

Michael W. Seymour

Current Position:

Director | Center for Teaching and Learning
Professor | Department of Landscape Architecture
Mississippi State University

Michael.Seymour@msstate.edu
662.617.4928

Licensed Landscape Architect, State of Mississippi #470

Education:

Recent Professional Development

Certifications:

Certificate in Effective Instruction, Association of College and University Educators, 2023.

This certificate signifies my completion of a 25-module course in effective teaching practices requiring the implementation of evidence-based instructional approaches. The credential is co-issued by the American Council on Education and distinguishes faculty for their commitment to educational excellence and student success.

Practical Solutions for Faculty: Planning and Designing a Course, Magna Publications, 2023.

Teaching Fundamentals for New College Instructors, Magna Publications, 2022.

Maroon Institute for Writing Excellence Program, 2018.

Online Teaching 101: Best Practices for Online Instruction, 2017.

MSU Faculty Leadership Program, 2018.

Master of Landscape Architecture

1998

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Thesis: *Garden Glimpses: A Study of Historic Baton Rouge Gardens Using the Photographs of A. D. and Howard Lytle*

Bachelor of Arts in Art

1992

Centenary College of Louisiana, Shreveport, Louisiana

Professional Experience:

Director | Center for Teaching and Learning

2021-Present

Mississippi State University

www.ctl.msstate.edu

Responsible for professional development programs, events, and services of the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Selected Activities and Recent Accomplishments

Collaborated with other faculty and staff to create:

- A new, 4-course [Maroon Academy for Teaching Excellence](#) certificate in university instruction.
- A 3-week, online **Teaching Portfolio Workshop** which guides participants in reflecting upon and documenting their teaching effectiveness.

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- The first online, **New Faculty Teaching Academy** which prepares new faculty for teaching at MSU and includes modules on 1. Engaging Students Effectively, 2. Motivating, Communicating and Connecting with Students and 3. Creating Useful Learning Experiences.
- The online, **Practical Teaching Community of Practice** which provides 15-minute, micro-lessons and peer-to-peer discussion each week of the semester.
- The hybrid, **Preparing Future Faculty** program for graduate students and post-docs who are interested in pursuing a faculty position.
- The **Friday Teacher Forum** series for regular engagement and discussion among teachers.
- The **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** to recognize significant professional development accomplishments and celebrate teaching at MSU.

Currently Teaching

- LA 3563 Planting Design Fundamentals
Note: Applied for and received Community Engaged Learning designation for the course for work with local clients (2021).
- LA 1423 History of Landscape Architecture
Note: Successfully moved the course to an asynchronous online delivery in the spring of 2021.

Interim Director | Center for Teaching and Learning

2018-2021

Mississippi State University

www.cctl.msstate.edu

Selected Activities and Accomplishments

Collaborated with other faculty and staff to:

- Revise the Classroom Observation process.
- Coordinate the 2019-2021 Otilie Schillig Special Teaching Project Grant Awards (approximately \$34,000 awarded per year).
- Organize the New Faculty Teaching Academy and True Maroon Work Session.
- Coordinate instructional activities for 12 sections of FYE True Maroon classes taught by faculty.
- Coordinate new modules on Financial Literacy and Health and Wellness to FYE True Maroon classes.
- Coordinate and help teach the Preparing Future Faculty program in coordination with the Graduate School and CTL staff.
- Organize and teach a 4-day Teaching Portfolio Workshop for faculty (May, 2019).
- Conceive and present CTL Workshops and Events.

Professor | Department of Landscape Architecture

2017-Present

Mississippi State University

Courses Taught

LA 1423 History of Landscape Architecture
LA 3623 Urban Planning
LA 3653 Planting Design Fundamentals
LA 8533 Design Studio III: Habitat
LA 8731 Seminar in Community Based Planning
FYE 1001 True Maroon First Year Experience
FYE 1001 Bike to the Future

Faculty Associate | Center for Teaching and Learning

2013-2018

Mississippi State University

Responsible for classroom observations for other faculty and providing developmental workshops, seminars and programs in coordination with other CTL staff and faculty.

