

DOMINIC WILKINS

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EMPLOYMENT

Berea College

Assistant Professor, Sustainability and Environmental Studies

2025-present

Colorado College

Visiting Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies and Science

2024-2025

EDUCATION

Syracuse University

PhD, Geography, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, May 2024

Dissertation (with distinction): *Caring for Creation: Catholics, Justice, and Socio-Ecologies in Appalachia*

MA, Geography, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, May 2019

Thesis: *Building an Ecological Church: Climate Change, Laudato Si', and Clergy in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse*

Colgate University

BA, Religion and Environmental Studies (Dual Majors), May 2017

Honors Thesis: *Examining Pope Francis's Laudato Si' within Catholic and Environmental Thought*

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Wilkins, Dominic (2026) "Singing Along To 'God's Country': YouTube Reaction Videos and Empirical Ecocriticism Online." *Green Letters: Studies in Ecocriticism*. ePub ahead of print.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/14688417.2026.2716673>

Wilkins, Dominic (2025) "Toward Multiscalar Analyses of Religions." *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 64(2): 240-250.

Wilkins, Dominic (2022) "Catholic Clerical Responses to Climate Change and Pope Francis's *Laudato Si'*." *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*, 5(1): 146-168.

Wilkins, Dominic (2021) "Where is Religion in Political Ecology?" *Progress in Human Geography*, 45(2): 276-297.

Wilkins, Dominic (2020) "Pope Francis, 'Care for Creation,' and Catholic Environmental Imagery." *Environmental History*, 25(2): 361-371.

EDITOR-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Wilkins, Dominic (2024) "Religions, Political Ecologies, and Nature-Society Geographies." In *Handbook of the Geographies of Religion*. Edited by Lily Kong, Orlando Woods, and Justin K.H. Tse. Springer Nature. pp. 637-665.

Wilkins, Dominic (2018) "Starting Over...and Over...and Over: Religious Life and Religious Space." In *Repression, Reinvention, and Rugelach: A History of Jews at Colgate*, edited by Alice Nakhimovsky. 80-115. Colgate University Press. Second Printing 2024.

BOOK REVIEWS

Wilkins, Dominic (2025) Invited Review of Abby L. Goode, *Agrotopias: An American Literary History of Sustainability*. *Environmental History*, 30(4): 755-757.

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Resistance After Extraction: Notes from an Intentional Community in West Virginia, 49th Annual Conference of the Appalachian Studies Association- March 2026

Eating for Justice, and the Obstacles Involved, American Academy of Religion, Southeast Division Meeting- February/March 2026

Using Affective Infrastructural Pedagogy to Challenge Resource Extraction, 80th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Division of the AAG- November 2025

Environmental Communication in Religiously-Affiliated Media Outlets: An Exploratory Study of the U.S. Catholic Church, Biannual Meeting, International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture- June 2025

Understanding Religious Environmental Communication Through Commonweal, Annual Meeting, Rocky Mountain- Great Plains Region of the American Academy of Religion- March 2025. Co-presentation with Tâm Phan*

The Politics of Nature, Gender, and the Catholic Church, Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers- March 2025

De-Mystifying Religion for Environmental Science & Studies, CNY Conference on Environmental Science & Studies, SUNY ESF- April 2023

Why Have We Lacked Geographies of Religion and Nature? Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers- March 2023

How Are Geographers Engaging Religion, Nature, and Culture? Biannual Meeting, International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture- February 2023

Appalachian Catholic Efforts for Socio-Ecological Justice. Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference, University of Kentucky- March 2022

The Anthropocene's Multiple Colonial Dimensions. Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers- April 2021

Bearing Witness in the Environmental Humanities? Humanities on the Brink: Energy, Environment and Emergency, Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment- July 2020

Catholic Environmental Thought in the Diocese of Syracuse, NY. Biannual Meeting, International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture- June 2019

Difficulties with Creating an Ecological Catholic Church: The Diocese of Syracuse. Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers- April 2019

Climate Change and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Eastern-International Regional Conference, American Academy of Religion- April 2018

Evaluating the Place of Muslim Refugee Communities in Utica. Upstate Undergraduate Research Conference, New York Six Liberal Arts Consortium- September 2016

INVITED PRESENTATIONS & LECTURES

The Need for Good Teaching. Keynote Lecture, Certificate in University Teaching Recognition Ceremony, Graduate School of Syracuse University, April 2026

