

**Mark Ortiz, PhD**

Assistant Professor

Department of Geography, Institute of Energy and the Environment, and Social Science  
Research Institute

The Pennsylvania State University

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e: [mark.ortiz@psu.edu](mailto:mark.ortiz@psu.edu) | p: +1.205.907.6428 | w: [markbortiz.com](http://markbortiz.com)**EDUCATION**

<b>PhD, Geography</b>	2022
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill, NC
<u>Dissertation</u> : Transnational Youth Activism and the Intergenerational Politics of Climate Change	

<b>M.A., Geography</b>	2017
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill, NC

<b>B.A. (Honors), Environmental Studies &amp; Religious Studies</b>	2015
The University of Alabama	Tuscaloosa, AL
<u>Honors</u> : <i>summa cum laude</i> , Phi Beta Kappa	

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

2024-	<b>Assistant Professor</b> Department of Geography, Institute of Energy and the Environment (co-funded), & Social Science Research Institute (co-funded), The Pennsylvania State University *Creator and Director, The Global Youth Storytelling and Research Lab (GYSRL) *Co-Director, Political-Industrial Ecology Initiative
2022-2024	<b>Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow</b> Department of Geography, The Pennsylvania State University

**VISITING & ASSOCIATED POSITIONS**

2024-	<b>Faculty Affiliate</b> <u>Institute for Human Rights</u> , College of Arts & Sciences, The University of Alabama at Birmingham
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**FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Youth Geographies, Political & Cultural Geographies, GeoHumanities, Environmental Justice, Global Climate Politics, Social Movements, Environmental Humanities, Southern Studies (U.S.), Digital Geographies

**PUBLICATIONS & KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS (\*Indicates with student co-author)**Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (Accepted, Forthcoming, and Published)

2026 Schamess, L., Ramirez, I., Bales, T., Ghimire, R., Martinez, A., Mondal, P., O'Lear, S., **Ortiz, M.**, Sultana, F., Zhu, L. (Accepted) "Elevating the Discipline: Creating Pathways for Geographers as Public Scholars." *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*.

- 2025 **Ortiz, M.**, & Kefi, R. "(Re)Composing Multivocal Climate Justice Through Poetic Inquiry." *GeoHumanities*, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2373566X.2025.2544552>

\*Singh, H., and **Ortiz, M.** "Thinking with student perspectives on sustainability to cultivate care-full sustainability education." *Environmental Education Research*, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504622.2025.2550528>

Lyall, A., **Ortiz, M.**, and Billo, E. "Greenwashing at Elsevier: A Political Ecology of Corporate Publishing." *Journal of Political Ecology*, 32(1): 6276. <https://doi.org/10.2458/jpe.6276>

\*Reprinted: Lyall, A., Ortiz, M. & Billo, E. (2025) "Greenwashing at Elsevier: A political ecology of corporate publishing", *The Journal of Electronic Publishing* 28(2). doi: <https://doi.org/10.3998/jep.7482>

- 2024 **Ortiz, M.**, Mankhwazi, C., Shafi, N. "Who is going to talk about my Granddad? Who is going to talk about me?" Spatial Politics in the Advocacy of Youth from the MENA Region at COP 27. *Climate and Development*, 16(10): 930-939. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17565529.2024.2360618>

Scheuch, E., **Ortiz, M.**, Shreedhar, G., Thomas-Walters, L. "The Power of Protest in the Media: Examining Portrayals of Climate Activism in UK News." *Humanities and Social Sciences Communication* 11(270). <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-024-02688-0>

#### Editor Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2025 **Ortiz, M.** "Community Environmental Memory and Emotion on Social Media: Reading Ecological Grief, Longing, and Critique in the Birmingham, Alabama Subreddit." *cultural geographies*, 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14744740251378660>

**Ortiz, M.**, & Singh, H\*. "Cool (and sustainable) places: attending to youth cultures in sustainability efforts." *Children's Geographies*, 23(4), 521–528. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14733285.2025.2531362>

#### Book Chapters

- 2025 Shafi, N., and **Ortiz, M.** "The Role of Youth and Non-State Actors for Climate Action in the Gulf Countries." In Aisha Al-Sarihi and Michael Mason (Eds.), *Climate Politics and Policy in the Middle East: Environmental, Economic, and Political Challenges*. Bloomsbury.

- 2023 **Ortiz, M.**, Noroña, B., Dowler, L., Inwood, J. "Placing Peace: The Pedagogies of Positive Peace and Environmental Justice." In Colin Flint and Kara Dempsey (Eds.), *Making Geographies of Peace and Conflict*, Informa: UK Limited.

**Ortiz, M.** "The Tribunal of the Future: Youth, Responsibility, and Temporal Justice in U.S. Climate Change Litigation." In Leanne Purdum and Gloria Howerton (Eds.), *Critical Geographies of Youth: Law, Policy, and Power*. Morgantown: West Virginia University Press.

