

Joseph A. Blass, J.D., Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

- 2013-2023 Northwestern University, McCormick School of Engineering and Pritzker School of Law
Law and Science Fellow
Ph.D., Computer Science
Thesis Title: *Extracting and Applying Legal Rules from Precedent Cases*
Advisor: Kenneth D. Forbus
J.D., *Magna cum Laude*, Order of the Coif
M.S., Computer Science, 2015
- 2006-2010 University of Chicago
B.A., Psychology with Honors
Advisor: Joshua Correll

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023-2024 The Honorable Joshua Deahl, DC Court of Appeals
Judicial Clerk
- 2011-2013 Program in Education, Afterschool, and Resiliency (PEAR)
Consultant
Duties included preparing of written materials, including the drafting of a book; the design and implementation of youth socio-emotional assessments; data collection and statistical analyses; design and programming of analytical tools; and coordination of collaborative projects
- 2010-2011 Environment America/Environment Connecticut
Environment America Fellow
Duties included lobbying elected representatives, organizing public events, coordinating media events, and fundraising for an Environmental Non-Profit Organization.

LAW REVIEW ARTICLES

- Blass, J. (2022). Observing the Effects of Automating the Judicial System with Behavioral Equivalence. *South Carolina Law Review* 74(4), 825–84.
- Blass, J. (2019). Algorithmic Advertising Discrimination. *Northwestern University Law Review* 114(2), 415–67.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Blass, J.A. (2018). You, Me, or Us: Balancing Individuals' and Societies' Moral Needs and Desires in Autonomous Systems. *AI Matters* 3(4), 44–51.

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- Blass, J & Forbus, K.D.** (2023). Analogical Reasoning, Generalization, and Rule Learning for Common Law Reasoning. *Proceedings of the International Conference on AI and Law*, 2023. Braga, Portugal, June.

- Blass, J** & Forbus, K.D. (2022). Conclusion-Verified Analogical Schema Induction. *Proceedings of Advances in Cognitive Systems*, 2022. Washington, D.C., November.
- Blass, J** & Forbus, K.D. (2022). The Illinois Intentional Tort Qualitative Dataset. *Proceedings of the 35 International JURIX Conference on Legal Knowledge and Information Systems*. Saarbrücken, Germany, December.
- Forbus, K., Hinrichs, T., Crouse, M., and **Blass, J.** (2020). Analogy versus Rules in Cognitive Architecture. *Proceedings of Advances in Cognitive Systems*, 2020.
- Blass, J. A.** & Forbus, K. D. (2017). Analogical Chaining and Natural Language Instruction for Commonsense Reasoning. *Proceedings of the 31st AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, San Francisco, CA, February.
- Blass, J. A.** & Forbus, K. D. (2016). Modeling Commonsense Reasoning via Analogical Chaining: A Preliminary Report. *Proceedings of the 38th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, Philadelphia, PA, August.
- Blass, J. A.** & Forbus, K.D. (2015). Moral Decision-Making by Analogy: Generalizations vs. Exemplars. *Proceedings of the Twenty-Ninth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence*. Austin, TX, March.
- Robertson, D., Noam, G., **Blass, J.** (2013). The Holistic Student Assessment (HSA): Establishing Norm-Referenced Measures to Identify Students Who Show Atypical Strengths or Struggles. *Proceedings of the 21st Annual Meeting of the Society for Prevention Research*. San Francisco, CA, USA.
- Ma, D. S., **Blass, J.**, Tipping, M., Correll, J., & Wittenbrink, B. (2009). Racial Bias in Shot Lethality: Moving Beyond Reaction Time and Accuracy. *American Psychological Association*. Toronto, Canada.

