

Eric Seymour

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Academic Appointments

- 2019– **Assistant Professor**, *Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey*, New Brunswick, NJ.
- 2017–2019 **Postdoctoral Research Associate**, *Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences | Population Studies and Training Center, Brown University*, Providence, RI.
Funded through NSF award #1561060, *The spatial demography of population loss*.

Education

- 2016 **Ph.D. Urban and Regional Planning**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
DISSERTATION: “Federal financial institutions, foreclosure, and the fortunes of Detroit’s middle- and working-class neighborhoods”
COMMITTEE: Margaret E. Dewar (chair), Lan Deng, June Manning Thomas, David Thacher
- 2010 **Master of Urban and Regional Planning**, *University of Florida*, Gainesville, FL.
THESIS: “Assisted housing and the regional geography of opportunity: A comparative suitability analysis of three Florida counties”
CHAIR: Kristin Larsen
- 2007 **B.A. American Literature & History**, *Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, Florida Atlantic University*, Jupiter, FL, *summa cum laude*.

Publications

- 2019 **Seymour, E.** & Akers, J. (2019). Building the eviction economy: Speculation, precarity, and eviction in Detroit. *Urban Affairs Review*. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1177/1078087419853388>.
- 2019 Akers, J., **Seymour, E.**, Butler, D. & Rathke, W. (2019). Liquid tenancy: ‘Post-crisis’ economies of displacement and pursuits of fixity beyond property. *Radical Housing Journal*, 1(1), 9–28.
- 2019 **Seymour, E.** & Akers, J. (2019). Portfolio solutions, bulk sales of bank-owned properties, and the reemergence of racially exploitative land contracts. *Cities*, 89, 46–56
- 2018 Akers, J. & **Seymour, E.** (2018). Instrumental exploitation: Predatory property relations at city’s end. *Geoforum*, 91, 127–140.
- 2017 Deng, L., **Seymour, E.**, Dewar, M. & Thomas, J. M. (2018). Saving strong neighborhoods from the destruction of mortgage foreclosures: The impact of community-based efforts. *Housing Policy Debate*, 28(2), 153–179.
- 2015 Dewar, M., Weber, M., **Seymour, E.**, Elliott, M. & Cooper-McCann, P. (2015). Learning from Detroit: How research on a declining city enriches urban studies. In M. P. Smith and L. O. Kirkpatrick (Eds.), *Reinventing Detroit*. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers.
- 2014 Dewar, M., **Seymour, E.** & Druță, O. (2015). Disinvesting in the built city: The role of tax foreclosure in Detroit. *Urban Affairs Review*, 51(5), 587–615.

Research Experience

- 2016–2017 **Research Assistant**, *American Bar Association*, Chicago, IL.
Data analyst on NSF award #1557089, *Conceptualizing Property Takings*, examining racial disparities in property tax assessments and foreclosures in Detroit, MI.
- 2012–2016 **Research Assistant**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Member of research team studying the impact of community-based efforts to mitigate the negative consequences of concentrated foreclosures in Detroit neighborhoods.
- 2014–2015 **Contract Researcher**, *Fair Housing Center of Southeastern Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Analyzed local housing data to assist the Fair Housing Center’s efforts to reduce housing discrimination and affordability imbalances between Ann Arbor and surrounding Washtenaw County.
- 2012–2014 **Research Assistant**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Performed spatial analysis for research funded under NIH grant PAR-10-235, *Assessing and Modeling Population Vulnerability to Climate Change*.
- 2012 **Research Assistant**, *University of Michigan*, Ann Arbor, MI.
Studied urban climate change adaptation in Great Lakes cities. Conducted site visits and interviews in Duluth, MN and Thunder Bay, ON.
- 2010–2012 **Contract Researcher**, *Michigan Community Resources*, Detroit, MI.
Developed public engagement materials for Detroit Works Project. Analyzed data generated from public engagement activities. Performed spatial analysis of foreclosures, home sales, and community development activities in Detroit.
- 2009–2010 **Research Assistant**, *Shimberg Center for Housing Studies*, Gainesville, FL.
Member of research team developing the Affordable Housing Suitability (AHS) model, a GIS-based land use suitability model for assisting state and local agencies in targeting subsidies for affordable housing development and preservation.
- 2006–2007 **Research Assistant**, *Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions at Florida Atlantic University*, Jupiter, FL.
Evaluated development of new urbanist communities in Florida with regard to demographic and socioeconomic diversity.