#### Encyclopedia & Academic Handbook Entries

- 2025 **Ortiz, M.** "The Sonic Work of Transnational Youth Climate Movements." In S. von Mering et al. (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Grassroots Climate Activism*. Routledge.

- 2019 Olson, E., **Ortiz, M.**, Reddy, S. "Care Ethics." In A. Kobayashi (Ed.), *The International Encyclopedia of Human Geography* (2nd Edition). Elsevier.

Policy Papers, Memos, and Reports

- 2023 Contributor to “Recommendations for the Operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund,” Policy Proposal for Globally & Embassy of the United Arab Emirates, Washington, D.C. [Link](#).

Contributor to “Unlocking the Power of Next and Future Generations: The Road to 2100,” Unlock the Future Coalition. New York, September 16.  
<https://ourfutureagenda.org/roadto2100/>

- 2018 Coordinating Lead Author of “[Implementing Intergenerational Equity](#),” Policy Paper for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, November 17.

Book Reviews

- 2017 **Ortiz**, M. Normative Subjects: Self and Collectivity in Morality and Law. *Emotion, Space and Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.emospa.2017.07.003>

Digital Knowledge Products

- 2025 Orsini, A., **Ortiz**, M., and Duque, J.F. “Youth Engagement in Biodiversity, SDG, and Climate Politics.” ArcGIS StoryMap. Link: <https://arcg.is/1rzS5j1>

Working Papers

- 2025 **Ortiz**, M., and Zhan, I. Recollecting Fragments of Strategy Across Digital Worlds: Chronicling the Strategic Evolution and Dynamic Theory of Change of Fridays for Future Digital: A Global Youth Storytelling & Research Lab Working Paper. [Available here](#).

Public Scholarship, News & Opinion Pieces, Blogs, Essays

- 2025 Singh, H.\*, and **Ortiz**, M. “How youth culture is reimagining climate action,” *Penn State Institute of Energy and the Environment Blog*. June 10. [Link](#).

Youngs, R., Chowdhury, I., Faqiryar, W., Catherall, E., Rabgyal, D., Paredes Britez, O., Tsandzana, D., Chimwara, O., Ilhanli, M., Akua Konadu-Osei, O., Hedzet, A., **Ortiz**, M., Ghosh, A.K. “Youth and the Far Right: Bridging Global Perspectives and Local Realities.” *European Democracy Hub*. January 24. [Link](#).

- 2024 **Ortiz**, M. “The ‘Spectacle’ of Youth Engagement at COP 28.” *Engagement: a Blog published by the Anthropology and Environment Society*. May 31. [Link](#).

McMahon, O., Obonyo, E., **Ortiz**, M., Robinson, B., Sapkota, V., and Smithwick, E. “Penn State Delegation: Reflection on COP 28,” *Penn State Institute of Energy and the Environment Blog*. January 30. [Link](#).

**Ortiz**, M. “Towards Intergenerational Co-Design: Scaling Up Youth Climate Action After COP 28,” *The Global Youth Storytelling and Research Lab Blog* [Medium]. January 10. [Link](#).

- 2023 **Ortiz**, M. “Youth at COP28: Intergenerational Engagement Remains Elusive.” *Youth Democracy Cohort*. December 13. [Link](#).

Obonyo, E., **Ortiz**, M., Robinson, B., Sapkota, V., and Smithwick, E. “Penn State Delegation: What to watch for at COP 28.” *Penn State Institute of Energy and the Environment Blog*. November 28. [Link](#).

- 2022 **Ortiz**, M. “Climate Influencers and the Politics of Attention.” *Edge Effects*. September 22. <https://edgeeffects.net/youth-climate-activists/>

- Tan, M.J., Baluch, Y., Calderon Hernandez, A., Jhumu, F.F., & **Ortiz**, M. "Fighting climate change in the Global South." *The Forge: Organizing Strategy and Practice*. April 28, <https://forgeorganizing.org/article/fighting-climate-change-global-south>
- 2020 **Ortiz**, M. "No more same-old, same-old. We must re-imagine," *NC Climate Justice Collective Blog*, May 22, [NCCJC.info](http://NCCJC.info)
- 2018 **Ortiz**, M. "Stop Fracking," *The News & Observer* and *The Herald-Sun*, 27 & 31 March, <http://www.newsobserver.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article206827394.html>
- 2017 **Ortiz**, M. "Reject ACP," *The News & Observer*, 11 December, <http://www.newsobserver.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article189061814.html>
- Ortiz**, M. & Orengo, A. "Week One at COP 23," *The Daily Tar Heel*, 11 November, <http://www.dailytarheel.com/article/2017/11/summit-talk-five-1112>
- Ortiz**, M. "Keeping Fossil Fuels in the Ground," *The Daily Tar Heel*, 8 November, <http://www.dailytarheel.com/article/2017/11/summit-entry-four-1109>
- Ortiz**, M. "Fiji stresses urgency of climate change action," *The Daily Tar Heel*, 7 November, <http://www.dailytarheel.com/article/2017/11/summit-entry-two-1107>
- Ortiz**, M. "Tar Heels Talk Climate: UNC Students headed to Bonn, Germany for United Nations Climate Change Conference," *The Daily Tar Heel*, 6 November, <http://www.dailytarheel.com/article/2017/11/summit-entry-one-1106>

