

Joshua Brand

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Areas of Specialization: moral philosophy, AI ethics

Areas of Competence: applied ethics, metaethics, politics (particularly Canada and Saskatchewan), French

Languages: English (native speaker) and French (fluent)

EDUCATION

2026 - PhD - Institut Polytechnique de Paris, Télécom Paris, France:

Thesis: *Human-Centred Explainable AI and The Virtue of Vulnerability*

Co-direction: Winston Maxwell (Institut Polytechnique de Paris-Télécom Paris) and John Zerilli (King's College London)

2021 - MSc - University of Edinburgh, Scotland:

Dissertation: *A Case For Self-Determination in Public Health Care* (with Merit)

Supervisor: Michael Cholbi (University of Edinburgh)

2020 - BA Hons. Philosophy and French with High Honours - University of Saskatchewan, Canada

2018 - BA Philosophy with Distinction - University of Saskatchewan, Canada

2018 - Cert. Ethics, Justice & Law - University of Saskatchewan, Canada

2017, 2019-2020 - Exchange Studies - Sorbonne Université - Lettres, France

RESEARCH

Publications:

Brand, Joshua L.M. (2025). Put Yourself in My Shoes: Revisiting the Moral Value of Algorithm Aversion Through Reciprocity and Vulnerability. *Philosophy & Technology*. Accepted/Forthcoming.

—. (2024). Air Canada's chatbot illustrates persistent agency and responsibility gap problems for AI. *AI & Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-024-02096-7>

Bertrand, Astrid et al. (2024). AI is Entering Regulated Territory: Understanding the Regulatory Supervisors' Perspective on Model Justifiability for Financial Crime Detection. In *CHI '24: Proceedings of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, 480: 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3613904.3642326>

Brand, Joshua L.M. (2024). The misdirected approach of open source algorithms. *AI & Society* 39: 807-808. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-022-01547-3>

—. (2023). The Duty to Implement Explainable Artificial Intelligence: A Case Study of Public Service Postal Banks. *Canadian Journal of Practical Philosophy* 9, 1. <https://ojs.uwindsor.ca/index.php/cjpp/article/view/8146>

—. (2023). Why reciprocity bans autonomous weapons systems in war. *AI and Ethics* 3: 619-624. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43681-022-00193-1>

—. (2020). En lisant le Télémaque : L'émancipation des femmes dans *Une fille d'Ève* de H. de Balzac. *USURJ* 6, 3. <https://doi.org/10.32396/usurj.v6i3.498>.

Working and White Papers:

Brand, Joshua L.M. and Carlos Mougán. Kantian Deontology Meets AI Alignment: Towards Morally Grounded Fairness Metrics. *Working Paper*. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2311.05227>

White-Paper for Transatlantic Dialogue on Humanity and AI Regulation (2022). *Worked on First Draft Discussion*.

Conference and Colloquium Presentations:

Philosophy of Science Association Conference, November 2024: *Revisiting the Epistemic and Moral Insights of Algorithmic Aversion*

Ethics of AI Research Colloquium, LMU Munich, May 2024: *Revisiting the Moral Value of Algorithmic Aversion*

37th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems, Workshop on AI meets Moral Philosophy and Moral Psychology, December 2023: *Does Explainable AI Have Moral Value?* Co-Authored with Luca Nannini.

AAAI/ACM Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, and Society, August 2023: *Exploring the Moral Value of Explainable Artificial Intelligence Through Public Service Postal Banks*. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3600211.3604741>

Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics / Société canadienne pour l'étude de l'éthique appliquée, May 2023: *Exploring the Moral Value of Explainable Artificial Intelligence Through Public Service*

Miscellaneous Articles:

Brand, Joshua L.M. (2023). Research Summary of *Why reciprocity bans autonomous weapons systems in war*, by Joshua L.M. Brand. *Montreal AI Ethics Institute*. <https://montrealetics.ai/why-reciprocity-prohibits-autonomous-weapons-systems-in-war/>

