

Visiting Speaker Series Center for Comparative Philosophy

APATHERIANISM AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR DEMOCRACIES IN POST-COLONIAL AFRICAN STATES Ajume Wingo, Philosophy Department, University of Colorado-Boulder



What happens when people stop caring whether they're governed at all? Democracy and civil society rely on the assumption that citizens care enough to vote, protest, or engage. Yet a new class of "Apatherians" simply doesn't play the political game—neither rebelling against nor obeying authority but shrugging it off entirely. This presentation introduces the concept of Apatherianism as an indifference toward governance itself. Could this quiet refusal to participate shake democracy to its core—or liberate us from its constraints?

Professor Ajume Wingo is an Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Colorado-Boulder, where he specializes in political philosophy, ethics, and leadership. He is the author of *Veil Politics in Liberal Democratic States*, work that explores the delicate balance between cultural identity and individual rights in multicultural societies. He is presently working on a book manuscript entitled "In the Shade of Power: The Paths to Power" and on a paper on a new political phenomenon he's christened "Apatherianism", an attitude that treats government as an external force that is irrelevant to the fundamental experience of being human.

Friday, March 7, 2025

12-1:30 PM | CL 111

Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/yc4xsmxw>

For information about [SJSU Department of Philosophy News and Events](#) please refer to our website or contact us.

www.sjsu.edu/philosophy | philosophy@sjsu.edu | 408-924-4468