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, & AWARDS

### Awarded:

1. Pinckney, H.P., **Ortiz, M.**, and Patterson, A.N. (2026-2027). *Authentic Representation in Stem Education*. Amount: \$20,000. Level 2 Seed Grant, Social Science Research Institute, Penn State University.
2. **Ortiz M.** (2026-2027). *Chronicling Community-Based Environmental and Climate Resilience Efforts in the U.S. Southeast: A Community-Engaged Book Project with the North Carolina Climate Justice Collective*. Amount: \$7,500. Rock Ethics Institute Faculty Fellowship and Maurice K. Goddard Chair in Forestry and Environmental Resource Conversation, Penn State University.
3. **Ortiz M.**, Franks, A., and Reuter, T.K. (2025-2026). *Characterizing Community-Based Environmental and Climate Resilience in the Deep South through Visual Participatory Methods and Narrative Interviews: A Pilot Study in Birmingham, Alabama*. \$5,000. Level 1 Seed Grant. Social Science Research Institute, Penn State University
4. **Ortiz, M.**, and Singh, H. (2025). *Who Are We Sustaining For: Leveraging student-centered research to enhance sustainability pedagogy in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences*. \$5,000. Gladys Snyder Memorial Trust Grant. College of Earth and Mineral Sciences. Penn State University.
5. Baka, J., **Ortiz, M.**, and Costello, C. (2024-2027). *Establishing an Initiative for Political-Industrial Ecology*. Amount: \$10,000. Call for Center & Initiative Proposals, Earth and Environmental Systems Institute. Penn State University.

6. Singh, H., & **Ortiz, M.** (2024-25). *Youth Perspectives on Sustainability in the College of EMS*. Amount: \$12,000. The College of Earth and Mineral Sciences (EMS) Sustainability Fund. Penn State University.
7. **Ortiz, M.** (2024-25). *Global Learning Faculty Fellowship*. Amount: \$1,000. Penn State Global, Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence, English for Professional Purposes Intercultural Center.
8. **Ortiz, M.** (2024). *Developing Transformative Youth-Centered Research Agendas and Intergenerational Collaborations to Foster Climate Justice Solutions*. Amount: \$20,000. Climate Solutions Accelerator Award. Penn State Climate Consortium. [Link](#).
9. **Ortiz, M.** (2024-26). *Inventing Intergenerational Politics: Exploring Emerging Models of Youth Political Engagement Across the UN Sustainable Development Goals*. Amount: 10,000 Euros. [Young Researchers' Network Fellowship](#), Funded by The European Union through the European Partnership for Democracy & European Democracy Hub.
10. Jenkins, G.S., Djenontin, I.N.S., Zhang, Y., and **Ortiz, M.** (2023-2025). *Advancing and Operationalizing Transformative Climate Justice Pathways in the U.S. and Africa*. Amount: \$30,000. Inter-Institutional Program for Diversifying Research Seed Grant, Penn State Institute of Energy and the Environment.
11. **Ortiz, M.** (2023). *Piloting a Global Youth Storytelling and Research Lab*. Amount: \$5,000. Seed Grant, [Institute of Energy and the Environment](#), Penn State.
12. **Ortiz, M.** (2023). *The Global Youth Storytelling and Research Lab*. Unlock Action Group Innovator, United Nations Foundation [Unlock the Future Coalition](#).
13. **Ortiz, M.** & Mankwhazi, C.. (2022-23). *Youth Climate Activism in the MENA Region and Global Climate Governance*. Amount: \$2,500. Seed Grant, [Consortium for Social Movements](#), Penn State.
14. Olson, E. & **Ortiz, M.** (2020-2022). *Investigating Youth Involvement in Environmental Movements*. Amount: ~\$17,000. Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Award, National Science Foundation.
15. **Ortiz, M.** (2019). *Using ArcGIS StoryMaps to Represent Transnational Youth Climate Movements*. Amount: \$4,000. Digital Dissertation Fellowship, Carolina Digital Humanities Initiative, UNC-Chapel Hill.
16. **Ortiz, M.** (2019). *"Your Mess, My Future": Youth Activism and the Intergenerational Politics of Climate Change*. Amount: \$10,000. Off-Campus Dissertation Research Fellowship, The Graduate School, UNC-Chapel Hill.
17. **Ortiz M.** (2018). *Dissertation Research*. Amount: \$5,000. F. Ivy Carroll Summer Research Fellowship, The Graduate School, UNC-Chapel Hill.
18. **Ortiz, M.** (2018). *In recognition of outstanding students in College of Arts and Sciences*. Amount: \$5,000. Druscilla French Graduate Fellow, College of Arts and Sciences, UNC-Chapel Hill.
19. **Ortiz, M.** (2017). *Recognizing graduate students committed to public scholarship*. Amount: \$4,000. Graduate Public Scholar, Humanities for the Public Good Initiative, UNC-Chapel Hill.