Conference Participation

- 2019 “The myth of the one dollar house: Differential drivers of cost burden in growing and shrinking U.S. places,” paper presentation, American Association of Geographers (Washington, DC)
- 2018 “Portfolio solutions, bulk sales of bank-owned properties, and the reemergence of racially exploitative land contracts,” paper presentation, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (Buffalo, NY).
- 2018 “The dimensions of decline: Measuring urban population loss,” paper presentation, Population Association of America (Denver, CO).
- 2018 “Spatial metrics for urban population loss,” paper presentation, Western Regional Science Association (Pasadena, CA).
- 2017 “The intensification of displacement processes in Detroit’s non-gentrifying neighborhoods,” paper presentation, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (Denver, CO).
- 2017 “Shrinking cities and predatory property relations: The post-foreclosure-crisis resurgence of land contracts in Detroit,” paper presentation, Canadian Association of Geographers (Toronto, Canada).

- 2016 “Federal financial institutions, foreclosure and the fortunes of Detroit’s middle- and working-class neighborhoods,” paper presentation, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (Portland, OR).
- 2016 “Shrinking cities and suburbs: What do we know?,” discussant, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (Portland, OR).
- 2015 “Federal financial institutions, foreclosure and the fortunes of Detroit’s middle- and working-class neighborhoods,” paper presentation, Spaces and Flows (Chicago, IL).
- 2012 “Destroying the built city: The role of tax foreclosure in Detroit,” paper presentation, Detroit School of Urban Studies Speaker Series (Ann Arbor, MI).
- 2012 “Dismantling a city: The role of tax foreclosure in Detroit,” paper presentation (with M. Dewar), Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (Cincinnati, OH).
- 2012 “Dismantling a city: The role of tax foreclosure in Detroit,” paper presentation (with M. Dewar), Spaces and Flows (Detroit, MI).
- 2011 “Identifying suitable locations for the development and preservation of affordable housing in Florida: The AHS Model” (with Andres Blanco, Abdunaser Arafat, Ilir Bejleri, Kristin Larsen, Eric Kramer, Ruth Steiner, Elizabeth Thompson, and Bill O’Dell), poster presentation, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. *Winner: Best Poster.* (Salt Lake City, UT).
- 2009 “Interpreting and preserving the non-buildings of the recent industrial past,” poster presentation, Society of American City and Regional Planning History (Oakland, CA).

Teaching Experience

Brown University, Providence, RI

- 2018 GIS Institute. Lectured on principles of GIS and cartography during January short-course
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

2017 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems. Instructor for graduate-level course.

2017 Research Methods in Urban Planning. Instructor for graduate-level course.

2015 Urban Planning Capstone. Instructor for graduate-level physical design studio in Detroit.

2014 Introductory Statistics. Instructor for graduate-level course.

2010–2012 Fundamentals of Planning Practice. Teaching assistant for graduate-level course

2013 Introductory Statistics. Teaching assistant for graduate-level course.

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

2007–2008 Technical Writing. Instructor for undergraduate course.

2007–2008 Introduction to College Writing. Instructor for undergraduate course.

Florida Atlantic University

2005–2007 Writing Consultant at University Writing Center. Certified by the College Reading & Learning Association.

Honors & Awards

2016 Taubman College Distinguished Dissertation in Urban and Regional Planning Award

2015–2016 Institute for Social Research’s (ISR) Robert Kahn Fellowship for the Scientific Study of Social Problems. Fellowship awards \$25,000 plus tuition.

- 2014 CoreLogic Academic Research Council (CLARC) Data Grant, award of real estate transaction data for dissertation research.
- 2012–2015 Rackham Graduate School Spring/Summer Research Grant. Recipient in 2012, 2013, & 2015. Awards \$8,000.
- 2010 American Institute of Certified Planners Outstanding Student Award, University of Florida.
- 2009 Florida Housing Coalition Doreen Flummer Scholarship.
- 2007–2008 Grinter Graduate Fellowship, University of Florida.
- 2007 Distinguished Thesis Award, Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, Florida Atlantic University.
- 2007 Stan and Renee Wimberly Scholarship, Florida Atlantic University’s top academic award.

Service Activities

- 2017–present Member, Urban Praxis Workshop (urbanpraxis.org), research collective creating research and data visualizations related to property speculation in Detroit.
- 2014–2015 Co-organizer, Interdisciplinary Center for Organizational Studies’ Big Data Users Group (IBUG), University of Michigan.
- 2012–2015 Co-organizer, Detroit School Speaker Series, Recipient of Faculty & Graduate Student Seminars Award, University of Michigan.
- 2014–2016 Member, Zoning Board of Appeals, Ypsilanti, MI.
- 2012–2013 President, Planning and Architecture Research Group (P+ARG), University of Michigan.
- 2011–2012 Vice-President, Planning and Architecture Research Group (P+ARG), University of Michigan.
- 2009–2010 President, Student Planning Association (SPA), University of Florida.

Technical Competencies

- GIS ArcGIS, QGIS, PostGIS, GDAL-OGR, Python (Fiona, Shapely, PySAL)
- Statistical R, Stata, SPSS, Python (Numpy, Pandas, SciPy, Statsmodels)
- Programming Python, R, SQL, bash, \LaTeX
& scripting