

Blake Francis he/him
Curriculum vitae

August 11, 2025

Philosophy Department
Performing Arts and Humanities 467
1000 Hilltop Circle
Baltimore, MD 21250 USA

blakefrancis.com
bfrancis@umbc.edu
+01 (650) 461-4100

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Stanford University, Philosophy, 2017
M.A. University of Montana, Philosophy, 2009
B.A. Northern Arizona University, Philosophy, 2000

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2021- Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
2019-21 Postdoctoral Fellow for Faculty Diversity, Department of Philosophy, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
2017-19 Postdoctoral Research Associate in Ethics and Climate Change, Princeton Environmental Institute and The University Center for Human Values, Princeton University

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2025 Between Luxury and Subsistence: An Ethics of Middle Emissions, *Ethics, Policy & Environment*.
2022 Climate Change Injustice, *Environmental Ethics*, 44/1:4-24.
2021 In Defense of National Climate Change Responsibility: A Reply to the Fairness Objection. *Philosophy and Public Affairs*, 49/2:115-155.
Curated by Wiley for *Environmental Policy: 2022 U.S. Midterm Elections Research*.

- 2020 John Bistline, Mark Budolfson, and **Blake Francis** (equal contributors)
Deepening Transparency about Value-Laden Assumptions in Energy and
Environmental Modeling: Improving Best Practices for Both Modelers and
Non-Modelers, *Climate Policy*, 21/1: 1-15.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- 2017 Moral Asymmetries and Economic Evaluations of Climate Change: The
Challenge of Assessing Diverse Effects. *The Ethical Underpinnings of Climate
Economics*, Adrian Walsh, Duncan Purves, and S  de Hormio (eds.) New York:
Routledge, 141-162.

Edited Volumes

- 2011 Dane Scott and **Blake Francis** (eds.) *Debating Science: Deliberation, Values, and
the Public Good*, Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books.

In Submission

A paper defending climate change reparations against missing duty-bearer
objections

A paper refuting the claim that only subsistence emissions are permissible

In Preparation

Is Distributive Justice Enough?: Climate Change Reparations and Worldmaking

Remember Wildness: The Role of Memory in Environmental Ethics and Activism

The Individual Denialist's Playbook: Individual Climate Change Responsibility
and Strong Conceptions of Harm

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2022 Summer Research Faculty Fellowship, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
- 2016-17 Geballe Dissertation Prize, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University
- 2016 Centennial Teaching Award, Stanford University

2014-16 Diversifying Academia, Recruiting Excellence Doctoral Fellow, Stanford University

INVITED TALKS

- 2025 Remember Wildness: The Role of Memory in Environmental Ethics and Activism, Philosophy in the Wild, Sideling Hill Creek State Park, MD, July 25-27 (Keynote)
- 2025 Annual Update: Responsible Computing at UMBC, Mozilla Training Program on Responsible Computing, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, July 21-23
- 2025 Why World Making is Not Enough: The Need for Climate Change Reconciliation, Facing the Anthropocene: Interdisciplinary Approaches, Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, May 20
- 2024 Socially Responsible Computing in the CS Classroom and Across the Undergraduate Experience, w/ Mark Berczynski, Mozilla Training Program on Responsible Computing, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, July 22-30
- 2023 Between Luxury and Subsistence: An Ethics of Middle Emissions, Institute of Philosophy at Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, online, October 17 (Canceled due to illness)
- 2023 Between Luxury and Subsistence: An Ethics of Middle Emissions, Environmental Ethics Symposium: Ethical Dimensions of Climate Change, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, March 2
- 2022 Normative Dimensions of Climate Change Including Emerging Connections to Litigation and Reparations, w/ Ewan Kingston, Climate Futures Initiative Symposium, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, April 29
- 2021 Climate Science from Different Perspectives, w/ April Anson, Andrew Linke, Isabel Rivera-Collazo, Virtual Climate Talks, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA, online, April 13
- 2021 Middle Emissions: A Case for Aggregative Climate Ethics, Philosophy Department, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore Maryland, online, February 13
- 2019 Should the Polluter Pay? Corrective Justice and Anthropogenic Climate Change, Philosophy Department, University of Florida, March 18

- 2019 Should the Polluter Pay? Corrective Justice and Anthropogenic Climate Change, University of Wisconsin, Whitewater, March 2
- 2019 Civic Liability and Climate Change Damages: Why Citizens Should Pay When Their Nation is Morally Responsible for Climate Change, Philosophy Department, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, February 23
- 2019 Should the Polluter Pay? Corrective Justice and Anthropogenic Climate Change, Philosophy Department, University of Kentucky, January 23