## TEACHING

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### Penn State University, 2023- Present

1. GEOG 520 (Graduate): GeoHumanities (Fall 2025)
2. GEOG 2N: Apocalyptic Geographies (Spring 2025, Spring 2026)
3. GEOG 433: Geographies of Justice - Global Environmental and Climate Justice (Fall 2024)
4. GEOG 520 (Graduate): Scale Matters: Feminist, Decolonial, and Antiracist Approaches to Geopolitics (Spring 2023) (Co-Designed & Co-Taught with Dr. Lorraine Dowler)

### University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2020-2022

#### *Courses:*

1. GEOG 121: Geographies of Globalization (Spring 2022)
2. IDST 290: Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies: COVID 19, Work, and the Road to a New Prosperity (Fall 2020) (Virtual)

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP, POLICY WORK, & ADVOCACY

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- **Penn State University Delegate**, United Nations COP 28 Climate Negotiations, Dubai, UAE: December 2023.
  - **Major Group on Children and Youth Invited Delegate**, High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, United Nations Economic and Social Council, United Nations Headquarters, New York, New York: July 2023.
  - **Elevate the Discipline Fellow**, American Association of Geographers: 2023.
  - **Emerging Leader for Climate Action**, through Globally, Embassy of the United Arab Emirates, Environmental Defense Fund, Bard College, Climate Cardinals, and Patagonia: 2023.
  - **Affiliated Scholar**, Climate Social Science Network, Institute at Brown for Environment and Society, Brown University: 2021-Present.
  - **UNICEF-YOUNGO Invited Youth Delegate**, 26th United Nations Climate Negotiations, Glasgow, Scotland: October 31-November 12, 2021. [Virtual Participation].
  - **Invited Delegate**, United Nations High Level Meeting on Climate and Sustainable Development for All, New York, New York: March 2019.
  - **Board Member & Leadership Team Member**, North Carolina Climate Justice Collective, Raleigh, NC: June 2016- Present.
  - **American Association of Geographers (AAG) Delegate**, 22nd United Nations Climate Negotiations, Marrakesh, Morocco: November 7-12, 2016
  - **Steering Board Member**, Worker Rights Consortium, Washington, DC: 2014-15.

## CONSULTING

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- **Research Consultant**, Provided expertise on histories of youth activism on U.S. college campuses in support of joint venture between IDEO & Beyond 12: January 2022.

## EQUITY & SERVICE WORK (DEPARTMENTAL, UNIVERSITY, & PROFESSIONAL)

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- **Steering Committee Member**, Community-Engaged Research, Action, and Partnerships, Social Science Research Institute, Penn State University, 2024-Present.
  - **Co-Chair**, Speakers Committee, Department of Geography, Penn State University, 2024-25.
  - **Member**, Belonging, Dignity, and Justice Committee, Department of Geography, Penn State University, 2024-25.
  - **Member**, Undergraduate Program Committee, Department of Geography, Penn State University, 2024-25.

- **Faculty Advisory Committee Member**, Penn State Climate Consortium, 2023-Present.
- **Governing Board Member**, Political Geography Specialty Group, American Association of Geographers, 2023-2025.
- **Mentor**, GENIUS Workshop, Department of Geography, Penn State University: 2023.
- **Research Mentor**, Penn State EnvironMentors Program, Institutes of Energy and the Environment, Pennsylvania State University: 2022-23.
- **Journal Peer Reviewer**
  - *Children & Society*
  - *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*
  - *Environmental Philosophy*
  - *International Studies Quarterly*
  - *GeoHumanities*
  - *Youth*
  - *Humanities & Social Sciences Communications*

## TALKS, PRESENTATIONS, PANEL DISCUSSIONS, & CONFERENCE SESSIONS

### Academic Workshops Organized

- 2024 “Examining Facets of Justice in Government and Public Climate Responses and Operationalizing Transformative Climate Justice,” Workshop Co-Organizer, Funded by the Penn State Inter-Institutional Program for Diversifying Research, Penn State Institute of Energy and the Environment. Penn State University, University Park, PA: October 25-26. [Link](#).
- 2024 “Youth-Led Research & Storytelling for Climate Justice: A Workshop by the Penn State GYSRL,” Lead Organizer, Funded by the Penn State University Climate Consortium, Penn State University, University Park, PA. May 13.

