

DAVID CHRISTIAN JUSTICE

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EDUCATION

2023	Ph.D. in Theological Studies: Saint Louis University (St. Louis, MO) Graduate Minor in Women's and Gender Studies
2018	M.A. in Theological Ethics: Saint Louis University (St. Louis, MO)
2015	M.A. in Philosophy: University of Missouri—St. Louis (St. Louis, MO)
2012	B.A. in Philosophy: <i>Cum Laude</i> , Greenville University (Greenville, IL)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Theology, Philosophy, and Activism of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- African American Religion and Theology
- Virtue Ethics
- Civil Discourse and Interfaith Engagement

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025—Present	Baylor University (Waco, TX): Full Time Temporary Lecturer in the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core program
2023—2025	Baylor University (Waco, TX): Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core program

CERTIFICATIONS

Summer 2024	Interfaith America Certificate in Interfaith Leadership
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SELECTED AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Fall 2024— Present	Baylor University Senior Faculty Bridgebuilding Fellow I help to train the other faculty fellows and coordinate campus activities that promote civic education, pluralism, and interfaith dialogue at Baylor.
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- Fall 2025 **Nominated for the Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program by Baylor University**
I was one of two faculty nominated for the 2026 cohort. The fellowship awards \$200,000 to fellows to pursue a project related to political polarization.
- Spring and Fall 2025 **Early Career Religion Faculty Teaching Undergraduates Cohort**
Hosted by the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, this fellowship focuses on imaginative and inclusive pedagogy.
- Fall 2025 **American Academy of Religion 2025 Annual Meeting Travel Grant**
This grant provides funding to attend the AAR annual meeting.
- Spring 2025 **Active Learning Fellow**
My course was selected by the Baylor Academy for Teaching and Learning to be held in the active learning lab in the Moody Library and I collaborated with other active learning fellows on active learning pedagogy.
- Spring 2024 **Member of the Research Hub hosted by the Program for the Future Church**
I was invited to work with other faculty, students, and community leaders to discuss, plan, and implement ways for the church to engage in collaborative leadership that aids the development of the worldwide Church.

Saint Louis University

- Spring 2022 **Saint Louis University Dissertation Fellowship**
A fellowship competitively awarded to Saint Louis University Ph.D. candidates whose work demonstrates outstanding academic achievement and whose dissertation significantly extends their discipline's body of knowledge.
- Department of Theological Studies Travel Grant**
A grant awarded by DTS to fund research travel.
- Summer 2020 **Religion and Public Life Graduate Fellowship for the Lived Religion in the Digital Age Project**
I conducted field research in the St. Louis region collecting ethnographic data, doing remote interviews, and digitally documenting lived religion, primarily focused on minority religious communities and BLM protests.
- 2019—2020 **Culturally Responsive Graduate Fellow in the Reinert Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning**
This fellowship teaches participants through seminars and workshops how to effectively teach international, first-generation, and culturally diverse students and create a welcoming and pedagogically effective classroom environment.
- 2019 **SLU College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Thesis Award**
This award honors exceptional scholarship by thesis master's students. It is the award given to the top thesis each year in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- 2018—2019 **Henry Luce Foundation: Lived Religion in the Digital Age Fellow**
I aided in the creation of a public database of religious life in St. Louis. In addition, I acted as a teaching assistant, created and maintained the project website, and conducted ethnographic research.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- 2022 **Thulin Prize for Excellence in the Study of Religion**
- 2020—2021 **Qualified for "List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by their Students"**

PUBLICATIONS

Journal

Justice, David. "A Loving Apocalypse: The Militant, Revolutionary Nature of MLK's Beloved Community." Accepted for publication in the *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*.

Justice, David. "An Anti-Political Revolution: Reading the Azusa Street Revival and Civil Rights Movement within the Black Radical Tradition." *Black Theology: An International Journal*. (October 1, 2025): 1-20.

Middleton, Darren et. al (including David Justice). "Teach This Music: Faith, Learning, and the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core." *Intégrité: A Faith and Learning Journal*, vol. 24, No. 2 (Fall 2025): 3-20

Justice, David. "The Sword that Heals: King, the Black Radical Tradition, and the Destructive Power of the Beloved Community." *Black Theology Papers Project* 7, no. 1 (2021): 1-6.

Iler, Darrell H., David Justice, Shari Brauer, Amanda Landis. "Discovering ¹³C NMR, ¹H NMR, and IR Spectroscopy in the General Chemistry Laboratory through a Sequence of Guided-Inquiry Exercises." *Journal of Chemical Education* 89, no. 9 (2012): 1178-1182.

Edited Collection

Justice, David. "Martyrdom and Memory: How Untimely Death Affects Cultural Memory Through the Lens of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Assassination." Accepted for publication in the Routledge Handbook of Death and Afterlife (2nd edition). Publication expected in 2027.

