

CURRICULUM VITAE

ISAAC ZACHARIAH MUTELO, PhD

Academic Title: Dr Isaac Zachariah Mutelo

Current Academic Affiliation: Arrupe Jesuit University, Harare, Zimbabwe

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

African Philosophy; Political Philosophy; Moral Philosophy and Ethics; Legal Philosophy; Human Rights; Philosophy of Religion; Religion and Politics; Interreligious Dialogue; Christian Social Ethics; African Political Thought; Philosophy of Development; Artificial Intelligence and Ethics; Human Dignity and Technology; Environmental Ethics; Children's Rights; Quality Assurance in Higher Education.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Arrupe Jesuit University, Harare, Zimbabwe

Director of Quality Assurance, Research, Innovation, Publication and Education 5.0 | 2021–Present

- Oversees institutional quality assurance systems, programme accreditation and academic programme review.
- Coordinates quality enhancement initiatives and compliance with higher education regulatory standards.
- Promotes research, innovation, publication and Education 5.0 initiatives.
- Chairs the Quality Assurance Committee and contributes to institutional research and academic development.

Acting Director of Research, Innovation and Publication | August 2020–August 2022

- Coordinated research, innovation and publication initiatives.
- Promoted collaborative research and academic partnerships.
- Coordinated conferences, seminars and academic publications.
- Chaired the Research, Innovation and Publication Committee.

Lecturer | 2019–Present

Teaches undergraduate and postgraduate courses in philosophy, ethics, human rights, political philosophy, legal philosophy, epistemology, development studies and research methodology. Supervises undergraduate and postgraduate dissertations and contributes to academic programme development and quality assurance.

Unicaf University

PhD Supervisor, Law and Politics; Editorial Board Member, Journal of Social and Political Sciences | 2026–Present

DOMUNI University, France

Part-time Lecturer | 2016–2025

Taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Legal Philosophy, Human Rights, African Philosophy, Political Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, Epistemology, Philosophy of Religion and Law.

University of Zimbabwe**Part-time Lecturer | 2022–2025**

Taught courses including Ethics and Corporate Governance, Ethics and Professional Conduct, Law and Ethics, African Philosophy, and Peace and Conflict Resolution.

St Augustine College of South Africa**Part-time Lecturer | 2020–2024**

Taught Christology and Quality Assurance and Management.

The Catholic University of Zimbabwe**Part-time Lecturer | 2019–2022**

Taught Introduction to Ethics, Ethics and Professional Conduct, International Relations and Democracy.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

PhD in Philosophy, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, 2020

Specialisation: Religion and Political Philosophy

Master of Laws (LLM), Cavendish University Zambia, 2025

Specialisation: Human Rights Law and Constitutionalism

Postgraduate Diploma in Human Rights, Equality and Environmental Law, Tech Global University, 2024

Master of Arts in Philosophy, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, 2016

Specialisation: Religion, Political Philosophy and Legal Philosophy

Postgraduate Diploma in Education, Catholic University of Zimbabwe, 2021

Bachelor of Arts Honours in Philosophy, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, 2015

Specialisation: Religion, Politics and Ethics

Bachelor of Theology, St Joseph's Theological Institute, Cedara, South Africa, 2018

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, St Joseph's Theological Institute, Cedara, South Africa, 2014

EDITORIAL AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

Journal of Contemporary African Philosophy (JOCAP)

Editor-in-Chief | 2023–Present

Assistant Editor | 2019–2022

Responsible for editorial management, peer review, publication decisions, author communication and journal development.

