
Bio

Taylor Metz is an Assistant Teaching Professor of Landscape Architecture at Ball State University. He received his Master of Landscape Architecture from the R. Wayne Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning at Ball State University and he holds a Communication Studies degree from Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter, Minnesota.

In teaching, his mission is to guide students to think about design as the creation of “landscapes of experience” and to better understand the physical, cultural, social, emotional, and ecological landscapes in which we live. His teaching philosophy entails:

- ~ effectively communicating content, fundamentals, and skills by building meaningful relationships with students
- ~ creating an environment of enthusiasm and intrigue thereby fostering in students a desire to learn, create, make, and thrive
- ~ encouraging students to discover their passions and callings by helping them see the world through the eyes of a designer of the built and natural environment

Metz’s view of landscape architecture embraces the notion that the profession stands at the intersection of culture and nature and that “landscape” is the *connective tissue on which we ALL stand*. Specifically, his interests include design pedagogy, design communication and graphic representation, representation of landscape architecture in media, educational landscapes, schoolyard and open space design, and residential estate planning.

Metz is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and has been recognized with an ASLA award in 2016 for his research on schoolyard redesign, standards-based education, and nature play.

Major Research and Teaching Emphasis

Design pedagogy

Design communication and graphic representation

Representation of landscape architecture in media

Educational landscapes

Schoolyard and open space design

Residential estate planning and design

CV

Education

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| 2016 | Master of Landscape Architecture , R. Wayne Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA. |
| 2010 | Level 1 Teaching Certificate , The New Teacher Project, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. |

2006 **Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies with Honors**, Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota, USA.

Academic Appointments

2019 – Present CAP First Year Coordinator, College of Architecture and Planning, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.

2018 – Present Assistant Teaching Professor of Landscape Architecture, Department of Landscape Architecture, College of Architecture and Planning, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.

Professional Experience

2020 – Present Co-Founder / Director, Acton Academy Fishers, Fishers, Indiana, USA.

2019 – Present Co-Founder / Director, Acton Academy at Fall Creek, Pendleton, Indiana, USA.

2018 – Present Landscape Designer / Owner, Estate House Design LLC., Pendleton, Indiana, USA.

2014 – Present Landscape Designer, Aspen Outdoor Designs, Noblesville, Indiana, USA.

2008 – 2013 Teacher & Positive Behavior Interventions & Support Coordinator, Edgar P. Harney Spirit of Excellence Academy, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

2007 – 2008 Landscape Designer, J&M, Dresser, Wisconsin, USA.

2003 – 2007 Project Manager, Great Goats Landscaping, Minneapolis/Saint Paul, Minnesota, USA.

Academic Experience

2013 – 2016 Graduate Assistant to Meg Calkins, FASLA
Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.

Research Assistant (Sustainability Claims Study)
Studio Jury Member & Desk Critic (LA602, LA311, LA312)
Teaching Assistant (LA602, LA311, LA312,)

2004 – 2006 Writing Tutor/Outreach Team Supervisor
Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minnesota, USA.

Grants

2019 Urban Forestry Sub Grant-Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee
Indiana Department of Natural Resources (\$9,999)

2015 Urban Forestry Sub Grant-Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee
Indiana Department of Natural Resources

2006 Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Grant (\$2,000)
Independent Study, San Lucas Tolimon, Guatemala

Honors and Awards

2020 Invited Guest Editor with Deeg, L. and Tursky, R. for ‘Re-Design Teaching Design’. *Architecture_MPS* 18, 1 (2020).

2016 ASLA Student Honor Award in Research
Flowers in Crannied Walls: A K-3 Elementary Schoolyard Redesign
<https://www.asla.org/2016studentawards/186724.html>
Advisor: David Ferguson

2016 INASLA (Indiana Chapter) Student Honor Award in Research/Planning
Flowers in Crannied Walls: A K-3 Elementary Schoolyard Redesign

2016 Outstanding Organization Award-Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee
Indiana Urban Forestry Council, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

2015 Frits Loonsten Scholarship (\$4,000)
Indianapolis Landscape Association, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

2015 Indiana Garden Club Scholarship (\$1,000)
Indiana Garden Club / Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

2015 Graduate Merit Fellowship (\$1,500)
College of Architecture and Planning
Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.

2014 Frits Loonsten Scholarship (\$6,000)
Indianapolis Landscape Association, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

2014 Indiana Garden Club Scholarship (\$1,000)
Indiana Garden Club, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

2014 Graduate Merit Fellowship (\$1,000)
College of Architecture and Planning
Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.

2014 Mounayar Family Scholarship (\$1,000)
College of Architecture and Planning
Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.

2006 Best Paper in Historical Studies – DeNault History Writing Award
Sacred Survival-The Maya Discursive Formation

A Foucauldian Perspective of the Spanish Conquest
Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota, USA.