Selected Activities and Accomplishments:

- Organized the FYE True Maroon training session, classroom materials, schedule and activities for 12 sections of the course, 2017-present.
- Organized and participated in formal debate on the use of rubrics, 2018.
- Presented the Graduate Teaching Assistant Series: Reimagining Rubrics Luncheon, 2018.
- Presented staff development program at NSPARC retreat, 2017.
- Organized the New Faculty Teaching Academy, 2016, 2017.
- Presented to Graduate Teaching Assistants on Creating Successful Presentations, 2016-present.
- Organized and Moderated the Panel Discussion on Studio Teaching, 2016.
- Presented "Instruction in Small Groups Seminar" (with Dr. Linda Morse) for the College of Veterinary Medicine, 2016.
- Presented (as part of an invited panel) on "Best Practices in the Use of Technology in the Classroom" at the SEC Symposium in Atlanta, 2015.
- Presented a Co-teaching Workshop for Faculty (with Dana Seymour), 2015.
- Teaching Portfolio Workshop (assisted Dr. Jared Keeley), 2015.
- Created the True Maroon Video Series (Lectures for True Maroon seminar on critical topics for Freshmen), 2015.

Graduate Coordinator | Department of Landscape Architecture

2011-2018

Responsible for recruiting, admissions, advising, institutional effectiveness reports, marketing and assistantship assignments.

Activities and Accomplishments:

- Master of Landscape Architecture re-accreditation with no recommendations, 2014.
- Degree Program Modification including new non-thesis track, multiple course additions and modifications, 2013.

Extension Appointment | Department of Landscape Architecture

2012-2017

Responsible for providing relevant, research-based content and programming related to landscape architecture.

Publications

- Seymour, M. W. (2017). *Walkable Mississippi: Introduction to Walking and Walkability Issues*. Extension.
- Seymour, M. W. (2016). *Landscape Design for Homes of the Late Victorian Era (1860-1900)* (P2992 ed.). Extension.
- Seymour, M. W. (2016). *A Guide to Historic and Cultural Landscape Preservation Approaches* (P2987 ed.). Extension.

Selected Activities and Accomplishments

- Survey and data analysis of Tanglefoot Trail users, 2016.
- National Garden Clubs lectures on Backyard Wildlife Habitat, Environmental History and Environmental Issues, 2016.
- Active Learning for Extension workshop (2 sessions) at the Extension annual conference, 2015.
- Smart Growth for Small Towns reports and web resource (<http://extension.msstate.edu/smart-growth-for-small-towns>) with Jeremy Murdock, 2015.
- *Low-Maintenance Landscapes* lecture at the Landscape Architecture Short Course, 2014.
- *Mississippi Gardening Traditions* lecture at the Mississippi Master Gardener State Conference, 2014.

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Associate Professor | Department of Landscape Architecture

2011-2017

Mississippi State University

Courses Taught

LA 1533 Presentation Methods and Media
LA 1423 History of Landscape Architecture
LA 3623 Urban Planning
LA 8533 Design Studio III: Habitat
LA 8731 Seminar in Community Based Planning
LA 8545 Design Studio IV: Case Study Research
LA 8751 Seminar in Contemporary Design Issues
FYE 1001 True Maroon First Year Experience

Assistant Professor | Department of Landscape Architecture

2005-2011

Mississippi State University, Department of Landscape Architecture

Courses Taught

LA 1533 Presentation Methods and Media
LA 1423 History of Landscape Architecture
LA 3603 Design of the Golf Environment
LA 3655 Design Studio II
LA 4855 Capstone Studio
LA 8522 Graduate Design Studio II

Project Manager | Lucido and Associates

2003-2005

Landscape Architecture and Land Planning, Stuart, Florida

Responsible for: Design Supervision, Scheduling, Contracts and Government Submittals.

Project Designer | Lucido and Associates

2000-2003

Landscape Architecture and Land Planning, Stuart, Florida

Responsible for: Construction Documents, Planting Design, Site Observation and Government Submittals.