Justice, David. "Martin Luther King at the Intersection of the Black Prophetic and Black Liberal Arts Traditions." Accepted for publication in the Morehouse College King Collection Series on Civil and Human Rights at the University of Georgia Press. Publication expected in 2026.

Justice, David. "Let Justice Roll Down." In *Faith Across Traditions: Essays from Ten Years of Dialogue at Conciliar Post*, ed. Jacob J. Prahlow, 127-131. Saint Louis, MO: Arise Press, 2024.

Online

"On Prophetic Rage," *Sightings*, The University of Chicago Divinity School, October 21, 2021, <https://divinity.uchicago.edu/sightings/articles/prophetic-rage-0>.

Contributor, *Three-Fifths Magazine*, <https://threfifths.online/?s=david+justice>

Columnist, *Conciliar Post*, <https://conciliarpost.com/author/david-justice/>

Book Reviews

To Love Our Neighbors: Radical Practices in Solidarity, Sufficiency, and Sustainability by Joe Blosser, forthcoming in the *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*.

A Darkly Radiant Vision: The Black Social Gospel in the Shadow of MLK by Gary Dorrien in *Reading Religion*, published March 19, 2024, <https://readingreligion.org/9780300264524/>.

Nonviolence Before King: The Politics of Being and the Black Freedom Struggle by Anthony C. Siracusa in *Reading Religion*, published May 20, 2022, <https://readingreligion.org/9781469663005/nonviolence-before-king/>.

The #BlackLivesMatter Movement: Toward an Intersectional Theology by Edward Donalson III in *Reading Religion*, published July 9, 2021, <https://readingreligion.org/books/blacklivesmatter-movement>.

America's Unholy Ghosts: The Racist Roots of Our Faith and Politics by Joel Edward Goza in *Reading Religion*, August 11, 2020, <https://readingreligion.org/books/americas-unholy-ghosts>.

Said I Wasn't Gonna Tell Nobody: The Making of Black Theologian by James Cone in *Reading Religion*, July 31, 2019 <http://readingreligion.org/books/said-i-wasnt-gonna-tell-nobody>.

MANUSCRIPT IN PROGRESS

A Loving Apocalypse: The Militant, Revolutionary Nature of MLK's Beloved Community
I currently have a finished book proposal and have an edited chapter. I am in contact with multiple presses regarding a book contract.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

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| 2026 | "Love and Prophetic Fire: MLK's Apocalyptic Beloved Community"
The Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting (January 10: US-DC) |
| 2025 | "An Anti-Political Revolution: Reading the Azusa Street Revival and Civil Rights Movement within the Black Radical Tradition" *
American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 23: Boston, MA)
*Was unable to present due to medical emergency |
| | "Martin Luther King at the Intersection of the Black Prophetic and Black Liberal Arts Traditions"
MLK and the Black Liberal Arts Tradition Symposium (October 9-11: Morehouse College, Atlanta, GA) |
| | Panelist on "Disrupting White Privilege"
The Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting (January 11: Chicago, IL) |

- 2024 **“Put Jesus Back Into Science: Towards a Collision of Worlds”**
Baylor University Faith and Science Colloquium (February 2: Waco, TX)
- 2022 **“New Cartographies in Kingian Studies” — Invited Panelist**
American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 19: Denver, CO)
- “Decolonizing the Human: Breaking Man and Reinventing the Human.”**
Christian Left Conference 2022—Creation, Land, and Indigeneity: Resistance on Turtle Island and Beyond—Emmanuel College of the University of Toronto (August 5: online)
- “David Walker’s Appeal in Conversation with Wesleyan Christian Perfection as Scriptural Argument for Societal Metanoia.”**
Wesleyan Theological Society Annual Meeting (March 10: online)
- 2021 **“The Sword that Heals: King, the Black Radical Tradition, and the Destructive Power of the Beloved Community.”**
American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 22: San Antonio, TX)
- “From White Supremacy to the Beloved Community: King in Conversation with Schleiermacher.”**
American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 20: San Antonio, TX)
- “Hate What is Evil: The Relationship Between Hatred and Love in Dr. King’s Theology.”**
Midwest American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (April 23: online)
- 2020 **“Negating Capitalism: The Beloved Community as Negative Political Theology and Positive Social Imaginary.”**
American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (December 9: online)
- “How Then Should We Experience?”**
Wesleyan Theological Society Annual Meeting (March 7: Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, MO)
- “Ecological Outlaws: Developing Outlaw Emotions in the Service of Creation Care.”**
Wesleyan Philosophical Society Annual Meeting (March 5: Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, MO)

“A Certain Dark Joy’: The Prophetic Possibilities of Rage and Joy”

International Conference for Collaborative Philosophy, Theology, and Ministry (February 28: Christ the King Seminary, Buffalo, NY)

2019

“Remaining Angry: The Intimate Connection between Anger and Love in King’s Social Theology”

American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting
(November 23: San Diego, CA)

“Divine Discontent: Martin Luther King Jr.’s Theology of Anger”

Crossing the Lines: Interdisciplinary Christian Conversations about Difference (October 23: Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA)

“Suffering as Conversion: White Supremacy in MLK’s Theology through the Lenses of Lonerganian Bias and Conversion”

Lonergan on the Edge (September 20: Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI)

“Ontological Courage: Ontology in the Light of Black Being”

Wesleyan Philosophical Society Annual Meeting
(March 14: Wesley Seminary, Washington, D.C.)