### Academic Conference Sessions Organized

- 2025 “Youth Leadership in Global Environmental Governance,” Roundtable Co-Organizer & Co-Chair, Academic Council of the United Nations System (ACUNS) Annual Meeting, Virtual: June 24.
- 2025 “A Dialogue on Inclusive Climate Change Adaptation,” Panel Co-Organizer & Speaker, American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Detroit, MI: March 26.
- 2024 “Youth-Led Storytelling & Research for Intergenerational Climate Justice,” Panel Organizer and Moderator, Penn State Climate Solutions Symposium, State College, PA. May 15.
- 2024 “New directions in Bodies, Health, Environment, and Care” Panel Co-Organizer, American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI & Virtual.
- “Elevating Undergraduate Student Research for Climate Justice,” Session Co-Organizer & Discussant, American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI & Virtual.
- 2023 “Scale Matters I: Boundaries, Mobility, and Geopolitics,” Session Co-Organizer, American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Denver, CO. March 24.
- “Scale Matters II: Embodied and Everyday Geopolitics,” Session Co-Organizer, American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Denver, CO. March 24.

“Scale Matters III: Shifting Scales, Shifting Ecologies of Geopolitics,” Session Co-Organizer, American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Denver, CO. March 24.

Academic Conference & Workshop Presentations

- 2025 “(Re)Inventing Intergenerational Politics,” Academic Council of the United Nations System (ACUNS) Annual Meeting, Virtual: June 25.
- 2025 “Community-Engaged GeoHumanities as Environmental Justice Toolkit: Insights from North Carolina & Alabama,” Community-Engaged Research Workgroup Launch Event: A day of multi-modal interactive explorations in community-university research collaborations. Penn State University: May 8.
- 2025 “Imagining Climate Justice with Puppets & Poetry: A Community-Based Participatory Research Project with the North Carolina Climate Justice Collective,” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Detroit, MI: March 26.
- 2025 “Author Panel and Discussion: *Critical Geographies of Youth - Law, Policy, and Power*,” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Detroit, MI: March 25.
- 2025 “Fantasy, Fabulation, and Phantoms in the ‘Magic City’: A Hauntology of Environmental Justice in Birmingham, Alabama.” Political Geography Pre-Conference. Detroit, MI. March 22.
- 2024 “Youth Storytelling for Environmental and Climate Justice,” Environmental Justice in the United States and Africa Summit, Howard University, Washington, D.C.: March 30.
- 2023 “Caring Across Generations, Geographies, and Species: Transnational Youth Climate Organizing and Planetary Climate Ethics,” Care Ethics Otherwise Conference, Penn State University, State College, PA: June 9.
- 2023 “Bridging Youth Research, Policy, and Activism: Establishing a Global Youth Storytelling and Research Lab at Penn State,” Climate Solutions Symposium, Penn State University, State College, PA: May 23.
- 2023 “Scale, Satire, and the Intimate Planetary in Transnational Youth Climate Movements,” AAG Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, March 24.
- 2022 “Youth Climate Publics and the Political Geographies of Digital Influence(rs),” AAG Annual Meeting, Virtual, March 1.
- 2022 “Youth Climate Publics and the Political Geographies of Digital Influence(rs),” Political Geography Speciality Group Pre-conference, Virtual, February 18.
- 2021 “Intergenerational Caring Agencies in U.S. and Global Youth Climate Activism,” American Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting, Virtual, April 9.
- 2019 “The Youthful Body and Atmospheres of Slow Emergency in *Juliana v. United States*,” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., April 3.
- 2018 “‘Your Mess, My Future’: A (Differently) Political Geography of Youth Climate Activism,” Climate Change Graduate Workshop, King’s College London, London, UK: February 19.



- 2017 “With all Deliberate Speed”: Reimagining Geographies of Harm through US Climate Litigation, American Association of Geographers, Boston, MA: April 7.
- 2016 “Atmospheric Ethics,” 23rd Annual Conference on Critical Geography: Situated Solidarities, University of Kentucky-Lexington: October 15.