Arts District Director

1998-1999

Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge

Responsible for the development of the Downtown Arts District, including program supervision and development, public relations, fundraising and management of a \$60,000 budget.

Conceived and implemented the Baton Rouge Arts Market, a juried, monthly festival of fine arts and crafts held downtown in conjunction with the local Farmers' Market.

Scholarship (selected):

Refereed Articles:

Seymour, M. W., Summerlin, P. R. (2019). *The Usefulness and Meaning of Rural Greenways: User Experience at the Tanglefoot Trail in Northeast Mississippi* (vol. 7, pp. 190-199). Landscape Research Record. <http://thecela.org/wp-content/uploads/LRR7-rev.pdf>

Li., C., M. W. Seymour (2019) Children's perceptions of neighbourhood environments for walking and outdoor play, *Landscape Research*, DOI: 10.1080/01426397.2018.1460336

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Seymour, M. W., Summerlin, P. R. (2018). Evidence and Deception: A Historic Photo-Analysis Method for Landscape Studies. *Landscape Journal*, 36(2), 91-109.

Seymour, M. and Powers, M., 2015. *Creativity, Costs and Connections: Recruiting the Beginning Design Student*, Proceedings of the National Conference on the Beginning Design Student.

Seymour, M. and Seymour, D., 2014. Are Two Professors Better than One? Student and Faculty Perceptions of Co-Teaching, *International Journal of Learning: Annual Review*, p39-52 (<http://ijlar.cgpublisher.com/product/pub.287/prod.12>).

Seymour, M. and Rogers, A., 2014. *Courthouse Squares and the Virtues of Old Urbanism*, The International Journal Of Architectonic, Spatial and Environmental Design, Volume 7, Issue 4, p 1-17 (<http://ijgase.cgpublisher.com/product/pub.240/prod.68>).

Seymour, M. and Walker, J. 2011. *CityPlace and the Role of Public-Private Partnerships in Placemaking*, The International Journal of the Constructed Environment. Volume 1, Issue 3, pp. 19-35.

Seymour, M. and Chance, S. 2010. *Assessment Formats: Student Preferences and Perceptions*, The International Journal of Learning. Volume 17, Issue 10, pp.137-154.

Walker, J.B., C.T. Fulford, M. Seymour, T.J. Schauwecker. 2010. *Is that visually desirable? A perception study of stormwater management facilities*. Pages 60-61 in Proceedings of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture.

Seymour, M. 2010. *Practice makes Practitioner: The Role of Peer and Self Evaluations in Design Education*, Design Principles & Practices: An International Journal, Volume 4, Issue 5, pp 43-52.

Schauwecker, T., Walker, J., Fulford, T. and Seymour, M. 2010. *The Water looks Clean: Public Perception of Water Quality and Stormwater Design Techniques in Mississippi*, Proceedings of the Annual Conference of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), Maastricht, The Netherlands, May 12-14. (Paper No. 26).

Seymour, M. 2009. *E-History: The Role of Virtual Globe Models and Classroom Communication Systems in Active Learning*, Proceedings of the Annual Conference of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA). Pages 25-32. (Available online at: <http://www.thecela.org/pdfs/cela-conf-2008-09-proceedings.pdf>).

Seymour, M., Murdock, J. and Levy, M. 2008. *Beginning Design Students' Perception of Design Evaluation Techniques*, Proceedings of the 24th National Conference on the Beginning Design Student. (Available online at: <http://www.beginningdesign.org/NCBDS/24/24.html>).

Walker, J. and Seymour, M. *Utilizing the Design Charrette for Teaching Sustainability*. International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education, 9:2 (Spring 2008).

Refereed Book Chapter:

Gallo, W. C., and Seymour, M. 2014. "Environmental Considerations of Green School Grounds." In *Marketing the Green School: Form, Function and the Future*, 129-142. IGI Global Publishing.