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Papers Presented

- 2025 Why World Making is Not Enough: The Need for Climate Change Reconciliation, Summer Meeting of the International Society for Environmental Ethics, Missoula, MT, June 12
- 2024 Between Luxury and Subsistence: An Ethics of Middle Emissions, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society: Eighth Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, November 15
- 2023 Climate Change Reparations, Philosophy in the Wild, Poe Paddy State Park, PA, July 15
- 2023 Climate Change Reparations, 20th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Environmental Ethics, Allenspark, CO, June 29
- 2021 What is a Constructed Preference? Conference on Preferences, Commitments, and Choice, University of Zurich, Zurich, CH, online, September 9-11
- 2021 Middle Emissions: Climate Ethics and the Global Middle Class, 6th Annual Conference of the Centre for the Study of Global Ethics: Ethics in a Global Environment, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK, online, May 26-28
- 2021 The Individual Denialist's Playbook: Climate Ethics and Competing Conceptions of Harm, Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, online, April 5-10
- 2020 Middle Emissions: Climate Ethics and the Global Middle Class, Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, San Francisco, CA, April 8-11 (Canceled due to COVID)

- 2020 Climate Change Injustice, 17th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Environmental Ethics, online, October 2020 16-18
- 2018 Why Citizens Should Pay for their Nation's Wrongful Emissions, MANCEPT Workshop in Political Theory, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK, September 10-12
- 2015 Moral Asymmetries and Economic Evaluations of Climate Change, Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, San Francisco, CA, April 1-4
- 2014 Moral Asymmetries and Economic Evaluations of Climate Change, Ethical Underpinnings of Climate Economics Conference, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, FN, November 11-13
- 2009 Thinking, Identity, Politics: Finding Personal Identity in Feminist Projects, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Graduate Philosophy Conference, Urbana, IL, April 17-18

Discussant

- 2025 Andrew Light, Advancing a Global Clean Energy Transition while Fighting an Energy War with Russia at the U.S. Department of Energy, 22nd Annual Meeting of the International Society for Environmental Ethics, Missoula, MT, June 8-12
- 2025 Allen Thompson, Rights of Nature and Novel Ecosystems, 22nd Annual Meeting of the International Society for Environmental Ethics, Missoula, MT, June 8-12
- 2024 Luke Elson, Voting for Emissions Rights, 21st Annual Meeting of the International Society for Environmental Ethics, Fribourg, CH, June 23-27
- 2023 Timothy Williamson, Consequentialism, Collective Action, and Cyclicity, 20th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Environmental Ethics, Allenspark, CO, June 29
- 2020 Allison Fritz, The Virtue of Shallow Environmentalism, 17th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Environmental Ethics, online, October 16-18
- 2020 Kian Mintz-Woo and Justin Leroux, What Do Climate Winners Owe? Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, online, August 13-16

- 2018 Maddalena Ferranna, Age Dependency and the Value of Mortality Risks, Laurance S. Rockefeller Fellows Lunch Seminar, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, April 13
- 2016 Fergus Green, Nationally Self-interested Climate Change Mitigation: A Unified Conceptual Framework,” Workshop in Climate Ethics and Climate Economics: How to Finance Well Below 2°C, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK, April 12-15
- 2015 Corey Katz Does the Current Generation Dominate Posterity and Should Neo-Republicans Care? The Intergenerational Domination Workshop, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, April 17
- 2014 Aaron Maltais, Making Our Children Pay for Mitigation One Way or Another, Ethical Underpinnings of Climate Economics Conference, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, FN, November 11-13
- 2014 Alan Patten, Accommodating Religion, Stanford Political Theory Workshop, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, May 30
- 2012 Pedro Jimenez, Pluralism and Public Justification, Stanford Political Theory Workshop, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, January 11

CAMPUS TALKS & DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

- 2024 Between Luxury and Subsistence: An Ethics of Middle Emissions, Department of Philosophy Faculty Workshop, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, online, October 11
- 2024 Doing Away with Missing Duty-bearer Problems: A Defense of Climate Change Reparations, Department of Philosophy Faculty Workshop, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, online, May 3
- 2024 Between Subsistence and Luxury: An Ethics of Middle Emissions, Climate Change Teach-in University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, online, April 2024
- 2023 Climate Change Reparations, Climate Change Teach-in University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, online, March 28
- 2020 Private Property as Coercion: A Challenge for the Hayekian Liberal, Department of Philosophy Faculty Workshop, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, online, October 23