Navigating the Job Market: Student Workshop. Panelist. American Academy of Religion, Southeast Division Meeting- February/March 2026

The Greening of Religion Hypothesis Revisited: Roundtable Session. Panelist. Biannual Meeting, International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture- June 2025

The U.S. Catholic Church and Socio-Ecological Justice: Reflections and Future Directions. Lecture. University of Dayton, Hanley Sustainability Institute- April 2024

Religions, Environmental Humanities, & the U.S. Catholic Church. Lecture. Oklahoma State University, American Studies Program & Department of Geography- March 2024

The Catholic Church, Environments, and Justice. Lecture. SUNY Old Westbury, Department of History and Philosophy- February 2024

Understanding Sacred Space: Current Research & Future Directions. Panelist. Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers- March 2023

Climate Change and Catholic Social Teaching. Lecture and Conversation. Colgate University Newman Community- November 2022

Religion and Climate Change. Panelist. Syracuse University Environmental Humanities Symposium-March 2020

ENST Pathways Panel: Continuing Education in Environmental Studies and Sustainability. Panelist. Colgate University-October 2018

Repression, Reinvention, and Rugelach: A History of Jews at Colgate. Panelist. Colgate University- June 2018

Climate Action Under the Trump Administration: Sociological Perspectives. Panelist. Colgate University- April 2017

WORKSHOPS ATTENDED (SELECTED)

Communicating Science for Policy. Participant, George Mason University and National Science Policy Network- July 2025

Geography Faculty Development Alliance: Early Career Workshop. Participant, American Association of Geographers- June 2023

Publicly Engaged Scholarship Retreat and Strategy Workshop. Participant, Department of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee (Knoxville)- May 2023

SESSIONS ORGANIZED AND/OR CHAIRED

Labor, Policy, and Activism in Central Appalachia, 49th Annual Conference of the Appalachian Studies Association- March 2026

Social and Cultural Geographies I: Global and Theoretical Perspectives, 80th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Division of the AAG- November 2025

Climate Politics: Climate Justice, Strikes and Resistances, 9th Annual Nature-Society Workshop (Syracuse University)- October 2019

Landscapes and Geographies of Religion, Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers- April 2019

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Co-founder and contributing writer, *Earth Carers Newsletter*. Monthly Issues. (Syracuse, NY) Jan. 2024-present.

Invited Lecture, “The U.S. Catholic Church’s Environmental Turn [?],” Berea Rotary Club, Sept. 2025.

Invited Lecture, “Religious Communities & Socio-Ecological Justice.” The Forum at First Congregational United Church of Christ (Colorado Springs, CO)- May 2025.

Invited Panelist, “Laudato Si- on care for our common home: Spiritual, Social, Ecological, and Policy Perspectives,” Edinburgh International Centre For Spirituality and Peace, April 16, 2025.

Writer, [Environmental Storytelling Series of Central New York](#). (Syracuse University Engaged Humanities Network & SUNY ESF) Spring 2023-Spring 2024.

Invited Lecture, “On ‘Laudate Deum.’” All Saints Catholic Church (Syracuse, NY)-November 2023.

Wilkins, Dominic (2023) Long before Pope Francis, popes recognized our duty to care for our common home. *The Catholic Sun*. August 10. <https://thecatholicsun.com/long-before-pope-francis-popes-recognized-our-duty-to-care-for-our-common-home/>

Invited Panelist, “Care for Creation and Broader Catholic Social Thought,” Faith, Education, and the Ecological Crisis. Guardians of Creation Project (St. Mary’s University (Twickenham) and the Diocese of Salford, UK)- July 2022.

Invited Presenter, “Catholic Papal Teaching on Caring for Creation Before Pope Francis,” Convening of the Roman Catholic Dioceses of Ogdensburg and Syracuse, NY on the Path to a Better Future-May 2021.

Buttner, James and Dominic Wilkins (2021) Why climate action matters to young people. *The Catholic Sun*. March 10. <https://thecatholicsun.com/why-climate-action-matters-to-young-people/>

- Republished in *North Country Catholic*, May 5, 2021.
<http://www.northcountrycatholic.org/2021archives.html>.