2005 Paul Magnuson Award for Leadership and Service
Lineus Improv Comedy Troupe
Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota, USA.

Creative Projects and Theses

2021 Undergraduate Thesis Advisor for: Brant Hile
Play for the Future: Rethinking the Playscape
Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.

2019 Undergraduate Thesis Advisor for: Tanya Gaynor
An Imaginative Playscape: Designing a Community Park Playground
Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.

2016 Flowers in Crannied Walls: A K-3 Elementary Schoolyard Redesign
Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.
Advisor: Dave Ferguson, ASLA

2006 Sacred Survival-The Maya Discursive Formation
A Foucauldian Perspective of the Spanish Conquest
Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, Minnesota, USA.
Advisor: Leila Brammer

Research Experience

2014 – 2016 Graduate Assistant Work with Meg Calkins, FASLA
Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.

2006 Ethnography Field Work in Guatemala
Independent Study, San Lucas Tolimon, Guatemala

Peer Reviewed Abstracts, Presentations, and Printed Proceedings

2020 Metz, T., Tursky, R., Deeg, L. 'Re-Design Teaching Design'. *Architecture_MPS* 18, 1 (2020): 1.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.14324/111.444.amps.2020v18i1.001>.

2020 Deeg, L., Metz, T., Tursky, R. 'Catena: Collaboration, Cohesion and Continuity in Design Thinking and Making'. *Architecture_MPS* 18, 1 (2020): 3.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.14324/111.444.amps.2020v18i1.003>.

2020 Deeg, L., Metz, T., and Tursky, R. (2020) Surrealist Games and Exotic Names: Collaborative, iterative, and generative exercises in drawing and making (Paper

in pre-press.) Design Communication Association Biannual Conference,
Kennesaw State University, Marietta, Georgia, USA.

- 2020 Metz, T. (2020) How Loud is Landscape Architecture? CELA Conference 2020.
Louisville, Kentucky, USA.
- 2019 Deeg, L., Metz, T., and Tursky, R. (2019) Catena: Collaboration, Cohesion, and
Continuity in Design Thinking and Making. AMPS Conference on Education,
Design, and Practice. Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey,
USA.
- 2019 Reflections from the Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee
Town of Pendleton Newsletter, Pendleton, Indiana, USA.
- 2018 Town of Pendleton Tree Care Manual
Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee, Pendleton, Indiana, USA.
- 2017 Flowers in Crannied Walls: A K-3 Elementary Schoolyard Redesign
Schmidt Academy Presentation
Schmidt Associates, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.
- 2016 Flowers in Crannied Walls: A K-3 Elementary Schoolyard Redesign
ASLA 20x20 Student Project Presentation
2016 ASLA Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.
- 2016 Flowers in Crannied Walls: A K-3 Elementary Schoolyard Redesign
Final Thesis Presentations
Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.
- 2006 Sacred Survival-The Maya Discursive Formation
A Foucauldian Perspective of the Spanish Conquest
Communication Studies Research Conference
University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul, Minnesota, USA.

Courses Taught

Ball State University

SP2021	CAP 102 LA 100	Environmental Design Studio II Introduction to Landscape Architecture
FA2020	LA 100 LA 280	Introduction to Landscape Architecture Computer Applications in Landscape Architecture
SP2020	CAP101	Environmental Design Studio I

	CAP161 LA100	Design Communications Media I Introduction to Landscape Architecture
FA2019	CAP101 CAP161 LA100	Environmental Design Studio I Design Communications Media I Introduction to Landscape Architecture
SP2019	CAP101 CAP162 LA100	Environmental Design Studio I Design Communications Media II Introduction to Landscape Architecture
FA2018	CAP101 CAP161	Environmental Design Studio I Design Communications Media I

Service

2019 – Present	CAP First Year Coordinator, College of Architecture and Planning, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.
2019 – Present	Student Chapter ASLA Faculty Advisor and INASLA Emerging Professionals Committee Ball State Liaison, College of Architecture and Planning, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.
2018 – 2020	First-Year Curriculum Committee member, College of Architecture and Planning, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.
2018 – 2019	Undergraduate Curriculum Committee member, Department of Landscape Architecture, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA.

Design Juries

2019	ARCH 301 Architectural Design, Stephanie Bunt. Ball State University (BSU)
2019	CAP102 Environmental Design & Planning, Miguel San Miguel, Ana de Brea. BSU
2018	ARCH 301 Architectural Design, Stephanie Bunt. BSU
2018	LA 403 Urban Design, Joe Blalock. BSU
2016	LA 602 Site Design, Meg Calkins. BSU
2015	LA 602 Site Design, Meg Calkins. BSU

Professional Memberships

2015 – Present	Chairperson, Pendleton Urban Forestry Committee Town of Pendleton, Indiana, USA.
2014 – Present	Associate Member, Indiana Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)