
Whitney Figland

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

Texas A&M - Commerce
153 AGET
Commerce, TX

EDUCATION

Ph.D.

Louisiana State University, May 2024
Agricultural and Extension Education
Dissertation title: *Thinking about Thinking: A Mixed Methods Study Investigating the Effect of Metacognitive Awareness and Cognitive Ability on Problem Solving*

M.S.

Louisiana State University, May 2019
Agricultural and Extension Education
Thesis title: *Investigating the Effects of Cognitive Diversity on the Small Gasoline Engines Problem Solving Ability of Undergraduate Students Enrolled in a Team-Based Learning Formatted Agricultural Mechanics Course*

B.S.

Iowa State University, May 2017
Agricultural and Life Sciences Education, Teacher Certification
Magna Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Current –

Assistant Professor
Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communication
College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources
Texas A&M – Commerce, Commerce, TX

July 2022 –
May 2024

PhD Graduate Teaching and Research Assistant
Department of Agricultural and Extension Education and
Evaluation
College of Agriculture
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Courses Taught

- AEEE 2003- *Introduction to Agricultural Mechanics*
- AEEE 2004 – *Metals and Welding*

July 2020 –
June 2022

Agricultural Education Teacher
French Settlement High School
French Settlement, LA 70726

Courses Taught

- Agriscience 1
- Agriscience 2
- NCCER CORE
- NCCER Welding Level 1 (SMAW)
- NCCER Welding Level 2 (GMAW & GTAW)
- CITF Carpentry Level 1 (Basic)
- CITF Carpentry Level 2 (Advanced)

July 2019 –
June 2020

Agricultural Education Teacher
Dutchtown High School
Geismar, LA 70734

Courses Taught

- Agriscience 1
- Small Gasoline Engines
- Horticulture

August 2017 –
May 2019

Graduate Teaching Assistant
Department of Agricultural and Extension Education and
Evaluation
College of Agriculture
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Courses Taught

- AGRI 1001- *Introduction to Agriculture* – Fall 2017 and 2018
- AEEE 2003- *Introduction to Agricultural Mechanics* – Spring 2018 and 2019

January 2017 –
May 2017

Student Teaching
9 – 12 Agriculture
Chariton High School
Chariton, IA, 50049

Courses Taught

- CASE Animal Science
- Agronomy
- Agribusiness
- Landscape Design
- Agricultural Sales
- Natural Resources Ecology Management

PROFESSIONAL HONORS AND AWARDS

Research Honors and Awards:

- Journal Article of the Year, *Journal of Agricultural Education* - 2022
- Journal Article of the Year, Volume 70, *Journal of Southern Agricultural Education Research* – 2020
- Distinguished Poster Award, Southern Region AAAE Research Conference – Jacksonville, FL, 2018

Teaching Honors and Awards:

- Teacher of the Month, February 2021
- Teacher of the Month, November 2021

Other Professional Honors and Awards:

- Outstanding Graduate Student, Department of Agricultural and Extension Education, Louisiana State University – Baton Rouge, LA, USA, 2023
- Outstanding Graduate Student, Department of Agricultural and Extension Education, Louisiana State University – Baton Rouge, LA, USA, 2019
- Outstanding Graduate Student, Department of Agricultural and Extension Education, Louisiana State University – Baton Rouge, LA, USA, 2018

PEER-REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Soler, O., O'Malley, A. M., **Figland, W. L.**, Richardson Gilley, M. A., Blackburn, J. J., Stair, K. S., & Roberts, R. (2022). Forecasting the academic performance of freshmen College of Agriculture students: Using goal orientations and academic efficacy as predictors. *Journal of Agricultural Education*, 63(4), 204-219.
<https://doi.org/10.5032/jae.2022.04204>

Figland, W. L., Blackburn, J. J., Stair, K. S., & Burnet, M. F. (2021). Investigating the effects of cognitive style diversity on the hypothesis generation and troubleshooting ability of undergraduate students enrolled in an introductory agricultural mechanics' course at Louisiana State University. *Journal of Agricultural Education*, 62(1), 156-169.
<https://doi.org/10.5032.2021.01156>

***Article of the Year – Volume 63**

Figland, W. L., Blackburn, J. J., & Roberts, R. (2020). Undergraduate students' perceptions of team-based learning during an introductory agricultural mechanics' course: A mixed methods study. *Journal of Agricultural Education*, 61(1), 262-276.
<https://doi.org/10.5032/jae.2020.01262>

Figland, W. L., Roberts, R., & Blackburn, J. J. (2020). Reconceptualizing problem solving: Applications for the delivery of agricultural education's comprehensive, three-circle model in the 21st Century. *Journal of Southern Agricultural Education Research*, 70(1), 1-20. <http://jsaer.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/70-Figland-Roberts-Blackburn.pdf>