PEER-REVIEWED WORKSHOP PAPERS

- Blass, J.A.**, Rabkina, I., & Forbus, K.D. (2017). Towards a Domain-independent Method for Evaluating and Scoring Analogical Inferences. *Computational Analogy Workshop at the 25th Int'l Conf. on Case-Based Reasoning*. Trondheim, Norway.
- Blass, J. A.** & Forbus, K. D. Natural Language Instruction for Analogical Reasoning: An Initial Report. (2016). *Computational Analogy Workshop at the 24th International Conference on Case-Based Reasoning*. Atlanta, GA.
- Blass, J.A.** & Horswill, I. (2015). Implementing Injunctive Social Norms using Defeasible Reasoning. *Workshop on Social Believability, Proceedings of the Eleventh AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Interactive Digital Entertainment*. Santa Cruz, California.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Blass, J. (2022). Rewriting the Rule for Rights. *Balkanization Blog*. <https://balkin.blogspot.com/2022/06/rewriting-rule-for-rights.html>
- Blass, J. (2020). Justice Barrett, Purposivism, and the Affordable Care Act. *NULR of Note, Northwestern University Law Review Blog*. <https://blog.northwesternlaw.review/?p=1879>
- Blass, J. (2019). Sources of Rights: Originalism and Thayerism. *NULR of Note, Northwestern University Law Review Blog*. <https://blog.northwesternlaw.review/?p=982>
- Blass, J.A. (2018). Legal, Ethical, Customizable Artificial Intelligence. *Proc's of the 2018 AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society*, 358–59.
- Spelke, E., & **Blass, J.** (2017). Intelligent Machines and Human Minds. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 40, E277

- Blass, J.A.** & Fitzgerald, T. The Computational Analogy Workshop at ICCBR-16. *AI Magazine*, Winter (2017): 91.
- Blass, J.A. (2016) Interactive Learning and Analogical Chaining for Moral and Commonsense Reasoning. *Doctoral Consortium, Thirtieth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence*. Phoenix, Arizona.
- Blass, J.A. (2015) Interactively Learning Moral Norms by Analogy. *Doctoral Consortium, Twenty-Third International Conference on Case-Based Reasoning*, Frankfurt Am Main, Germany.
- Blass, J.A. (2015) Interactively Learning Moral Norms by Analogy. *Students of Cognitive Science Workshop, Third Conference on Advances in Cognitive Systems*. Atlanta, Georgia.

INVITED TALKS

- Legal Responsibility for Automated Decisions (2021). *Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Lecture Series*, California State University, Northridge, Prof. Debbie Ma (invited lecture).
- Representations for Moral and Legal Reasoning (2020). *COMP 319: Knowledge Representation and Reasoning*, Occidental College, Prof. Irina Rabkina (guest lecture).
- A Scientist Walks Into A Bar: Artificial Intelligence (2019). *A Scientist Walks Into A Bar*, The Hideout, Chicago (monthly popular-science interview series).

HONORS & AWARDS

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| 2023 | Graduated Magna cum Laude, Order of the Coif, Northwestern University School of Law |
| 2017-2019 | Dean's List, Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law |
| 2017-2018 | Kirkland & Ellis Prizes for being the top student in the section for doctrinal law courses. Prizes received for Criminal Law, Civil Procedure, and Property |
| 2017 | Winner, ACM SIGAI Student Essay Contest on the Responsible Use of AI Technologies |
| 2015 | Third Place Award. Northwestern EECS Student Poster Fair |
| 2014 | Awarded Cognitive Science University Fellowship by Northwestern University |
| 2013–2015 | Dean's List, Northwestern University McCormick School of Engineering |
| 2010 | Graduated Cum Laude, University of Chicago |
| 2007-2010 | Dean's List, University of Chicago |

ACADEMIC SERVICE

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| 2018-2020 | Senior Notes Editor, Northwestern University Law Review, Volume 114 |
| 2016 | The Computational Analogy Workshop at ICCBR 2016
Co-Chair
Organized and led a workshop at a major international conference |
| 2013-2017 | Founder and President, AI Journal Club, Northwestern University
Founded an interdisciplinary AI student reading group which developed into the Computer Science PhD Advisory Committee, a school funded graduate leadership organization |

TEACHING AND OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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| 2019 | Lecturer: Introduction to Cognitive Modeling |
| 2014-2019 | Teaching Assistant
Introduction to Cognitive Modeling; Criminal Law; Constitutional Law
Northwestern University |

PEER REVIEWING

Journals	Artificial Intelligence Magazine
Conferences	The Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (CogSci), the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), the International Conference on Case-Based Reasoning (ICCBR), the Florida AI Research Society (FLAIRS)
Workshops	The Computational Analogy Workshop at ICCBR

STATISTICAL AND COMPUTER EXPERIENCE

Programming Languages: LISP; Python; C++; Java; Prolog; Logo. Proficient with SPSS.

LANGUAGES

Native Speaker of English and French, Conversant in Spanish and Polish, Stumblesome in German.

REFERENCES

Kenneth D. Forbus
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Cognitive Systems Division of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Ford Engineering and Design Building
2133 Sheridan Road, Room 3-322
Evanston, IL 60208

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