Tianshi Zhao 2026 November

School Email: Z2072128@students.niu.edu Personal Email: zhaotianshi2003@gmail.com

Cell1: +1 815-671-1875 Cell2: +86 198-4231-6312

Education

Northern Illinois University, US 8/2025 – 5/2027

M.A. in Philosophy, expected May 2027 (GPA 4.00/4.00)

Qualifying Paper: "Consequentialism, Inefficacy, and Reasons in Collective Actions"

Shenzhen University, China 9/2021 – 7/2025

B.A. in Philosophy

Thesis: "Debunking Our Beliefs in Ordinary Objects"

Research Interests

Ethics: Metaethics, normative ethics (consequentialism, well-being, aggregation, population ethics), animal ethics

Philosophy of Mind: Consciousness (especially valenced experiences like pleasure and suffering), empirical moral/norm psychology

Secondary Interest: Conceptual engineering, (science-informed) interlevel metaphysics and social ontology

Presentation, Comments, and Other Academic Services

Commentator on Jamie Carmichael's paper, "Better Living through Better Agreement," 19th Dr. C. Michael Gelven NIU Graduate Philosophy Conference, Northern Illinois University, November 2026

"Phenomenal Conservatism and the Belief in God," Epistemology of Religion Course Conference, Northern Illinois University, April 2026

"Against the Attitudinal Theory of Pleasure and Pain," Shenzhen University Teaching Conference, Shenzhen University, November 2024

Reviewer of paper submissions for the 19th Dr. C. Michael Gelven NIU Graduate Philosophy Conference, Northern Illinois University, September 2026

Coursework in Philosophy

Graduate Coursework

Metaphysics and Epistemology

Metaphysics	Alicia Finch	F 2025
Epistemology of Religion	Mylan Engel Jr.	S 2026
Free Will	Alicia Finch	F 2026

Value Theory (Normative Ethics, Metaethics, Political Philosophy)

Ethical Theories	Jason Hanna	F 2025
Practical Reasoning	Steven Daskal	S 2026
Metaethics	Steven Daskal	F 2026
Political Philosophy (sitting in)	Jason Hanna	S 2026

Science

Metaphysics of Science	Carl Gillett	S 2026
Philosophy of Science	Carl Gillett	F 2026

Undergraduate Coursework related to My Areas of Interest

Selected Readings of Philosophical Classics (on Philosophy of Mind)	Yan Li	F 2022
Ethics	Shuai Wang	S 2024
Philosophical Classics and the Good Life	Shuai Wang	S 2022
Philosophy of Science	Hao Hu	S 2024
Main Currents in Contemporary Western Philosophy (focused on Parfit)	Shuai Wang	S 2022

Training & Professional Developments

Summer School for Animal Studies (Phase), Shandong University

Speakers: Oscar Horta & Eva Meijer

Focus: Wild Animal Suffering and Animal Language Shandong University, China, 8/2025

Wild Animal Advocacy Work Meeting, Co-hosted by Animal Ethics, Wild Animal Initiative, RETHINK PRIORITIES, NYU Center for Wild Animal Welfare, Online, October 2025

Honors

Top 100 Outstanding Undergraduate Theses (Designs) Award, Shenzhen University, ¥1,000, 7/2024

Star of Learning, Shenzhen University, 7/2024

Language Skills

- Chinese
- English