Conference and Panel Presentations (since 2015):

Seymour, M. W., Southern Regional Faculty and Instructional Development Consortium Annual Conference, "The Benefits and Limitations of Video Feedback for Assignment Review." Auburn, AL. (March 11, 2022).

Seymour, M. W., TEDXMSSState, "Rebalancing Our Transportation System," TEDX (Independently organized TED Event), Starkville. (March 21, 2020). Note: Event cancelled due to the pandemic.

Seymour, M. W., (Author & Presenter), Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Annual Conference, "Recruiting Students into Programs in Landscape Architecture," Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, Sacramento, CA. (March

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7, 2019).

Seymour, M. W., Summerlin, P. R. (Author & Presenter), Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Annual Conference, "The Usefulness and Meaning of Rural Greenways: User Experience at the Tanglefoot Trail in Northeast Mississippi," Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, Blacksburg, VA. (March 22, 2018).

Seymour, M. W., Summerlin, P. R., Active Living Research Conference, "Planning and Designing Walkable Environments for Active Living," Elsevier, Banff, Canada. (February 11, 2018).

Seymour, M. W., Summerlin, P. R., Conference on Teaching and Learning, "Experiential Learning: Challenges and Rewards in a Design Studio," University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL. (May 5, 2017).

Seymour, M. W., Summerlin, P. R., Active Living Research Conference, "'A Safe, Traffic-Free Place': Active Living and User Experience at the Tanglefoot Trail," Active Living Research, Clearwater, Florida. (February 27, 2017).

Seymour, M. W., Summerlin, P. R., 5th Fabos Conference on Landscape and Greenway Planning, "What do Rural Greenways Mean? User Experience at the Tanglefoot Trail in Northeast Mississippi," University of Massachusetts Amherst and Szent István University, Budapest, Hungary. (July 1, 2016).

Seymour, M. W., Conference on Teaching and Learning, "Understanding by Design: Using Studio-based Techniques to Teach Design History," University of South Alabama, Mobile, LA. (May 9, 2016).

Li, C. (Author & Presenter), Seymour, M. (Author), CELA Annual Conference, "Examining Children's Perception of Neighborhood Walking Environment," Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, Salt Lake City, Utah. (March 2016).

Seymour, M. W. (Author & Presenter), Summerlin, P. R. (Author & Presenter), Annual Conference of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, "Elisaeus von Seutter's 'Ivy Cottage': A Southern Victorian Garden in Photographs," Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, Salt Lake City, Utah. (March 26, 2016).

Seymour, M. W., SEC Symposium, "Panel Title: Best Practices in the Use of Technology in the Classroom," Southeastern Conference, Atlanta, GA. (September 21, 2015).

Seymour, M. W. (Author & Presenter), Summerlin, P. R. (Author & Presenter), Annual Conference of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, "Data or Art? A Proposed Method for Analysis of Historic Photos for Landscape Studies," Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, Manhattan, KS. (March 2015).

Seymour, M. W. (Author & Presenter), Powers, M. (Author), Annual Conference of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, "How Did They Get Here? A National Survey on Student Recruitment," Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, Manhattan, KS. (March 2015).

Seymour, M. W. (Author & Presenter), Powers, M. (Author), National Conference on the Beginning Design Student, "Creativity, Costs and Connections: Recruiting the Beginning Design Student," National Conference on the Beginning Design Student, Houston, TX. (February 2015).

Service:

Service to Professional Organizations:

Visiting Evaluator for the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB). SUNY ESF, Bachelor and Master of Landscape Architecture programs, 2018.

Chair, Visiting Evaluation Team for Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB). Cal Poly Pomona, Bachelor of Landscape Architecture program, 2017.

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Chair, Visiting Evaluation Team for Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB). University of Rhode Island, Bachelor of Landscape Architecture program, 2015.

Chair, Visiting Evaluation Team for Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB). Clemson University, Bachelor of Landscape Architecture program, 2014.

External Reviewer, Master of Landscape Architecture program, Texas Tech University, February 26-28, 2014.

Chair, Visiting Evaluation Team for Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB). Penn State University Master of Landscape Architecture program, 2013.