***Article of the Year – Volume 70**

Figland, W. L., Blackburn, J. J., Smith, H. E., & Stair, K. S. (2019). What do they need? Determining differences in the classroom-based professional development needs of Louisiana agriculture teachers by years of teaching experience. *Journal of Agricultural Education, 60*(2), 173-189. <https://doi.org/10.5032/jae.2019.02173>

Stair, K. S., **Figland, W. L.,** Blackburn, J. J., & Smith, H. E. (2019). Describing the differences in the professional development needs of traditionally and alternatively certified agriculture teachers in Louisiana. *Journal of Agricultural Education, 60*(3), 262-276. <https://doi.org/10.5032/jae.2019.03262>

PEER-REFEREED RESEARCH JOURNAL ARTICLES (IN REVIEW)

Figland, W. F., Blackburn, J. J., Stair, K. S., & Burnett, M. F. Investigating the effects of cognitive style on the small gasoline engines content knowledge of undergraduate students in a flipped introductory agricultural mechanics course at Louisiana State University. *Journal of Southern Agricultural Education Research.*

PEER-REFEREED, PUBLISHED PROCEEDINGS (INTERNATIONAL)

Roberts, R., Stair, K.S., **Figland, W. F.,** & Jayaratne, K.S.U. (2023, February, 5-7). Teaching outside of the margins: School-based agricultural education teachers' perspectives on globally competent teaching during an international experience [Oral Presentation Abstract]. Proceedings of the 2023 Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education (AIAEE) Conference, Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

PEER-REFERRED, PUBLISHED PROCEEDINGS (NATIONAL)

Figland, W. L., Blackburn, J. B., Roberts, R., & Burnett, M. F. (2023, May 15-18). Investigating the effects of cognitive style on course motivation for students enrolled in a team-based learning formatted introductory agricultural mechanics course at Louisiana State University. Proceedings of the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) 2023 Conference, Raleigh, NC.

Roberts, R., Stair, K.S., **Figland, W. F.,** & Jayaratne, K.S.U. (2023, May 15-18). Teaching outside of the margins: School-based agricultural education teachers' perspectives on globally competent teaching during an international experience. Proceedings of the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) 2023 Conference, Raleigh, NC.

Figland, W.L., Blackburn, J.J., Stair, K.S., & Burnett, M.F. (2020, May 18 – 21). Investigating the effects of cognitive style diversity on the hypothesis generation and troubleshooting ability of undergraduate students enrolled in an introductory agricultural mechanics' course at Louisiana State University. Proceedings of the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) 2020 COVID-19 Virtual Conference.

- Figland, W. L., Roberts, R., & Blackburn, J. J.** (2020, May 18-21). Reconceptualizing problem-solving: Applications for the delivery of agricultural education's comprehensive, three-circle model in the 21st century. Proceedings of the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) 2020 COVID-19 Virtual Conference
- Figland, W. L., Blackburn, J. J., & Roberts, R.** (2019, May 21-24). Undergraduate students' perceptions of team-based learning during an introductory agricultural mechanics course: A mixed methods study. Proceedings of the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) 46th Annual Conference, Des Moines, IA, USA.
- Richardson, M. A., **Figland, W. L., O'Malley, A., Soler, O., Stair, K. S., Blackburn, J. J., & Roberts, R.** (2019, May 21-24). Fostering academic success for university agriculture students: The role of social self-efficacy on first-year grade point average. [Poster Abstract]. Proceeding of the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) Conference, Des Moines, IA, USA.
- Soler, O., O'Malley, A., **Figland, W. L., Richardson, M., Blackburn, J. J., Stair, K. S., & Roberts, R.** (2019, May 21-24). I think I can! Utilizing goal orientations and academic efficacy to predict the academic performance of freshmen college of agriculture students. American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) 46th Annual Conference, Des Moines, IA, USA.
- Soler, O., O'Malley, A. M., **Figland, W. L., Richardson, M. A., Stair, K. S., Blackburn, J. J., & Roberts, R.** (2019, May 21-24). The role of living-learning communities and university agriculture students' retention. [Poster Abstract]. American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) Conference, Des Moines, IA, USA.
- Figland, W. L., & Blackburn, J. J.** (2018, May 15-18) Flip the script! Implementing team-based learning in a post-secondary agricultural mechanics course [Poster Abstract]. American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) Annual Conference, Charleston, SC, USA.
- Courter, K., **Figland, W. L., Blackburn, J. J., Stair, K. S., & Smith, H. E.** (2018, May 15-18). Help! Determining the FFA and SAE professional development needs of Louisiana agriculture teachers by years of teaching experience [Poster Abstract]. Proceedings of the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) 45th Annual Conference, Charleston, SC, USA.
- Figland, W. L., Blackburn, J. J., Smith, H. E., & Stair, K. S.** (2018, May 15-18). What do they need? Determining differences in the classroom-based professional development needs of Louisiana agriculture teachers by years of teaching experience. American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) Conference, Charleston, SC, USA.
- Figland, W. L., Anderson, R. G.** (2017, May 16-19). Agricultural mechanics skills possessed by post-secondary students prior to enrolling in an agricultural mechanics teaching methods

course. American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) 44th Annual Conference, San Louis Obispo, CA, USA.

