

KATHERINE BASSIL

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LANGUAGES

English, French, Arabic Fluent | Dutch Proficient (NT2) | Spanish Basic

EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER UTRECHT (UMCU) |

JULIUS CENTER

Assistant Professor in Neuroethics

Utrecht, The Netherlands

June 2023(start date)

TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MUNICH (TUM) | Lab of Ethics of Artificial Intelligence & Neuroscience (led by Prof. Dr. Marcello Ienca)

Consultant

May 2023

- Advised on a neuroethics communication strategy targeting different stakeholders including policy makers and the public.

HARVARD NEUROETHICS HUB FELLOWSHIP

November 2022 –

November 2023

- Working together with Harvard scholars on a project about the neuroethics of biomarkers.
- Organizing a public event about the neuroethics of biomarkers.

NEUROETHICS TODAY, www.neuroethicstoday.com

Founder

January 2019 - present

- Launched an educative platform including blog and podcast to raise awareness and encourage dialogue on the ethical, societal, and legal implications of brain science and technologies
- Partnered with the International Neuroethics Society (INS) on a special neuroethics podcast series among other projects.

NEUROETHICS CANADA

Editorial Assistant

May 2018 - present

- Assisting leading neuroethicist professor Judy Illes on the editing of the Elsevier book series 'Developments in Neuroethics and Bioethics'.

IEEE NEUROETHICS FRAMEWORK

Co-chair

Member

October 2022 – present

February 2021 – September 2022

- Participated in the drafting of an ethical guideline for wellness tech companies.
- Co-leading the ethical aspects of the meetings for the development and dissemination of the Wellness Ethical Framework

INTERNATIONAL NEUROETHICS SOCIETY, INS

Committee member

February 2019 - present

- Assisting in providing advice, recommendations, and guidance to the INS Board of Directors, as part of the Engagement & Outreach Committee (since 2022).
- Co-organised the program of the annual meeting and chaired a panel session on global mental health as part of the Program Committee for the 2021, 2022, and 2023 Annual Meeting.
- Reviewed submitted neuroethics essays and developed outreach activities as part of the Student-Postdoc Committee (2 years since 2019)

NEUROMIND, DECISIX
Consultant & Content Creator

Maastricht, The Netherlands
April 2020 – February 2023

- Providing advice and support on the development of the NeuroMind app - a decision-aid tool for neurosurgeons and neurologists.
- Ensuring stakeholder views are met and managed towards the best and most responsible solution.
- Creating relevant content for the NeuroMind Academy (an e-learning platform) while incorporating ethics at the core.

EDUCATION

MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY | School of MHeNs
Molecular Neuroscience PhD

Maastricht, The Netherlands
2018-2023

Thesis: Stress-in-a-dish: Modeling the neurobiological effects of glucocorticoids *in vitro*, investigating stress susceptibility, and highlighting ethical implications.

MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY, UM
Research Masters in Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience (spec. Fundamental Neuroscience)

Maastricht, The Netherlands
2016 - 2018

- Conducted an 8-month internship in the Gage Lab at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in the U.S.
- Initiated the Neuroethics Symposium: a neuroethics symposium by students for students at UM which led to the integration of neuroethics in the curriculum of neuroscience masters programme.

LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, LAU
Bachelor's in Biology,
Minor in Psychology – Graduated with Honors

Byblos, Lebanon
2013 - 2016

OTHER EXPERIENCES

Freelance (science) writer, covering topics including academic life and communication of scientific and ethics research for Nature, the Observant, The Neuroethics Blog, among others.

January 2014 - present

Mentored students taking part in the PREMIUM program at Maastricht University, to tackle a project about COVID-19 vaccination accessibility and human rights for their client the 'Pharmaceutical Accountability Foundation'.

Maastricht, The Netherlands
January – May 2022

Communication officer of the 2019 Pint of Science Maastricht event, bringing science to the bars of Maastricht.

Maastricht, The Netherlands
October 2018 –
October 2019

Trainer at Global Classroom Lebanese American University Model United Nations (GC LAU MUN)

Lebanon
2013 - 2015

Digital health content creator for the eTobb blog, an e-health company based in Lebanon.

Beirut, Lebanon
April 2015 – June 2016

Chief Scout of the Lebanese Girl Scout Group (Member since 2006).

Lebanon
2006 - 2015

COURSES & CERTIFICATES

Took part in the Cerebral Organoid Ethics Retreat organized by the University of Tübingen.	<i>Tübingen, Germany August 2022</i>
Took part in a course on 'Biomedical Ethics' organized by the OZSW in the Netherlands.	<i>The Netherlands, January 2022</i>
Completed Dutch University Teaching Qualification (UTQ/BKO)	<i>Maastricht, The Netherlands 2021</i>
Followed a course on the 'Philosophy of Responsible Research and Innovation' organized by OZSW in the Netherlands.	<i>The Netherlands, January 2020</i>
Followed a 'Co-creation in Research' course by CAPHRI at Maastricht University, where I learned different creative tools to incorporate the needs of different stakeholders during a (research) project.	<i>Maastricht, The Netherlands 2020</i>

OUTREACH & COMMUNICATION

Workshop at the Maastricht University Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience student conference <i>Workshop: 'Walking in the Shoes of a Neuroethicist: A Workshop on the Ethics of Neuroscience'.</i>	<i>Maastricht, The Netherlands June 2023</i>
Guest Speaker at the Asociación Mexicana de Neuroética (AMNE) (Mexican Association of Neuroethics). <i>Talk: 'Breaking Walls, Building Bridges: The Need for Neuroethics Communication'.</i>	<i>June 2023</i>
Speaker at the Maastricht University Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience Career Event	<i>Maastricht, The Netherlands April 2023</i>
Panelist at the 2022 International Neuroethics Society Annual Meeting Screening of 'Seizing Hope' documentary	<i>Montreal, Canada November 2022</i>
Speaker at the 2019 Pint of Science Maastricht public event. <i>Talk: 'Brains-in-a-dish: Really?'.</i>	<i>Maastricht, The Netherlands May 2019</i>
Volunteer teacher for Skype the Scientist, bringing neuroscience to the classroom of highschool students around the world.	<i>October 2018 – April 2020</i>
Speaker at the 2021 PechaKucha Maastricht public event. <i>Talk: 'When Neuroethics Exists the Classroom'.</i>	<i>Maastricht, The Netherlands October 2021</i>
Panelist at the Neuroergonomics conference virtual event. <i>Panel session: 'AI, Neurotech and Ethics'.</i>	<i>September 2021</i>
Panelist at the 2021 International Neuroethics Society virtual Annual Meeting. <i>Panel session: Science communication and outreach.</i>	<i>October 2020</i>
Speaker at the 2022 Pint of Science Maastricht public event. <i>Talk: 'This Title is Shocking. It Will Mislead You.'</i>	<i>Maastricht, The Netherlands May 2022</i>
Guest at the Maastricht local radio 'Maastricht Edition' RTV Maastricht Radio	<i>Maastricht, The Netherlands October 2019</i>

AWARDS

Best Poster Presentation at the 2021 Annual Research Day of the School of Mental Health and Neuroscience at Maastricht University

*Maastricht, The Netherlands
March 2021*

Best Poster Presentation at the 2018 International Neuroethics Society Annual Meeting

*San Diego, USA
November 2018*

Entrance Scholarship for receiving the Secretary General Award as part of the Global Classroom Lebanese American University Model United Nations (GC LAU MUN) program

*Lebanon
2011- 2012*

Graphical CV of Katherine Bassil

