker and Shaun Nichols
Skills, Carlotta Pavese
Action Theory, Alfred Mele
Self-Deception, Alfred Mele

History

Stoicism, Tad Brennan
Plato on Political Expertise, Rachana Kamtekar
Spinoza's Ethics, Karolina Hübner
Aristotle's Categories, Tad Brennan
*Ancient Theories of Friendship**, Rachana Kamtekar and Charles Brittain
*Aquinas's Moral Psychology**, Scott MacDonald
*Kant**, Derk Pereboom

Value Theory

Moral Responsibility, David Shoemaker
Aesthetics, Nico Silins
Diverse Embodiment, Kate Manne
Expressivism, Emad Atiq
Constructivism, Mark LeBar
Blame, Randolph Clarke
*Blame and Praise**, David Shoemaker

Others

Elementary Greek, Alan Nussbaum
Intermediate Greek, Charles Brittain
Semantics I, Dorit Abusch
Semantics II, Mats Rooth
*Semantics Seminar: Gradability**, Dorit Abusch and Mats Rooth

References

Carlotta Pavese

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Oxford University
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Nicholas Silins

Professor of Philosophy
Cornell University
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Rachana Kamtekar (Teaching Reference)

Bryce and Edith M. Bowmar Professor in Humanistic Studies
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Derk Pereboom

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Annina Loets

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