

MALA CHATTERJEE

Columbia Law School

Jerome Greene Hall Room 641, 435 W. 116th St, New York, NY 10027
mala.chatterjee@law.columbia.edu | www.malachatterjee.com

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Columbia Law School, New York, NY

- ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW, 2022—
- Co-Director, *Law & Philosophy Program at Columbia*, 2023—
- Affiliated Faculty, *Kernochan Center for Law, Media & the Arts*, 2022—
- Board of Trustees, *JOURNAL OF PHILOSOPHY*, 2023—

NYU School of Law, New York, NY

- FURMAN ACADEMIC FELLOW, 2020—2022
- Fellow, *Engelberg Center for Innovation Law & Policy*, 2018—2021

Yale Law School, New Haven, CT

- Visiting Fellow, *Information Society Project*, Fall 2019

EDUCATION

New York University & NYU School of Law, New York, NY

- PH.D., PHILOSOPHY, 2014—2022
- Dissertation: *The Fruits of Authorship: A Theory of Copyright*
- Advisors: Liam Murphy (Chair), Samuel Scheffler, Jeremy Waldron, David Chalmers, Daniel Viehoff

NYU School of Law, New York, NY

- JURIS DOCTOR, *SUMMA CUM LAUDE*, 2015—2018
- *Furman Academic Scholar*: scholarship for students with exceptional academic promise

Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA

- B.A., PHILOSOPHY & MINOR, SYMBOLIC SYSTEMS, 2010—2014
Thesis: *Stalnakerian Semantics and Impossible Worlds*

RESEARCH AREAS

Primacy: Law & Philosophy; Intellectual Property; Information/Technology Law; Torts

Secondary: Aesthetics; Defamation; Speech; Data & Privacy; Private Law; Jurisprudence; Mind & Language; Normative Metaphysics; Applied Ethics & Bioethics; Moral & Political Philosophy

ACADEMIC ARTICLES

- *The Will to Outlive Ourselves*, in TIME, MEANING, AND VALUE: THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PAST AND THE FUTURE FOR THE PRESENT (Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2024).
- *Personhood Theories of Authorial Rights*, CAMBRIDGE VOLUME ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & PRIVATE LAW (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2024).
- [*Understanding Intellectual Property: Expression, Function, and Individuation*](#), 70 JOURNAL OF THE COPYRIGHT SOCIETY OF THE USA 57 (2023) (peer reviewed).
- [*Intellectual Property, Independent Creation, and the Lockean Commons*](#), 12 UC IRVINE LAW REVIEW 747 (2022).
- [*Lockean Copyright versus Lockean Property*](#), 12 JOURNAL OF LEGAL ANALYSIS 136 (2020) (peer reviewed).
- [*Minds, Machines, and the Law: The Case of Volition in Copyright Law*](#), 119 COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW 1887 (2019) (with Jeanne Fromer).
- [*Conceptual Separability as Conceivability: A Philosophical Analysis of the Useful Articles Doctrine*](#), 93 NYU LAW REVIEW 558 (2018) (student note).

ACADEMIC WORKS-IN-PROGRESS

- [*A Functionalist Theory of Legal Persons*](#)
- *Extended Personality to Extended Minds: The Body, the Self, and the Law*
- *Extending the Legal Person*
- *Surviving Death: Personal Identity, Posthumous Life & the Puzzle of Harming the Dead*
- *Legal Death & the Legal Afterlife*
- *Fake Selves, Future Selves, and Fading Selves*
- *The Extended Self: A Framework for Information Rights*
- *Legal Minds*
- *Expression, Expressive Liberty, and Quasi-Expression: A Theory of Authorship*
- *Knowing the Story of Your Life: Identity, Time, and Personal Data Rights*

ESSAYS

- “[Our Avatars, Ourselves](#),” *Boston Review* (2023).
- “[Saved by Infinite Jest](#),” *Aeon* (2023).
- “My ‘Borderline Personality’ and Me,” *Los Angeles Review of Books* (forthcoming 2024).
- “All Things Are Too Small in Philosophy,” *The Chronicle Review* (reviewing Becca Rothfeld’s *All Things Are Too Small*) (forthcoming 2024).
- “The Body’s Language” (reviewing Xi Xi’s *Mourning a Breast*) (in progress).
- “Techno Time Travel: On Revisiting Art & the Passage of Time” (in progress).
- “Invisible Pain and the Search for a Life-Affirming Narrative” (in progress).
- “Knowing the Story of Your Life: AI and the Fracturing Illusion of Freedom” (in progress).
- “Surviving Death in the Age of Information” (in progress).
- “The Strange Loop of Reality TV” (in progress).
- “Science Fiction as a Philosophy Lesson for the Modern World” (in progress).
- “When the Artist Becomes the Algorithm” (with Jenny Judge) (in progress).
- “The Intensity Affliction” (in progress).
- “On the Highest Form of Flattery” (in progress).

