

William S. Kombian

Objective

My scholarly work seeks to provide a normative foundation for climate justice, by extending the Rawlsian framework to account for intergenerational and transnational obligations. I aim to integrate philosophical analysis with insights from political science, economics, and development studies, in order to contribute both to academic research and to global policy debates on climate change, distributive justice, and human dignity.

Education

2021 to date	University of Notre Dame, Philosophy Department PhD Philosophy (ABD) Dissertation: Extending Rawlsian Liberalism to Climate Justice: Toward a Normative Foundation for Global Climate Action Supervisor: Prof. James P. Sterba
2019 to 2020	University of Sheffield, UK MA Philosophy Thesis: Moral Development Advisor: Prof. Max K. Hayward
2009 to 2013	Spiritan University College, Ghana BA Philosophy and Social Sciences Graduated First Class Honours

Jan 2021	Distinguished Graduate Student Award For outstanding graduating students University of Sheffield
----------	---

Fellowships, Awards, And Professional Training

September 2025	Kellogg Doctoral Affiliate Kellogg Institute for International Studies University of Notre Dame
September 2025	Franco Family Dissertation Fellow Franco Family Institute for Liberal Arts and the Public Good University of Notre Dame

	June to July 2025	Slavery in Early Modern Philosophy Workshop Georgetown University NEH Funded Participant
	Jan 2021	Distinguished Graduate Student Award For outstanding graduating students University of Sheffield
	June 2013	Valedictorian 2013 Graduating Class, Spiritan University College
Research And Teaching Experience	Fall 2025	Instructor of Record , Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame Ethics of Climate Change - undergraduate course (Fall 2025) Courses designed: <i>Slavery and Philosophy</i> (supported by NEH Workshop), <i>African Political Philosophy</i>
	2022 to 2024	Teaching Assistant , Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame Assisted in Philosophy of Law, God and the Good Life, and Introduction to Philosophy Core Responsibility: grading, and leading discussion sections
	2016 to 2019	Teaching Assistant , Department of Philosophy, Spiritan University College, Ghana Assisted in Ethical Theories, Political Philosophy, Philosophical Methodology, Introduction to Ethics Core Responsibility: course facilitation, grading, and leading discussion sections
Professional affiliations	2021 to date	American Philosophical Association Mid-Western Division
	2023 to date	International Society of Environmental Ethics (ISEE)

Professional Experience

2020 to 2021	International Students' Ambassador (for Africa and Middle East) University of Sheffield
2018 to 2019	Public Relations & Social Media Manager, Pledge Ghana (a Non-Governmental Organisation)
2017 to 2019	President, Spiritan University College Alumni Association Ex-Officio Member Spiritan University College Governing Council
2018 to 2019	Field Research Assistant, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
2013 to 2018	The Managing Editor, The Goodshepherd Newspaper (a Catholic Newspaper in the Kumasi Archdiocese),
2015 to 2018	News Editor/Head of Talk Shows, Kapital Radio Imperial Broadcasting Corporation - Kumasi
2013 to 2014	Teacher/Students' Chaplain, National Service Scheme (Ghana) Amankwaah-Tornu R/C Junior High School

Volunteer Leadership

2013 to date	Executive Secretary, Samaria Ayemye Mma Somfo (SAMS), A charity supporting widows, orphans, and the sick in Ghana
2018 to 2019	Research Assistant, Social Guide International An NGO advocating for minority groups and the underprivileged
2015 to 2019	Patron, Punch Ghana Movement A youth environmental initiative (Kumasi, Ghana)
2010 to 2012	Editor-in-Chief, Spiritan Insight Magazine, Official Magazine Spiritan University College
2009 to 2010	Chairman,

Students' Academic Committee
Students' Representative Council,
Spiritan University College

References

Prof. James P. Sterba	Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame Email: James.P.Sterba.1@nd.edu Tel: (574)-302-8088
Prof. Paul Weithmann	Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame Email: weithman.1@nd.edu
Prof. Laura Frances Callahan	Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame Email: llallah4@nd.edu
Prof. Mike Zhao	Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame Email: mzhao5@nd.edu