Journal of Social and Political Sciences, Unicaf University

Editorial Board Member | 2026–Present

Grace & Truth: A Journal of Catholic Reflection for Southern Africa

Editorial Board Member | 2022–Present

Imbizo Magazine, St Joseph's Theological Institute

Editor-in-Chief | 2014–2015

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Consultor, Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue, Holy See | 2026–Present

External Examiner, PhD and Master's Dissertations, University of KwaZulu-Natal | 2023–Present

External Examiner, Bachelor of Theology Dissertations, St Joseph's Theological Institute | 2024–2025

Regent of Studies, Dominican Vice Province of Southern Africa | 2020–Present

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Director, African Chapter, Society of Quality Assurance | 2025–Present
- Member, Society of Quality Assurance | 2023–Present
- Member, American Philosophical Association | 2023–Present
- Member, Association for Political Theory | 2023–Present
- Member, Philosophy, Politics and Economics Society | 2023–Present
- Steering Committee Member, Annual World Philosophy Day International Conference in Zimbabwe | 2019–Present

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE AND ACADEMIC SERVICE

Arrupe Jesuit University

- Member, University Senate | 2020–Present
- Chair, Research, Innovation, Publication and Industrialisation Committee of Senate | 2020–Present
- Chair, Quality Assurance Committee of Senate | 2021–Present
- Member, Academic Appointments and Promotions Committee | 2020–Present
- Member, Admissions Committee | 2020–Present

- Member, Curriculum, Programmes, Academic Development and Regulations Committee | 2023–Present
- Convenor, Institutional Relations and Industrial Engagements Committee | 2023–Present
- Member, Library Committee | 2020–Present
- Member, Staff and Support Academic/Service Awards Committee | 2024–Present
- Member, Audit and Compliance Committee of University Council | 2021–Present

PUBLICATIONS

Books and Edited Books

Mutelo, I., Phiri, E. and Matinhira, B. (eds.) (2026). *Faith, Culture and Sexuality in Africa*. Toulouse: Domuni Press.

Mutelo, I., Gwara, J. and Nyachowe, M. (eds.) (2025). *Thinking Children's Rights in Africa: Emerging Issues*. ATF (Australia) Ltd.

Shumbamhini, M. and Mutelo, I. (eds.) (2025). *Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Persons in Southern Africa*. Toulouse: Domuni Press.

Mutelo, I. (ed.) (2024). *Human Rights in Southern Africa: Theory and Practice*. Toulouse: Domuni Press.

Mutelo, I. (2023). *Muslim Organisations in South Africa: Political Role Post-1948*. Toulouse: Domuni Press.

Book Chapters

Mutelo, I., Sanyanga, Y. and Lemeyu, T. (2026). 'Human Sexuality, Cultural Practice and Beliefs in Africa'. In: Mutelo, I., Phiri, E. and Matinhira, B. (eds.), *Faith, Culture and Sexuality in Africa*. Domuni Press.

Phiri, E. and Mutelo, I. (2026). 'Religion as a Force for Good or Harm: Perspectives from Global and Southern African Contexts'. In: Mutelo, I., Phiri, E. and Matinhira, B. (eds.), *Faith, Culture and Sexuality in Africa*. Domuni Press.

Mutelo, I. and Igbalumun, A. (2025). 'The African Child as a Person: Child Rights in Traditional African Societies'. In: Mutelo, I., Gwara, J. and Nyachowe, M. (eds.), *Thinking Children's Rights in Africa: Emerging Issues*. ATF.

Gwara, J. and Mutelo, I. (2025). 'Reimagining Children's Rights in Africa: An African Philosophical Approach'. In: Mutelo, I., Gwara, J. and Nyachowe, M. (eds.), *Thinking Children's Rights in Africa: Emerging Issues*. ATF.

Shumbamhini, M. and Mutelo, I. (2025). 'Introduction to safeguarding children and vulnerable persons in Southern Africa'. In: Shumbamhini, M. and Mutelo, I. (eds.), *Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Persons in Southern Africa*, pp. 17–27. Toulouse: Domuni Press.

Shumbamhini, M. and Mutelo, I. (2025). 'A chorus of voices in safeguarding: Weaving children's stories in narrative therapy'. In: Shumbamhini, M. and Mutelo, I. (eds.), *Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Persons in Southern Africa*, pp. 121–139. Toulouse: Domuni Press.

Mutelo, I. and Mgaya, O. (2024). 'The confluence of child rights, duties and parentage: The case of Southern Africa'. In: Mutelo, I. (ed.), *Human Rights in Southern Africa: Theory and Practice*, pp. 137–147. Toulouse: Domuni Press.