MONOGRAPHS & BOOK PROJECTS

- THE EXTENDED SELF (academic book; proposal in progress).
- THE IDENTITY PRISM (collection of essays; proposal in progress).
- THE FRUITS OF AUTHORSHIP: A THEORY OF COPYRIGHT (philosophy PhD dissertation).
- RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON PHILOSOPHY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (editor with Shyamkrishna Balganesh) (in progress).

TEACHING

- *Seminar: Personhood & Time*, Columbia Department of Philosophy, Spring 2025
- *Intellectual Property Law*, Columbia Law School in Amsterdam Program, Summer 2023
- *Law & Philosophy*, Columbia Law School, 2023—
- *Seminar: Intellectual Property/Information Law & Theory*, Columbia Law School, 2023—
- *Torts*, Columbia Law School, 2022—
- *Furman Scholars Seminar*, NYU School of Law, 2020—2022

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Co-Director, [Law & Philosophy Program at Columbia](#), 2023—
- Founder & Organizer, Law & Philosophy Workshop, Columbia Law School, 2023—
- Affiliated Faculty, [Kernoohan Center for Law, Media & the Arts](#), 2022—
- Board of Trustees, [JOURNAL OF PHILOSOPHY](#), 2023—
- [Ambedkar Lectures Committee](#), Columbia University, 2022—
- [Joseph Raz Tribute Conference](#) Organizing Committee, New York, 2022— 2023
- Reviewer for *Nous, Law & Philosophy*, Oxford University Press, ongoing
- Honorary Alumni of Color Committee, Columbia Law School, 2022—
- Committee for Careers in Law Teaching, Columbia Law School, 2022—
- Climate Committee, NYU Department of Philosophy, 2018—2019

HONORS

- *summa cum laude*: highest honor of law school, awarded to the very few students (if any in a particular year) who compiled a truly outstanding academic record
- Furman Academic Scholar: for exceptionally promising future legal academics
- Maurice Goodman Prize: outstanding academic achievement & scholarship
- John Bruce Moore Award: highest excellence in law & philosophy
- Bradley Fellowship: for scholarly achievement in free speech
- Order of the Coif: national society of law students with GPA in top 10%
- Pomeroy Scholar: top ten students after first year of law school
- Butler Scholar: top ten students after second year of law school

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Honorable Robert D. Sack, US Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit, New York, NY
Law Clerk, 2019-2020 Term
- Durie Tangri, LLP, San Francisco, CA
Summer Law Associate, Intellectual Property Litigation, July-August 2018
- Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, New York, NY
Summer Law Associate, Litigation & Intellectual Property, June-August 2017

PRESENTATIONS

A Functionalist Theory of Legal Persons

- Columbia Law School Formal Faculty Workshop, April 18th 2024
- Fordham Law & Philosophy Colloquium, April 18th 2024

Extending the Legal Person

- Private Law Workshop, Harvard Law School, October 18th, 2023
- Ideas Lunch, Information Society Project, Yale Law School, March 5th, 2024

The Extended Self: A Framework for Information Rights

- Faculty Workshop, Columbia Law School, May 2nd, 2023
- USC Center for Law & Philosophy Workshop, USC Gould School of Law, April 11th, 2023 (invited)
- NYC Workshop on Intellectual Property & Philosophy, March 31st, 2023 (invited)
- Junior Faculty Workshop, Columbia Law School, March 22nd, 2023
- Faculty Workshop Series, University of Connecticut School of Law, April 4th (invited)
- North American Private Law Theory Workshop, UCLA School of Law, February 24th-25th, 2023 (invited)
- Yale-Toronto Private Law Theory Workshop, February 18th, 2023 (invited)
- Annual Intellectual Property Law Scholars Conference (IPSC), Stanford Law School, August 11-12th, 2022