“Blind and Deaf to God: White Christianity in the Theology of Cone/King”

Minority Scholars of Religion and Theology Student Conference: “The Theology of Professor Cone” (March 7: Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO)

“Be Still and Know that I am God: The Apocalyptic Vision of MLK Jr.”

Midwest American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting
(March 2: Muncie, IN)

2018

“Withered Souls: The Degrading Effects of White Supremacy on White America”

Wesleyan Philosophical Society Annual Meeting
(March 8: Pentecostal Theological Seminary, Cleveland, TN)

COURSES TAUGHT

BIC 2344: World Cultures IV: The United States in the World, Baylor University (Waco, TX)

BIC 2334: World Cultures III: The Modern World, Baylor University (Waco, TX)

BIC 4389: Bridging the Gap, Baylor University (Waco, TX)

PHI 1308: Martin Luther King Jr.’s Social Philosophy, Baylor University (Waco, TX)

BIC 2340: Social World II: Modernity and the Problem of Order, Baylor University (Waco, TX)

BIC 1323: World of Rhetoric II, Baylor University (Waco, TX)

BIC 2330: Social World I: The City and the Soul, Baylor University (Waco, TX)

BIC 1313: World of Rhetoric I, Baylor University (Waco, TX)

BIC 1112: Examined Life, Baylor University (Waco, TX)

UNIV 301: Science and Christianity, Greenville University (Greenville, IL)
PHIL 201: Major Issues in Philosophy, Greenville University (Greenville, IL)
PHLE 120: Ethics, Kaskaskia College (Centralia, IL)
PHLE 110: Logic, Kaskaskia College (Centralia, IL)
PHLE 119: Core Values and Ethical Decision Making, Centralia Correctional Center (Centralia, IL)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Full Time Temporary Lecturer Fall 2025 - Present: Baylor University (Waco, TX).

Adjunct Professor Fall 2016 - 2025: Greenville University (Greenville, IL).

Postdoctoral Fellow Fall 2023 - Spring 2025: Baylor University (Waco, TX).

Teaching Assistant Fall 2020 - Spring 2023: University of Illinois (Champaign, IL).
Courses:
AFRO 134/REL 134: Race, Religion, and Resistance
PHIL 110/REL 110: World Religions
Fall 2019 - Spring 2020: Saint Louis University (St. Louis, MO).
Courses:
AAM 3350/THEO 3425: The Invisible Institution: African American Religion and the Rise of Black Theology
THEO 1000: Theological Foundations

Adjunct Professor Kaskaskia College, Fall 2015 (Centralia, IL)

Adjunct Professor Centralia Correctional Center, Fall 2015 (Centralia, IL)

COMPREHENSIVE EXAM AREAS

Exam 4: Martin Luther King Jr.'s Intellectual Genealogy
Exam 3: Liberation Theology
Exam 2: Theories and Methods in Religious Studies
Exam 1: Modern Christian Theology

UNIVERSITY/ACADEMIC SERVICE

Spring 2026 Member of the Leadership and Planning Team for Baylor University Civil Discourse Week

2024—Present Assist with University Scholars' Exit Interviews

2022—Present Member of Steering Committee, Theology of Martin Luther King Jr. Unit, American Academy of Religion

Spring & Fall 2025	Facilitated Honors Contracts
Spring 2025	Member of Honors Thesis Examining Committee for Karly Shepherd
Spring 2025	Assisted with “Friday with Honors” recruiting events
Fall 2024	Member of the Getterman Scholars Program Video Review Committee
Spring 2021— Spring 2023	Section Chair, Undergraduate Papers, Midwest American Academy of Religion
Fall 2021— Spring 2022	Member of the Application Committee, Fellowship for Protestant Ethics
Fall 2019	Organizing Assistant for the Lived Religion in the Digital Age Fall Symposium: “Religion in Place: Spaces Borders Bodies”
Fall 2019	Graduate Student Association Representative for Theological Studies
Spring 2019	Co-Organizer for the Inaugural Exhibit for the Adorjan Hall Humanities Gallery: “#Arch City Religion: Photographs from Religion in the Midwest by Lauren Pond”
Spring 2018	Member of the Organizing Committee for Saint Louis University Symposium: “From Selma to St. Louis: Theology of Martin Luther King Jr., and the Pursuit of Justice 50 Years Later”
Spring 2017	Committee Member for Elizabeth Johnson’s Honors Thesis at Greenville University

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

The Society of Christian Ethics
American Academy of Religion