Figland, W. L., Anderson, R. G. (2016, November 10-12). Agricultural mechanics skills possessed by pre-service agricultural education students. American Association for Agricultural Education North Central Region Research Conference, Kansas City, MO, USA.

PEER-REFERRED, PUBLISHED PROCEEDINGS (REGIONAL)

Figland, W. L., Blackburn, J. B., Roberts, R., & Burnett, M. F. (2023, February 5-7). Investigating the effects of cognitive style on course motivation for students' enrolled in a team-based learning formatted introductory agricultural mechanics course at Louisiana State University [Oral Presentation Abstract]. American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) 2023 Southern Region Conference, Oklahoma City, OK, USA.

Roberts, R., Stair, K.S., **Figland, W. F.**, & Jayaratne, K.S.U. (2023, February 5-7). Teaching outside of the margins: School-based agricultural education teachers' perspectives on globally competent teaching during an international experience [Oral Presentation Abstract]. American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE) 2023 Southern Region Conference, Oklahoma City, OK, USA.

Soler, O., O'Malley, A., **Figland, W. L.**, Richardson, M., Blackburn, J. J., Stair, K. S., & Roberts, R. (2019, February 2-5). I think I can! Utilizing goal orientations and academic efficacy to predict the academic performance of freshmen college of agriculture students. American Association for Agricultural Education Southern Region Research Conference, Birmingham, AL, USA.

Soler, O., O'Malley, A., **Figland, W. L.**, Richardson, M., Blackburn, J. J., Stair, K. S., & Roberts, R. (2019, February 2-5). The role of living-learning communities on university agriculture students' retention. American Association for Agricultural Education Southern Region Research Conference, Birmingham, AL, USA.

Figland, W. L., Blackburn, J. J., & Roberts, R. (2019, February 2-5). Undergraduate students' perceptions of team-based learning during an introductory agricultural mechanics course: A mixed methods study. American Association for Agricultural Education Southern Region Research Conference, Birmingham, AL, USA.

Richardson, M. A., **Figland, W. L.**, Soler, O., O'Malley, A., Blackburn, J. J., Stair, K. S., & Roberts, R. (2019, February 2-5). Fostering academic success for university agriculture students: The role of social self-efficacy on first-year grade point average [Poster Abstract]. American Association for Agricultural Education Southern Region Research Conference, Birmingham, AL, USA.

Courter, K., **Figland, W. L.**, Blackburn, J. J., Stair, K. S., & Smith, H. E. (2018, February 4-6). Help! Determining the FFA and SAE professional development needs of Louisiana

agriculture teachers by years of teaching experience [Poster Abstract]. American Association for Agricultural Education Southern Region Research Conference, Jacksonville, FL, USA.

***Distinguished Poster Award**

Figland, W. L., Blackburn, J. J., Smith, H. E., & Stair, K. S. (2018, February 4-6). What do they need? Determining differences in the classroom-based professional development needs of Louisiana agriculture teachers by years of teaching experience. American Association for Agricultural Education Southern Region Research Conference, Jacksonville, FL, USA.

Figland, W. L., & Blackburn, J. J. (2018, February 4-6). Flip the script! Implementing team-based learning in a post-secondary agricultural mechanics course [Poster Abstract]. American Association for Agricultural Education Southern Region Research Conference, Jacksonville, FL, USA.

Stair, K. S., **Figland, W. L.,** Blackburn, J. J., & Smith, H. E. (2018, February 4-6). Describing the differences in the professional development needs of traditionally and alternatively certified agriculture teachers in Louisiana. American Association for Agricultural Education Southern Region Research Conference, Jacksonville, FL, USA.

POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

Figland, W. L. (2018). Enhancing student learning through team-based learning. *The Agricultural Education Magazine*, 90(4), 19–20.
https://www.naae.org/profdevelopment/magazine/archive_issues/Volume90/2018%201%20--%20Jan%20Feb.pdf

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Figland, W.L. (2023, July). Women in Welding Camp Lead Instructor. Held at Texas State University, San Marcos, TX.

Figland, W.L. (2022, July). Women in Welding Camp Lead Instructor. Held at Texas State University, San Marcos, TX.