#### Webinars & Panel Discussions

- 2025 “Community Climate Justice Solutions: Built on the Legacy of Action,” Panel Co-Organizer, Climate Solutions Symposium, Penn State University. May 19.
- 2025 “Fortifying DEIA & Environmental Justice: On Campuses and Beyond,” Invited Panelist, Pennsylvania Environmental Resource Consortium. Virtual. April 17.
- 2025 “Environmental and Climate Challenges in the U.S. South,” Panel Co-Organizer and Moderator, Institute for Human Rights, The University of Alabama at Birmingham. March 6.
- 2025 “Climate Conversation Cafe,” Moderator & Discussant, Climate Consortium, Penn State University. January 29.
- 2025 “Environmental Justice Night: Advocating for an Equitable and Sustainable Future,” Panelist, University Park Undergraduate Association. Penn State University. January 28.
- 2024 “Postdoctoral Fellowships in Human Geography: How to Get One, How to Thrive,” Economic Geography Specialty Group of the American Association of Geographers. Virtual. November 13.
- 2024 “Climate Action and Capacity Building for Higher Education Students,” Speaker, International Universities Climate Alliance Global Thematic Dialogue. Virtual. October 16.
- 2024 “Geographers take Action: The Stakes of the 2024 Election,” Panelist, American Association of Geographers. Virtual. October 1.
- 2024 “College of EMS Roundtable on Extraction, Sustainable Transitions, and Environmental Justice,” Panel Organizer and Moderator, The Global Youth Storytelling & Research Lab. March 26.
- 2024 “Creating Constructive Climate Action - A Conversation,” Panelist, Penn State Sustainability. Virtual. March 20.
- 2023 “Stories of Youth Climate Advocacy Across the Middle East & North Africa Region,” Webinar Organizer & Panelist, The Global Youth Storytelling & Research Lab. November 15.

#### Expert Panel Discussions

- 2023 “Knowledge to Action: Co-Developing Local Solutions to the Climate Crisis,” Side Event Co-Organizer and Panelist with MIT & American Geophysical Union, United Nations COP 28 Climate Negotiations, Dubai, UAE: December 9.
- 2023 “Youth and the Role of Universities in Fostering Climate Solutions,” Side Event Organizer & Moderator on behalf of Pennsylvania State University, Higher Education Pavilion at United Nations COP 28 Climate Negotiations, Dubai, UAE: December 8.

- 2023 “Youth Participation in Decision-Making Processes and Civic Engagement,” Invited Panelist, United Nations Association of the United States of America, Virtual: June 8.
- 2023 “Power and (In)Justice of Climate Governance,” Panelist, American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, Denver, CO: March 27.
- 2022 “Youth Movements and Global Climate Justice,” Facilitator and Panel Organizer, Local Conference of Youth U.S., Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA: September 25.
- 2022 “Advancing Climate Solutions” & “Delivering Intergenerational Global Public Goods,” Invited Expert Panelist, High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism, UN Foundation and Our Future Agenda: August 29.
- 2019 “Environmental Ethics,” Panel Discussion Moderator, Parr Center for Ethics and Carolina Forum for Ethics, UNC-Chapel Hill: April 11.
- 2019 “Youth Leading Global Change,” Panelist, American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.: April 4.

#### Invited Seminar Talks & Colloquia

- 2025 “Community-Engaged Climate Justice Research in the U.S. South: Insights from North Carolina,” Social Science Research Institute Flash Talk, Penn State University, April 7.
- 2025 “Storying Environmental and Climate Justice in the U.S. South: Insights from North Carolina & Alabama,” Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management Department Seminar, Penn State University, February 19.
- 2023 “Inventing Intergenerational Politics: Exploring Emerging Models of Youth Political Engagement Across the Sustainable Development Goals,” Rock Ethics Institute Fall Colloquium Series, Penn State University: November 7.
- 2022 “Storying the Intergenerational Politics of Climate Change,” Coffee Hour Colloquium, The Pennsylvania State University Department of Geography: September 9.

#### Guest Lectures & Speaking Engagements

- 2024 “Transformative Environmental and Climate Education for a World in Disrepair,” United Nations Association Penn State Chapter, Penn State University, December 11.
- 2024 “Intro to the United Nations COP Process,” United Nations Association Penn State Chapter and Penn State Global Youth Storytelling & Research Lab Joint Event, Penn State University. October 17 & 24.
- 2024 “Dimensions of Climate Justice,” Materials Science and Engineering 597: Special Topics, Penn State University. April 11.
- 2024 “Global Youth Advocacy Book Club: *A Bigger Picture*,” Schreyer Honors College GLOBE Living Learning Community, Penn State University. March 19.
- 2024 “Environmental Justice Panel,” University Park Undergraduate Association Justice and Equity Committee, EcoReps, Penn State University: February 27.
- 2024 “Global Youth Advocacy Book Club: *Sipping Dom Perignon Through a Straw*,” Schreyer Honors College GLOBE Living Learning Community, Penn State University: January 30.