—. (2023). Research Summary of *How Cognitive Biases Affect XAI-assisted Decision-making: A Systematic Review*, by Astrid Bertrand, Rafik Belloum, James R. Eagan, and Winston Maxwell. *Montreal AI Ethics Institute*. <https://montrealetics.ai/how-cognitive-biases-affect-xai-assisted-decision-making-a-systematic-review/>

—. (2022). Clarifying the Moral Foundation of Explainable AI. *The Digital Constitutionalist*. <https://digi-con.org/clarifying-the-moral-foundation-of-explainable-ai/>

Brand, Joshua and Mélanie Gornet. (2022). AI and anti-discrimination law: Remarks on Prof. Sandra Wachter's presentation. <https://www.telecom-paris.fr/ai-anti-discrimination-law-remarks-sandra-wachter>

Brand, Joshua and Dilia Carolina Olivo. (2022). Thoughts on the Inauguration of the Trustworthy and Responsible AI Lab by Axa and Sorbonne University. <https://www.telecom-paris.fr/trustworthy-responsible-ai-lab-axa-sorbonne>

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023-Current - Radio-Canada, Saskatchewan Chroniquer (columnist)

2022 - Télécom Paris, France Researcher in the Operational AI Ethics group and XAI4AML chair

2016-2017 - Senate of the University of Saskatchewan Elected Senator

2013-2020 - McDougall Gauley LLP, Saskatchewan Administration working with support staff and lawyers concerning research, legal, and administrative work

TEACHING

2025 - Télécom Paris Judge for Student Presentations in AI Ethics course

2024 - École Polytechnique, Paris Led Seminars "Ethical issues, Law & Novel applications of AI"

2023 - Sciences Po Paris, Le Havre Culture numérique / Digital Culture, Instructor and devised syllabus for eight sessions of three classes

2016-2017, 2019 - Department of Languages, Literature, and Cultural Studies (French) - University of Saskatchewan Tutorial instructor for beginner and intermediate French

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Public and Political Engagement:

2023-Current - Radio-Canada - 5-10 minutes biweekly/monthly episodes covering public philosophy and political perspectives on current events to expand French language network in Saskatchewan

2021 - Sutton Trust Summer School, UK Delivering tutorials to introduce academic philosophy to young students from under-privileged backgrounds

2021 - John Stuart Mill Cup, Scotland Administration working with support staff and lawyers concerning research, legal, and administrative work

2016-2017 - University of Saskatchewan Senate, Canada Elected Senator

Services to Profession:

Télécom Paris - Organize seminars for Operational AI Ethics group

Conseil de laboratoire i3 - Member (Membre d'un siège d'élue) of the Council for i3 Lab

Review articles for journals covering AI and practical ethics

AWARDS

2024 - National competition for doctoral research, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (Canada)

2023 - PhD funding from Télécom Paris-Institut Polytechnique de Paris (3 years)

2023 - Don MacNiven Student Essay Prize, Conference of the Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics/ Société canadienne pour l'étude de l'éthique appliquée

2020 - Thomas Deis '38 Prize in Scholastic Philosophy in Honour of Dr. Basil Markle

2019 - Global Engagement Scholarship for Study Abroad

2019 - Gail Appel Fund Award for Study Abroad

2019 - That Ngo Fund Award for Study Abroad

2016, 2017 - The Doug and Irene Schmeiser Scholarship for Philosophy (x2)

SUMMER SCHOOL / TRAINING

2023 - École des GDR ROD et RADIA - Responsabilité des algorithmes : Enjeux Sociétaux et Environnementaux (*Algorithmic responsibility: social and environmental issues*), CNRS, May 21-26, Aussois, France

REFERENCES

Winston Maxwell, Professeur, (SES, NOS, and i3) - Télécom Paris-Institut Polytechnique de Paris:
winston.maxwell@telecom-paris.fr

John Zerilli, Senior Lecturer in Digital Law and Program Director LL.M. in Digital Law - King's College London:
john.zerilli@kcl.ac.uk