Mutelo, I. and Lishandi, S. (2024). 'The role of print and online newspapers in protecting and promoting human rights in Southern Africa: The case of Zimbabwe'. In: Mutelo, I. (ed.), *Human Rights in Southern Africa: Theory and Practice*, pp. 91–98. Toulouse: Domuni Press.

Mutelo, I. (2024). 'Introduction to human rights in Southern Africa'. In: Mutelo, I. (ed.), *Human Rights in Southern Africa: Theory and Practice*, pp. 17–32. Toulouse: Domuni Press.

Mutelo, I. (2019). 'Socioeconomic Inequalities Against Women among the Soli People in Zambia: A Feminist Christological Response'. In: Nunam, F. (ed.), *Faith and Social Crisis*, pp. 33–47. SA Catholic Online Books.

Mutelo, I. (2017). 'The challenge of Islamic migrants today: The case of Germany'. In: Denis, P. (ed.), *Faith and Migration*, pp. 76–85. Cluster Publications.

Journal Articles

Mutelo, I. and Chinama, T. (2026). 'Jihad in the Public Sphere: Muslim Political Engagement and Activism in Zimbabwe'. *Zambian Journal of Religion and Contemporary Religious Issues*, 5, pp. 54–62.

Mutelo, I. and Kateguru, D. (2025). 'Beyond the Euphoria: Examining the Unfulfilled Promises of Independence in Africa and Pathways for Renewal in the Contemporary Era'. *Journal of Contemporary African Philosophy*, 6(2), pp. 8–15.

Wasosa, H. and Mutelo, I. (2025). 'Progressivism in Context: A Critical Psychological Examination of John Dewey's Educational Theory in African Schooling Systems with a Case Study of Zimbabwe'. *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science*, 9(10), pp. 880–890.

Mutelo, I. and Sanyanga, Y. (2025). 'Marxist Perspectives on Educational Inequality in Zimbabwean Primary and Secondary Schools'. *International Journal of Social Science Research and Review*, 8(10), pp. 1–7.

Mutelo, I. and Chatira, G. (2025). 'The Essential Role of Active Listening in University Counselling Services'. *International Research Journal of Scientific Studies*, 2(7), pp. 1–11.

Sanyanga, Y. and Mutelo, I. (2025). 'African psychotherapy and family's well-being: A case study of the Shona, Zimbabwe'. *Journal of Contemporary African Philosophy*, 6(1), pp. 6–21.

Mutelo, I. (2025). 'Understanding the Generative Artificial Intelligence Revolution in Zambian Higher Education Research: Adoption, Challenges, and Strategies for Responsible Integration'. *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science*, 9(3), pp. 5731–5737.

Sanyanga, Y. and Mutelo, I. (2025). 'Silent cries at the crossroads: Unmasking the psychological toll of street begging in Harare, Zimbabwe'. *International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science*, 9(7), pp. 2246–2254.

Mutelo, I. (2023). 'Interreligious efforts and relations among religions in Zambia: A review'. *Grace and Truth*, 39(1), pp. 7–23.

Tebeli, L. and Mutelo, I. (2023). 'Applying Aquinas' natural law theory to the xenophobia conundrum in South Africa'. *Journal of Contemporary African Philosophy*, 4(2), pp. 30–37.

Mutelo, I. (2023). 'An examination of the environmental impact of illegal mining activities on land in the Copperbelt Province of Zambia'. *Journal of Contemporary African Philosophy*, 4(3), pp. 18–34.

Mutelo, I. (2021). 'The nature of relations between religion and state: The case of South Africa'. *Journal of Contemporary African Philosophy*, 2(1), pp. 14–27.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mutelo, I. (2026). 'Artificial intelligence as a hermeneutical limit-case: Rethinking personhood in African philosophical anthropology'. International Conference on *Hermeneutic Changes in Values and Cultures*, St Joseph's Theological Institute, Cedara, South Africa, 6–7 July 2026.