Figland, W.L. (2022, November). Mission and Goals of Agricultural and Extension Education. Presentation for Introduction to Agricultural and Extension Education students at LSU.

Figland, W. L. (2018, November). Flipping Classrooms and Team-Based Learning: A New Approach to Active Learning in the Classroom. November meeting of the LSU College of Agriculture Teaching and Learning Academy.

Figland, W. L. (2018, June). Geaux Teach Ag! Careers in Agricultural Education. Presentation made for the Louisiana FFA members at State FFA Convention, Alexandria, LA.

CERTIFICATIONS

- Louisiana Agritechnology Certification
- NCCER CORE Certification
- NCCER Welding Level I Certification
- NCCER Welding Level II Certification
- CITF Carpentry Level I Certification
- CITF Carpentry Level II Certification
- 4-Stroke Small Engine Certification

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

National Level Service:

- *Agricultural Mechanics CDE Judge* – 2015 National FFA Convention, Lexington, KY, USA.
- *Agricultural Mechanics CDE Judge* – 2014 National FFA Convention, Lexington, KY, USA.

Regional Level Service:

State Level Service:

Louisiana

- *State Small Gasoline Engines CDE Judge* – 2023 Louisiana State FFA CDE, Baton Rouge, LA, USA.
- *State Agriscience Fair Judge* – 2022 Louisiana State FFA Convention, Alexandria, LA, USA.
- *Agriculture Demonstration Contest Judge* – 2022 4-H University, Baton Rouge, LA, USA.
- *State Agriscience Fair Judge* – 2021 Louisiana State FFA Convention, Alexandria, LA, USA.
- *Geaux Teach Ag Judge* – 2019 Louisiana State LDE, Baton Rouge, LA, USA.
- *Carpentry CDE Judge* – 2018 Louisiana State FFA CDE, Shreveport, LA, USA.
- *Prepared Speaking LDE Judge* – 2018 Louisiana State FFA LDE, Baton Rouge, LA, USA.
- *Gulf of Mexico Speech LDE Judge* – 2018 Louisiana State FFA LDE, Baton Rouge, LA, USA.
- *State Agriscience Fair Judge* – 2018 Louisiana State FFA Convention, Alexandria, LA, USA.
- *Agriculture Demonstration Contest Judge* – 2018 4-H University, Baton Rouge, LA, USA.
- *Area IV Small Gasoline Engines CDE Judge* – 2018 Louisiana State FFA CDE, Covington, LA, USA.
- *AgMagic Volunteer* – 2018 Louisiana 4-H, Baton Rouge, LA, USA.
- *Prepared Speaking LDE Judge* – 2017 Louisiana State FFA LDE, Baton Rouge, LA, USA.
- *Gulf of Mexico Speech LDE Judge* – 2017 Louisiana State FFA LDE, Baton Rouge, LA, USA.

Iowa

- *Iowa degree award Judge* – 2017 Iowa FFA Convention, Ames, IA, USA.
- *Ag Broadcasting CDE Judge* – 2016 Iowa FFA CDE, Ballard, IA, USA.
- *Agricultural Mechanics CDE Judge* – 2016 Iowa FFA State CDE, Ames, IA, USA.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

TEACHING

Course	Semester Taught	Number of Students	Overall Course Evaluation
AEEE 2003 – Introduction to Agricultural Mechanics (<i>Primary Instructor</i>)	S23	28	4.85
AEEE 4820 – Welding & Metal Fabrication*	S23	6	
AEEE 4101 – Instructional Design Teaching Assistant	S22	9	
AEEE 2003 – Introduction to Agricultural Mechanics*	S19	15	4.75
AGRI 1001 – Introduction to Agriculture*	F18	36	
AEEE 2003 – Introduction to Agricultural Mechanics*	S18	17	4.79
AGRI 1001 – Introduction to Agriculture*	F17	29	

*Note: * represents primary instructor of course, but not instructor of record*

ACADEMIC PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND CURRICULUM PROJECTS

- Developed team-based learning curriculum for AEEE 2003 – *Introduction to Agricultural Mechanics*, Louisiana State University (2017).
- Developed team-based learning curriculum for AEEE 2004 – *Introduction to Metal Fabrication and Welding*, Louisiana State University (2018).
- Designed and fabricated welding and metal fabrication shop for AEEE 2004 – *Introduction to Metal Fabrication and Welding*, Louisiana State University (2022).

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE), 2017-present
- National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE), 2016-present
- Gamma Sigma Delta (Honor Society of Agriculture), 2016-present
- Louisiana Agriscience Teacher Association, 2017-Present

- Iowa Association of Agricultural Educators (IAAE), 2014–2017