Laudato Si’ Circle, Holy Cross, DeWitt, NY (2021) Lenten Journey on Care for Creation. As an outside consultant, helped plan and draft materials for 6-week program on socioecological relations.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Berea College

SENS 100—Introduction to Sustainability and Environmental Studies

SENS/PSJ 225—Environmental Justice

SENS/PSJ 286—Political Ecologies of the Global South *^new course to institution*

L&I 300 (General Education)—Religions, Environments, and Justice *^new course to institution*

SENS/GEO 320—Introduction to Geographic Information Systems

SENS 460—Sustainability Capstone

Colorado College

EV 145—Environment and Society

EV 260/RE 200—Religions, Environments, and Justice *^new course to institution*

EV 360—Resource Extraction and Resistance *^new course to institution*

Syracuse University

Instructor of Record, GEO 103—Environment and Society

Teaching Assistant, GEO 383/683—Geographic Information Systems

Teaching Assistant, GEO 171—Human Geography

Teaching Assistant, GEO 215—Global Environmental Change

Teaching Assistant, GEO 103—Environment and Society

GRANT SUPPORT

Undergraduate Research & Creative Projects Program (Berea College- 2026)- \$6896 + internal college funding for 3 student research assistantship stipends, room, and board

Research and Development Fund (Colorado College, Social Science Executive Committee- 2025)- \$1290

Summer Dissertation Fellowship (Syracuse University, Graduate School- 2023)- \$4500

ISSRNC Travel Grant (International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture- 2023)- \$500

Roscoe Martin Fund for Graduate Research (Syracuse University, Maxwell School- 2020)- \$1125

AWARDS

Outstanding TA Award (Syracuse University, Graduate School- 2024)

David E. Sopher New Scholar Award (American Association of Geographers, Geography of Religion and Belief Systems Specialty Group- 2023)

David E. Sopher Memorial Scholarship (Syracuse University, Dept. of Geog. & Environment- 2022)

David E. Sopher Memorial Scholarship (Syracuse University, Dept. of Geog. & Environment- 2020)

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT

Graduate Representative, Colloquium Committee (Fall 2022-Spring 2023)

Academic Program Senator, Graduate Student Organization, Syracuse University (Spring 2021)

Graduate Student Member, Faculty Search Committee (Physical Geography), Department of Geography, Syracuse University (Fall 2019-Spring 2020)

Future Professoriate Program Student Coordinator, Syracuse University (Fall 2019-Spring 2020)

Graduate Student Representative to the Faculty, Syracuse University (Spring 2018-Fall 2018)

SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTION

Faculty Judge, Lyle & Dorothy Ferer Cary Award for Excellence in Writing (Spring 2026)

Co-Facilitator, Faculty Development Book Club for Sustainability (Spring 2026)

Faculty Judge, GSTR 410 Expo (Fall 2025, Spring 2026)

Teaching Mentor, Syracuse University (Spring 2023- Spring 2024)

Content Volunteer, Environmental Storytelling Series, Syracuse University (Spring 2023- Spring 2024)

At-Large Senator, Graduate Student Organization, Syracuse University (Fall 2022- Spring 2024)

Co-Chair and Committee Member, Climate Action Committee, Graduate Student Organization, Syracuse University (committee member, Spring 2022- ; co-chair, Spring 2023-Spring 2024)

Geography Department Representative to Dean's Student Advisory Council, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Global Affairs, Syracuse University (Fall 2018-Spring 2019)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Co-Managing Editor, *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture* (Flagship journal of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture) (June 2025- present)

- Assistant Managing Editor from May 2023-June 2025

At-Large Board Member, International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture (June 2025- present)

At-Large Board Member, Geography of Religion and Belief Systems Specialty Group, American Association of Geographers (April 2024- March 2026)

Student Board Member, Geography of Religion and Belief Systems Specialty Group, American Association of Geographers (March 2023- April 2024)

Journals Reviewed For: *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*; *Economic Analysis and Policy*; *Economic Anthropology*; *Environmental Development*; *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space*; *Environmental Politics*; *Journal of Contemporary Religion*; *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*; *Politics & Policy*; *Religions*; *The Antoninus Journal*; *The Trumpeter*

TECHNICAL/METHODOLOGICAL SKILLS

Mixed-Methods Qualitative Research (e.g. Participant Observation, Interviews, Focus Groups)

Ethnographic Research

ArcGIS Suite (Pro, Online, Storymap)

Scholarly Editing

MEMBERSHIP IN ACADEMIC ASSOCIATIONS

American Association of Geographers (2017- present)

American Academy of Religion (2018- present)

International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture (2019- present)