Visiting Evaluator for the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB). Texas Tech University Bachelor of Landscape Architecture program, 2012.

National Landscape Architecture Registration Exam (LARE), 2011. Cut Score Committee Member for Sections C (Site Design) and E (Grading, Drainage and Stormwater Management), Invited by Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards (CLARB), July 27-July 31.

National Landscape Architecture Registration Exam (LARE), 2009. Cut Score Committee Member for Sections C (Site Design) and E (Grading, Drainage and Stormwater Management), Invited by Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards (CLARB), January 22-26 in Charlotte, NC.

Service to the University:

MSU Faculty Development Task Force, Committee Member (Appointed by Provost). (July 2021-Present).

MSU Student Course Survey Design Committee, Committee Member (Appointed by Provost). (January 2021 - May 2021).

Note: This committee revised the university's Student Course Survey Instrument.

Strategic Enrollment Planning: Undergraduate Academic Programs Working Group, Committee Member. (March 2021 - Present).

MSU Evaluation of Teaching Task Force, Chair (Appointed by Provost), 2020.

Note: This committee proposed changes to the way the university evaluates teaching effectiveness including a re-written Academic Operating Policy and other updated procedures.

Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, Associate Director Search Committee Member, 2019, 2020.

Instructional Technology Advisory Committee, Chair (Appointed by Provost), (2019 – Present).

Note: This committee advises the Provost on technology issues and makes recommendations on issues like classroom technology upgrades, attendance scanners and various software purchases.

Information Technology Council, Committee Member, (December 2018 - Present).

Community Engaged Learning: Course Review Committee, Committee Member, (November 2018 - 2020).

Student Success, Committee Member, (September 2018 - 2021).

Committee Chair, Promotion and Tenure Committee, Dept. of Landscape Architecture. (August 2017 – August 2019).

Completed More than 20 Classroom Observations for MSU Faculty as part of the Center for Teaching and Learning since 2015.

Elected Representative, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Search Committee for Provost/Executive Vice President, Mississippi State University, 2015-2016.

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Note: This committee identified the 3 Provost candidate finalists for in-person campus visits.

Committee Member, University Instructional Improvement Committee, 2013-present

Note: This committee identifies the recipients for the university's major teaching awards including the Grisham Master Teacher Award and requires classroom observation of all finalists for awards.

Committee Member, CALS Excellence in Teaching Committee, 2013-2017.

Note: This committee identifies the recipients of the College of Agriculture and Life Science's Excellence in Teaching awards.

Honors, Awards and Distinctions:

Teaching Award, Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture, 2013.

Outstanding Leadership Award (by Department Head), Mississippi State University Department of Landscape Architecture, 2013-2014.

Excellence in Teaching Award, The Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), 2012.

Outstanding Faculty Member (By vote of the Department Faculty) Mississippi State University Department of Landscape Architecture, 2011-2012.

Grisham Master Teacher Award (The university's highest teaching award), Mississippi State University, 2011.

Overall Award of Teaching, Excellence in Teaching Awards, Mississippi State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 2009.

Lower Division Award, Excellence in Teaching Awards, Mississippi State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 2009.

Thesis Chair for Jesse English, winner of *Outstanding Thesis Award* in the Department of Landscape Architecture, 2012.

StatePride Faculty Award, Mississippi State University, 2010 and 2011.

Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year Award (By vote of Students), Department of Landscape Architecture, 2010-11.

Award of Merit in the Research Category (for 'Critique: An Examination of Preference in Design Studios') from the Mississippi Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (MSASLA), 2010.

Outstanding Faculty Member, (By vote of the Department Faculty) Mississippi State University Department of Landscape Architecture, 2008-9.

Highly Commended Award Winner, Literati Network Awards for Excellence for the Article "Utilizing the design charrette for teaching sustainability," 2009.

Thesis Chair for Amanda Rogers, winner of *Outstanding Thesis Award* in the Department of Landscape Architecture, 2008.

Presidential Recognition Award, Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), 2007.