Understanding Intellectual Property: Expression, Function, and Individuation

- Harvard Law & Philosophy Workshop, October 12th, 2022 (invited)
- Annual IP & Innovation Conference, Suffolk Law School, October 1st, 2022 (invited)
- Michigan Law School Legal Theory Workshop, September 20th, 2022 (invited)
- NYC Workshop on Intellectual Property and Philosophy, May 5th, 2022 (invited)
- Annual Intellectual Property Law Scholars Conference (IPSC), Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, August 5th, 2021

- Philosophical Methods in IP Colloquium, Classical Liberal Institute, NYU School of Law, July 20th 2020 (invited)
- Tristate Region Intellectual Property Workshop, Engelberg Center on Innovation Law & Policy, NYU School of Law, January 20th 2020 (invited)
- Furman Academic Scholars Seminar, NYU School of Law, October 18th, 2019 (invited)
- NYU Philosophy Department: Washington Square Circle Workshop, May 8th, 2019

Intellectual Property, Independent Creation, and the Lockean Commons

- Furman Academic Scholars Seminar, NYU School of Law, October 15th, 2020
- Copyright Scholarship Roundtable, University of Pennsylvania School of Law, June 21st-June 22nd, 2019 (invited)
- Theories of Intellectual Property Law Seminar, NYU School of Law, February 12th, 2019 (invited)
- Works-in-Progress Intellectual Property (WIPIP) Colloquium, University of Houston Law Center, February 9th, 2019
- Furman Academic Scholars Seminar, NYU School of Law, Fall 2017 and Spring 2018

Lockean Copyright versus Lockean Property

- NYC Workshop on Intellectual Property and Philosophy, December 2nd, 2021 (invited)
- Furman Academic Scholars Seminar, NYU School of Law, Spring 2018
- NYU Department of Philosophy: Lunch Talk Series, November 2nd, 2018 (invited)

Minds, Machines, and the Law: The Case of Volition in Copyright Law

- Ipse Dixit: A Podcast on Legal Scholarship, May 29th, 2019 (invited)
- Engelberg Center for Innovation Law & Policy, Faculty Workshop, NYU School of Law, April 16th, 2019
- *Columbia Law Review* Symposium: “Common Law in the Age of AI”, April 5th, 2019 (invited)
- Yale Law School, Information Society Project: Ideas Lunch, April 4th, 2019 (invited)
- Works-in-Progress Intellectual Property (WIPIP) Colloquium, University of Houston Law Center, February 8th, 2019

Conceptual Separability as Conceivability: A Philosophical Analysis of the Useful Articles Doctrine

- Annual Intellectual Property Law Scholars Conference (IPSC), UC Berkeley School of Law, August 9th, 2018
- Tristate Region Intellectual Property Workshop, Engelberg Center on Innovation Law & Policy, NYU School of Law, January 12th, 2018 (invited)
- Furman Academic Scholars Seminar, NYU School of Law, Fall 2016 and Spring 2017

Invited Contributions & Commentaries:

- Copyright Scholarship Roundtable, University of Pennsylvania School of Law, May 10th-11th, 2024, Commentary on *Copyright's Missing Personality* by David Simon
- Tristate Region Intellectual Property Workshop, Engelberg Center on Innovation Law & Policy, NYU School of Law, January 12th, 2024, Commentary on *Elements of Style: Copyrightability, Similarity and Generative AI* by Ben Sobel
- Conference on Intellectual Property and Private Law, University of Cambridge, July 6th-7th, 2023 (co-organizer of conference & invited contributor/co-editor of volume)
- University of Houston Intellectual Property & Information Law Symposium, Santa Fe, New Mexico, June 2nd-3rd, 2023 (invited commentator)
- Conference and Festschrift in Honor of Samuel Scheffler, UC Berkeley Department of Philosophy, May 27th-28th 2023 (invited contributor to volume of essays)
- Copyright Scholarship Roundtable, University of Pennsylvania School of Law, May 8th - 9th, 2023, Commentary on *Centering Creative Labor; Towards a Progressive Copyright* by Xiyin Tang
- Tristate Region Intellectual Property Workshop, Engelberg Center on Innovation Law & Policy, NYU School of Law, January 13th, 2023, Commentary on *Anti-Intellectualism in Intellectual Property* by Sepehr Shahshahani
- Copyright Scholarship Roundtable, Columbia Law School, June 21st-22nd, Commentary on *Fighting Image Piracy or Copyright Trolling?* by Melissa Eckhaus
- Tristate Region Intellectual Property Workshop, Engelberg Center on Innovation Law & Policy, NYU School of Law, January 18th, 2019, Commentary on *Jefferson's Taper* by Jeremy Sheff