- 2024 “Youth and Student Climate Action at and Beyond COP 28,” Science on Tap organized by the Science Policy Society at Penn State, Axemann Brewery, Bellefonte, PA: January 25.
- 2023 “Intergenerational Climate Justice,” Philosophy 133N: Ethics of Climate Change, Penn State University: November 16.
- 2023 “Youth and Climate Justice,” Climate Justice, The University of Colorado at Denver, Virtual: November 7.
- 2023 “Legal Geographies,” GEOG 520: Human Geography Seminar, Penn State University: October 24.
- 2023 “Youth Engagement in International Climate Politics,” History 4705: The Politics of Climate: The United Nations Climate Summit, The Ohio State University, Virtual: September 18.
- 2023 “Climate Change and Intergenerational Justice,” EMSC 100: First Year Seminar, Penn State University: September 5.
- 2023 “Dimensions of Climate Justice,” Climate Science and Drawdown REU Program, Penn State University: July 6.
- 2023 “Activism and Engagement of MENA Youth in Global Climate Politics,” Meteorology 575: Climate Dynamics Seminar, The Pennsylvania State University: April 12.
- 2023 “Youth and Climate Change,” Geography 438W: Human Dimensions of Global Warming, The Pennsylvania State University: April 10.
- 2023 “Activism and Engagement of MENA Youth in Global Climate Politics,” The Consortium for Social Movements and Education Research and Practice, The Pennsylvania State University: February 17.
- 2023 “Centering Justice and Equity in Community-Based Research,” Carolinas Collaborative on Climate, Health, and Equity, NC State University, Virtual: January 20. (Collaborative Talk Developed with NC Climate Justice Collective).
- 2022 “Youth Civil Society and Climate Politics,” Friday Show on Climate Change, Global Shapers Faisalabad, Pakistan Hub, Virtual: December 2.
- 2022 “Local Solutions to Climate Change,” GEOG 130, UNC-Chapel Hill: November 21.
- 2022 “Youth and Global Climate Politics,” Environmental Justice, UT-Austin: November 14.
- 2022 “Youth Activism and the Intergenerational Challenge of Climate Change,” Earth and Mineral Sciences First Year Seminar, Penn State: October 27.
- 2022 “The Intergenerational Politics of Climate Change,” Climate Social Science Network Research Talk, Virtual: October 11.
- 2022 “Transnational Youth Activism and the Intergenerational Politics of Climate Change,” Southeast Climate and Energy Network EJ Working Group Call: May 26.

- 2022 “The (Inter)Generational Politics of Climate Change,” North Carolina Climate Justice Collective Leadership Team: February 24.
- 2019 “‘I don’t want you to be hopeful, I want you to panic’: The (Inter)Generational Politics of Climate Change,” UNC Geography Graduate Research Symposium, Chapel Hill, NC: March 22.
- 2018 “Climate Change Litigation and Intergenerational Politics,” Invited (Virtual) Panelist at the Local Conference of Youth, Amsterdam, Netherlands: October 21.
- 2018 “*An Inconvenient Sequel* and the Politics of Climate Change,” English 492: Film and the Environment, North Carolina State University, Raleigh: September 27.
- 2018 “*Talanoa Mada*: Driving Climate Ambition Through Storytelling,” 4th CliMates International Summit, Vienna, Austria: June 9.
- 2018 “Climate Justice in the Courts,” 4th CliMates International Summit, Vienna, Austria: June 6.
- 2018 “‘No Ordinary Lawsuit’: *Juliana v. United States* and the National Politics of Climate Change, Initiative for Minority Excellence, UNC: April 26.
- 2017 “‘Your Mess, My Future’: Youth Climate Activism and Intergenerational Ethics,” Parr Center for Ethics, UNC-Chapel Hill: December 4.

## STUDENT MENTORING & ADVISING

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### Current Student Advisees/Mentees:

#### *Graduate:*

- 1.) **Ledeebari Banuna**, PhD Student in Geography, Penn State University, Mentoring through Lab group and as PhD Committee Member, 2023-Present.
- 2.) **Harman Singh**, PhD Student in Geography, Penn State University, Mentoring through Project “Youth Perspectives on Sustainability in the College of EMS” and as PhD Committee Member, Fall 2024-Present.
- 3.) **Lily Houtman**, PhD Student in Geography, Penn State University, Mentoring as PhD Committee Member, 2024-Present.
- 4.) **Junghyun Kim**, PhD Candidate in Lifelong Learning and Adult Education, Penn State University, PhD Committee Member, 2025-Present. Project Title: “Examining Activist Learning in Coalition-Based Activism in the Climate Justice Alliance in South Korea.”
- 5.) **Danielle Dedeaux**, Incoming PhD Student in Geography, Penn State University, Mentoring as Primary PhD Advisor (also mentored as undergraduate), 2025-Present.
- 6.) **Benjamin Ward**, Masters Student in International Affairs, Penn State University. Mentoring as Master’s Paper Advisor. 2025.
- 7.) **Lucy Thompson**, PhD Student in Geography, Penn State University. Mentoring as PhD Committee Member. 2026-Present.