Mutelo, I. and Gwara, J. (2025). 'Artificial intelligence and communitarian values: Navigating cultural preservation in African societies'. International Conference on *Artificial Intelligence and Society*, Arrupe Jesuit University and Seattle University, Harare, Zimbabwe.

Mutelo, I. (2025). 'Aquinas' ethical framework and its application to mining impacts on the environment in Matabeleland North Province, Zimbabwe'. Annual International Symposium on *St Thomas Aquinas in the Contemporary World*, Dominican Vice Province of Southern Africa, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, 8–9 July 2025.

Mutelo, I. (2024). 'The role of Africa in formulating and implementing international law: Past, present and future'. International Conference on International Law in Africa, Arrupe Jesuit University, Harare, Zimbabwe, 11 April 2024.

Mutelo, I. (2023). 'The political involvement of Muslims in Zimbabwe'. Symposium on *Faith and Politics*, Southern African Dominican Vice Province, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, 12–13 July 2023.

Mutelo, I. (2023). 'State of relations between Muslims and Christians in Zambia'. Inter-religious Dialogue Seminar on Christian-Muslim Relations in Zimbabwe, Arrupe Jesuit University, Harare, Zimbabwe, 24 February 2023.

Mutelo, I. (2021). 'Religion and the mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic'. World Philosophy Day International Conference, Arrupe Jesuit University, Harare, Zimbabwe, 18–19 November 2021.

Mutelo, I. (2021). 'The Catholic Church's role in upholding social justice amidst the COVID-19 pandemic: The case of Zimbabwe'. Symposium of the Southern African Dominican Vice Province and University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, 15–16 July 2021.

Mutelo, I. (2020). 'Internet access and pornography among teenagers in Zimbabwe: An ethical inquiry'. World Philosophy Day International Conference, Catholic University of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe, 19–20 November 2020.

Mutelo, I. (2019). 'Exploring the environmental impacts of illegal mining activities on land in the Copperbelt Province of Zambia: An eco-theological response'. JCAM Research Network, Institute of Theology of the Society of Jesus, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 28–30 November 2019.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH SUPERVISION

Research supervision interests include:

- African Philosophy and African Political Thought
- Political Philosophy
- Moral Philosophy and Ethics
- Legal Philosophy
- Human Rights and Constitutionalism
- Philosophy of Religion
- Religion and Politics
- Interreligious Dialogue
- Ethics of Artificial Intelligence
- Human Dignity and Technology
- Environmental Ethics
- Children's Rights
- Philosophy of Development

Supervises undergraduate, MA and PhD research in relevant areas and serves as an external examiner of postgraduate dissertations.

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

Professional development includes specialised training in:

- Internal Quality Assurance in Higher Education
- Academic and Institutional Audits
- Programme Accreditation and Review
- Technology-Enabled Learning
- Blended Learning
- Online Learning
- Higher Education Quality Enhancement

Completed the Joint Quality Assurance Capacity Development Project (SADC-QA) training programme involving SARUA, DAAD, HRK and the University of Potsdam, including training programmes in Johannesburg, Potsdam and Windhoek.

SELECTED ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Executive Certificate in Child Protection, Arrupe Jesuit University | 2025

Training of Peer Reviewers for Academic and Institutional Audits, Zimbabwe Council for Higher Education (ZIMCHE) | 2022

Certificate in Technology-Enabled Learning, Commonwealth of Learning/Athabasca University | 2020

Certificate in Blended Learning Practice, Commonwealth of Learning | 2020

Islamic Studies and Interreligious Dialogue, Dominican Institute for Oriental Studies, Cairo | 2013

ACADEMIC PROFILE

Isaac Zachariah Mutelo is a philosopher and academic working at the intersection of African philosophy, political and moral philosophy, human rights, religion, law, and contemporary ethical questions. His current research increasingly engages questions surrounding artificial intelligence, human dignity, personhood, technology, African communitarian thought, and the common good. His scholarship also addresses religion and politics, children's rights, environmental ethics, interreligious dialogue, and human rights in African contexts.

He is particularly interested in bringing African philosophical perspectives into dialogue with contemporary debates in ethics, artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies, politics, law and technology.