

Tyler Neill *PhD, Sanskritist and Software Engineer*

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Summary

Experienced Sanskrit philologist and software engineer with a proven track record of leveraging technology to curate data and create user-friendly software applications to support study and learning.

Skills

Technical: Python, JavaScript; Git, GitHub, GitLab; Digital Ocean, Nginx; SQL, MongoDB.

Languages Spoken: English (*mother tongue*), German (*fluent*), Sanskrit (*expert*), Italian (*elementary*).

Other Languages Studied: French, Hindi, Tibetan, Japanese; Pali, Prakrit; Ancient Greek, Latin, Old English.

Teaching: Harvard University Derek Bok Center Teaching Certificate (May 2015), Certificate of Distinction x5.

Digital Sanskrit Projects

Pramāṇa NLP: Corpus of structurally annotated Sanskrit philosophy texts.

Vātāyana: Interactive tool for identifying textual parallels within Pramāṇa NLP corpus.

Skrutable: Toolkit for Sanskrit transliteration, metrical analysis, and word segmentation.

Pāṇḍitya: Tool for visually exploring networks of works and authors in the Pandit Project database.

Work Experience

Abnormal Security

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (REMOTE)

Software Engineer 1 (IC3)

July 2024 - January 2025

- Used Python, Django, Golang, Kafka, and GitHub to maintain cybersecurity data ingestion system.

BenevolentAI

NEW YORK, NY

Advanced Software Engineer (IC3)

April 2022 - May 2024

- Used Python, FastAPI, Kubernetes, Neo4j, and GitLab to maintain biotechnology data pipeline and API.
- Led “HackerHour” knowledge sharing group for engineers, onboarded several coworkers onto products.

Leipzig University

LEIPZIG, GERMANY

PhD Research Associate

April 2017 - December 2020

- Assisted Digital Nyāyabhāṣya team with manuscript transcription, data curation, and software development.
- Created open-source libraries and web-based tools for Sanskrit community as part of dissertation research.

Harvard University

CAMBRIDGE, MA

Sanskrit Librarian

August 2015 - September 2016

- Renovated Widener Library Sanskrit Reading Room, including physical overhaul, curation, and cataloging.

Graduate Student Teaching Fellow

September 2013 – May 2015

- Designed and taught beginning and intermediate Sanskrit classes, created new pedagogical materials, led analytical group reading, and orchestrated homework self-correction system.

Graduate Student Teaching Fellow

September 2013 - May 2015

- Mentored Harvard undergrads and grad students in self-designed Sanskrit classes.

Education

Leipzig University

LEIPZIG, GERMANY

Doctor of Philosophy, Sanskrit and Digital Humanities

2017 - 2022

Harvard University

CAMBRIDGE, MA

Master of Arts, Sanskrit and Indian Studies

2011 - 2015

Bachelor of Arts, Environmental Science and Public Policy

2003 - 2008

Scholarly Writings and Presentations

- Hiroko Matsuoka, Shinya Moriyama, Tyler Neill (eds.). 2023.** To the Heart of Truth: Felicitations Volume for Eli Franco on the Occasion of his Seventieth Birthday. 2 vols. Wiener Studien zur Tibetologie und Buddhismuskunde 104. Wien: Arbeitskreis für Tibetische und Buddhistische Studien Universität Wien, 2023. (xliii + 806 p.)
- Neill, Tyler. 2023.** “Vātāyana: A window onto the Pramāṇa NLP corpus”. Presented at the Advanced Computational Methods for Studying Buddhist Texts symposium, April 27–28, 2023, University of Vienna.
- . **2022.** “Intertextual Readings of the Nyāyabhāṣya on Buddhist Anti-Realism”. Doctoral dissertation, Leipzig University. <https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:bsz:15-qucosa2-826296>
- . **2022.** “Skrutable: Another Step Toward Effective Sanskrit Meter Identification.” In Proceedings of the Computational Sanskrit & Digital Humanities: Selected papers presented at the 18th World Sanskrit Conference, pages 97–112, Canberra, Australia (Online mode). Association for Computational Linguistics.
- . **2021.** “LDA Topic Modeling in Sanskrit with ToPān and Metallō.” Presented at The Digital Orientalist’s Virtual Workshop and Conference, June 26, 2021. Video at: <https://youtu.be/eQSbteKN-FA>.
- . **2019.** “LDA Topic Modeling for Pramāṇa Texts: A Case Study in Sanskrit NLP Corpus Building.” Proceedings of the 6th International Sanskrit Computational Linguistics Symposium, pages 52–67, IIT Kharagpur, India. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- . **2017.** “Sanskrit Text Corpora and the Nyāyabhāṣya Digital Critical Edition.” Presented at Florilegia: Big Textual Data Workshop, July 10–11, 2017, Leipzig University.
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