*Undergraduate:*

1.) **McKenna Murphy**, Undergraduate Student, Penn State University, Honors Thesis Advisor, 2024-2026.

**Previous Student Advisees/Mentees:***Graduate*

1.) **Tim Benally**, Master's Student in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Management & Transdisciplinary Research on Environment and Society Dual-Title Degree, Penn State University, Mentoring through Lab group, 2023-24.

2.) **Maya Weinberg**, Graduate Student in Department of Agricultural Economics, Sociology, and Education, Penn State University, Mentored through Lab group, 2023-2025.

*Undergraduate*

1.) **Carah Lo**, Undergraduate Student studying Biology, Penn State University, Mentored through the EnvironMentors Program at Penn State, Spring 2023.

2.) **Iris Zhan**, Undergraduate Student, Wellesley College, Advised Through Summer Research Project with Lab group, 2024.

3.) **Ruby Chambers**, Undergraduate Student in Geography, Penn State University, Honors Thesis Advisor, 2024-25.

4.) **Rasha Elwakil**, Undergraduate Student studying Earth Science and Policy, Penn State University, Research Assistant with the GYSRL, 2023.

*High School*

1.) **Joshua Wang**, High School Student at State College Area High School, Mentored through the EnvironMentors Program at Penn State, Spring 2023.

**ACADEMIC WORKSHOPS & TRAINING**


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2022	Climate Justice and Problems of Scale, Global Humanities Institute, University of Pretoria, South Africa & Virtual.
2018	Joint UNC-Kings College London Climate Change Graduate Workshop, KCL Department of Geography; Spring 2018.
2016	"Disclosing/Enclosing: The Paradoxes of Information Flow in Knowledge Communities." University of Wisconsin-Madison Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies Summer School; July 10-15.
2016	ComSciCon Triangle Science Writing and Communication Workshop. The Frontier at Research Triangle Park, NC; May 14 & 21.

**FILM/VIDEO APPEARANCES**


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2020	<u>What We Share: Mark Ortiz</u> , <i>UNC Global Storytelling</i> , UNC Global Storytelling
2014	<u>Alabama Voices: Mark Ortiz</u> , <i>Southern Exposure Film Fellowship</i> , Southern Environmental Law Center

## MEDIA & STORY FEATURES

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- 2025 Penn State Climate Consortium, "Panel discussion will explore key outcomes, key takeaways from COP29," January 17. [Link](#).
- 2024 Penn State Climate Consortium, "Penn State Delegation will Head to Azerbaijan for UN's Annual Climate Meeting," November 5. [Link](#).
- 2024 Penn State Institute of Energy and the Environment. "New IEE faculty have strong focus on climate solutions, collaboration." September 19. [Link](#).
- 2024 Youth Democracy Cohort "Mark Ortiz - #YoungResearchersNetwork," [Link](#).
- 2024 Penn State Earth and Mineral Sciences. "Youth perspectives study on sustainability funded by EMS Sustainability Council. May 31. [Link](#).
- 2024 Penn State Institute of Energy and the Environment. 'Growing Impact' podcast looks at youth climate leadership. April 4. [Link](#).
- 2024 Penn State Institute of Energy and the Environment. "Growing Impact: Youth Climate Leadership." [Podcast]. April 1. [Link](#).
- 2024 Alliance for Education, Science, Engineering, and Design with Africa. "Forging a Sustainable Future: Dr. Mark Ortiz and the Penn State Delegation at COP 28." February 2024. [Link](#).
- 2023 American Association of Geographers. "Member Profile: Mark Ortiz." November 9. <https://www.aag.org/member-profile-mark-ortiz/>
- 2023 College of Earth and Mineral Sciences. "Geography postdoc selected for inaugural 'Elevate the Discipline' program." July 30. [psu.edu/news](https://psu.edu/news)
- 2014 Ward, G. "Tide Talks to host final event of semester," *The Crimson White*. April 14. <https://thecrimsonwhite.com/19164/news/tide-talks-to-host-final-event-of-semester/>
- 2013 Coogan, E. "Group petitions UA to affiliate with WRC," *The Crimson White*. October 8. <https://cw.ua.edu/28729/news/group-petitions-ua-to-affiliate-with-wrc-2/>
- 2013 Dennen, K. "Students for Fair Labor promote fair trade clothing on UA's campus," *The Crimson White*. March 18. <https://issuu.com/thecrimsonwhite/docs/03.18.13>

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

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- American Association of Geographers (Member)
- Academic Council of the United Nations System (Member)
- Southeastern Division of the American Association of Geographers (SEDAAG)