- 2020 Teaching Online: Hits and Misses, w/ Lindsay DiCuirci, Sarah Fouts and Timothy Phin, Humanities Teaching Lab, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, online, May 14
- 2020 Trees as Climate Solutions: A Roundtable Debate, w/ Erle Ellis, Matthew Fagan, Susan Sterett, and Fernando Tormos-Aponte, Center for Social Science Scholarship, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, online, April 21
- 2019 Should the Polluter Pay? Department of Philosophy Faculty Workshop, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD, November 21
- 2018 Climate Change Injustice, Conversations on the Environment, Responsible Energy, and Life, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, May 8
- 2018 Controlling Artificial Intelligence: Roles and Professional Ethics, Artificial Intelligence Ethics: New Frontiers or Bioethics Revisited? Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, October 18
- 2018 Should the Polluter Pay? Climate Change, Ethics, and Risk Workshop, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, April 14
- 2017 Does Contributing to Climate Change by Emitting Greenhouse Gases Do Harm? Human Values Forum, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, December 4
- 2017 Making Climate Research Interdisciplinary, w/ Maddalena Ferranna, Noah Scovronick, and Mark Vardy, Climate Futures Initiative, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, October 10
- 2017 Climate Change and the Moral Significance of Harm, Stanford Humanities Center Forum, Stanford, CA, January 30
- 2014 Ethics and Adaptation: Who is Most Vulnerable to Climate Change? Connecting the Dots: The Food, Water, Climate Nexus, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, April 18
- 2013 Ethics in an Energy Crisis: What Should We Do When Current Needs Conflict with Long-Term Sustainability? w/ Mark Budolfson, Hyunseop Kim, and Debra Satz, The Energy Seminar, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, October 21
- 2008 Thinking, Identity, Politics: Finding Personal Identity in Feminist Projects, The University of Montana Philosophy Forum, Missoula, MT, September 2008

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Instructor of Record

Well-being and Happiness (fall 2022, fall 2024)

Justice and Climate Change (spring 2020, spring 2022, spring 2024)

The Ethics of Technology (fall 2023)

Harm in Morality and Law (spring 2023)

Contemporary Moral Issues (fall 2021, spring/fall 2022, spring/fall 2023)

Princeton University, Instructor of Record

The Ethics of Technology: Engineering in the Real World w/Jay Benziger (fall 2018)

Princeton University, Preceptor

The Environmental Nexus: Climate, Biodiversity, Food, & Water, Ethical Thought and Moral Value Section, w/Lori Gruen (spring 2018)

Stanford University, Instructor of Record

Climate Change Justice (spring 2014, summer 2017)

Teaching Methods in Philosophy (graduate) (fall 2013 w/Grant Rozeboom, winter/spring/fall 2014, winter 2015)

Personal Responsibility w/Ben Miller (spring 2013)

The University of Montana, Instructor of Record

College Composition (fall 2008, spring 2009)

Other Teaching, Instructor of Record

Climate Change Ethics, Stanford Pre-Collegiate Studies Humanities Circle (spring 2017)

The Philosophy of Friendship, w/Sam Asarnow, Hope House Scholars Program
(summer 2013)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

To Profession

Member, Screening Committee, Stanford Humanities Center, Next Generation Scholar
Dissertation Fellowship, Stanford University, 2025

Member, Screening Committee, Stanford Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship, Stanford
University, 2024

Institutional Partner & External Expert, Summer Training Program on Responsible
Computing Education, Mozilla Responsible Computing Challenge, Northeastern
University, 2023-2025

Mentor, COMPASS: An Undergraduate Philosophy Workshop for Women and Gender
Minorities, Princeton University, 2016

Peer Review

Environmental Ethics

Ethics, Policy & Environment

Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy

Philosophies

Philosophy, Politics, Economics

WIRES Climate Change

To University

Member, Ethics Search Committee, Philosophy Department, University of Maryland,
Baltimore County, 2024-present

Member, Advisory Board, Center for Ethics and Value, University of Maryland,
Baltimore County, 2024-present

Elected Director, Human Context of Science and Technology Program, University of
Maryland, Baltimore County, 2023-present

Member, Asian Philosophy Search Committee, Philosophy Department, University of
Maryland, Baltimore County, 2023-2024

Editor, Academic Catalog, Philosophy Department, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, 2022-2023

Member, Governing Committee, Human Context of Science and Technology, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, 2021-2023

Coordinator, Postdoctoral Group, Climate Futures Initiative, Princeton University, 2018-2019

Residential Program Coordinator, City College of New York/Stanford Intensive Summer Research Program in the Humanities, Stanford University, 2013-2017

Liaison, Center for Teaching and Learning, Stanford University, 2013-2015

Coordinator, Philosophy Graduate Student Workshop, Stanford University, 2013-2015

Co-President, The Hume Society of Philosophy Graduate Students, Stanford University, 2011-2012

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Program Coordinator, Center for Ethics, University of Montana, Missoula, MT, 2008-2010

Field Crew Leader, Admiralty Island National Monument/Kootznoowoo Wilderness, Tongass National Forest, Juneau, Alaska, 2005-2008

Assistant Field Crew Leader, Sabino Canyon Ranger District, Coronado National Forest, Tucson, Arizona, 2003-2005

Field Crew Leader, Coconino Rural Environment Corps, Flagstaff, Arizona, 2001-2003

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society, 2024-present

NOMOS: American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy, 2022-present

International Society for Environmental Ethics, 2019-present

American Philosophical Association, 2010-present