

## 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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### EDUCATION

#### PhD, Geography

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2022

Chapel Hill, NC

Dissertation: Transnational Youth Activism and the  
Intergenerational Politics of Climate Change

#### M.A., Geography

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2017

Chapel Hill, NC

#### B.A. (Honors), Environmental Studies & Religious Studies

The University of Alabama

2015

Tuscaloosa, AL

Honors: *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2024- **Assistant Professor**  
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 **Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow**  
Department of Geography, The Pennsylvania State University

### VISITING & ASSOCIATED POSITIONS

2024- **Faculty Affiliate**  
Institute for Human Rights, College of Arts & Sciences, The University of  
Alabama at Birmingham

### 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

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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**

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### 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 What We Share: Mark Ortiz, *UNC Global Storytelling*, UNC Global Storytelling

2014 Alabama Voices: Mark Ortiz, *Southern Exposure Film Fellowship*, 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 Dennan, 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)