

Melissa Hinten  
8555 Reagan Woods Ln; Knoxville, TN 37931  
405-408-6554; [mhinten@utk.edu](mailto:mhinten@utk.edu)

## EDUCATION

*University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK*  
Dissertation title: "Combining Historical Records and Geospatial Techniques to Analyze Land Use Modification in a Tallgrass Prairie Landscape"  
Ph.D. - Geography and Environmental Sustainability 2012

*University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK*  
M.N.S - emphasis in Botany and Geography 2006

*Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK*  
B.S. - Biological Science and certificate in Secondary Science Education 2003

## TEACHING

Lecturer - *University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN* 2014-present  
GEOG 101 - World Regional Geography  
GEOG 131 - Weather, Climate and Climate Change  
BIOL 140 - Cell Biology  
GEOG 345 - People and the Environment  
GEOG 361 – Regional Geography of the US and Canada  
GEOG 436 – Water Resources

Adjunct Professor - *Pellissippi State Community College, Knoxville, TN* Spring 2014  
GEOG 1000 - Introduction to Geography  
BIOL 1110 - General Biology I

Adjunct Professor - *Oklahoma City Community College, Oklahoma City, OK*  
GEOG 2603 - World Regional Geography and online World Regional 2011 - 2013

Adjunct Professor - *University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK*  
BIOL 1114 - General Biology 2011 - 2013

Adjunct Professor - *Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, OK*  
BIOL 2214 – Introductory Botany and Botany Laboratory 2007 - 2009

Secondary Science Educator - *Putnam City North High School, Oklahoma City, OK* 2005 - 2006  
Biology and Environmental Science

Adjunct Professor - *University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK* Spring 2005  
EDSC 4093 – Inquiry Based Science Teaching

Graduate Teaching Assistant - *University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK* 2003 – 2005  
BOT 1114 – Introductory Botany Laboratory

RESEARCH

2014-present

*University of Tennessee - Department of Geography*

- Analyze land use change in semi-arid braided river using digital vegetation layers along the Canadian River, Oklahoma, using a GIS and USGS stream gage data.
- Content analysis of historic land use using Public Land Survey field notes.
- Collaborative assessment as a way of improving student engagement in geography courses.
- Analyze classroom questionnaires to inform reflective teaching practices

Dissertation Research

2006 - 2012

*University of Oklahoma;*

*Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability, Norman, OK*

“Combining Historical Records and Geospatial Techniques to Analyze Land Use Modification in a Tallgrass Prairie Landscape”

- Collected grassland vegetation data using modified Whittaker plots
- Reconstructed historic vegetation using Public Land Survey plats and field notes in a GIS
- Used archival records analyze the spread of non-native forage grasses
- Analyzed habitat fragmentation using remotely sensed images in a GIS

Student Conservation Association Internship

2011

*Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma City, OK*

Conducted invasive plants species inventory of natural areas on base

- Analyzed invasive plants species inventory to prepare management plans
- Removed invasive plant species populations occurring in natural areas
- Observed the development and implementation of habitat management and restoration plans

Graduate Research Assistantship

2010

*University of Oklahoma;*

*Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory, Oklahoma Natural Areas Registry, Norman, OK*

- Monitored endangered *Sternula antillarum* (least tern) populations during breeding season
- Interviewed land owners regarding land registration into the Natural Areas Registry Program
- Assisted in the planning and implementation of Bioblitz, an annual 24-hour biological survey of selected public land
- Assisted in collecting specimens and setting up study for a *Alnus maritima* (seaside alder) revegetation experiment

Cloud Forest Research

2008

*University of Oklahoma, Field Studies Course, Tamaulipas, Mexico*

- Collected vegetation data on *Laelia speciosa* (mayflower orchid) in a Madrean pine-oak woodland
- Collected vegetation data along an elevation gradient from subtropical deciduous forest through an oak cloud forest to a pine-oak forest

Graduate Research Assistantship

2006 - 2009

*University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory, Norman, OK*

- Created digital vegetation maps of the Tallgrass Prairie Region and Ozark and Arkansas Valley Region for the Oklahoma Comprehensive Conservation Strategy, using a GIS
- Created current and historic digital vegetation maps along the Canadian River within the Packsaddle Conservation Area , using a GIS
- Created a digital vegetation map of playa lakes in the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles, using a GIS

Thesis Research 2003 - 2004

*University of Oklahoma, Department of Botany and Microbiology, Norman, OK*

- Designed a study to measure grassland leaf litter production along climatic gradient in Oklahoma
- Contacted private and public landowners to request access permission
- Collected and analyzed standing and ground leaf litter

Graduate Research Assistantship 2003

*University of Oklahoma, Department of Botany and Microbiology, Norman, OK*

- Collected plant species abundance, richness, and phenology data to measure the influence of climate change on grassland vegetation

#### AWARDS & HONORS

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Writing Retreat	2015
Outstanding Adjunct Faculty, Oklahoma City Community College	2012-2013
Alumni Fellowship, University of Oklahoma	2006-2010
Ralph and Margaret Olson Scholarship	2007-2008
AmeriCorps Grant	2003
Future Teacher Scholarship, Oklahoma State University	2003
Janice and J.I. Gibson Scholarship, Oklahoma State University	2003
Transfer Leadership Scholarship, University of Oklahoma	2001

#### SERVICE

Undergraduate Program Committee – Geography Department; UTK	2015 - Present
Sustainability Curriculum Team – University of Tennessee	2015 - Present
Sustainability Working Group – University of Tennessee	2015 - Present
University of Oklahoma Geography Awareness Week	2009 - 11, 14
Student Conservation Association Internship	2011
Oklahoma Biological Survey - Bioblitz!	2006 - 2012
AmeriCorps, Student Teaching Internship	2003
GIS Day at the Capital – Oklahoma City	2007, 2011
University of Oklahoma Graduate Student Senator	2004

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Experiential Teaching Workshops – TennTLC; University of Tennessee	2015
ArcGIS T3G Advanced Training workshop – University of Tennessee	2015
Faculty Book Club – TennTLC; University of Tennessee	2014 - Present
National Wetlands Inventory Mapping – University of Oklahoma	2008
GIS for Conservation workshop - Society for Conservation GIS Conference	2007

PRESENTATIONS

Association of American Geographers, Chicago, Illinois; Paper	2015
Association of American Geographers, New York, New York; Paper	2012
Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council, Oklahoma City, OK; Poster	2010, 2011
Southwestern Association of Naturalists, Tyler, TX; Paper	2011
Southwestern Association of American Geographers, Tahlequah, OK; Paper	2010
North American Tallgrass Prairie Conference, Cedar Falls, IA; Paper	2010

PAPERS

Xuhui Zhou, Melissa Talley, and Yiqi Luo (2009) Biomass, Litter, and Soil Respiration Along a Precipitation Gradient in Southern Great Plains, USA. *Ecosystems*. 12: 1369-1380

Final Report – Wildlife Habitat Mapping in the Tallgrass Prairie Region, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, 2009.

Final Report – Wildlife Habitat Mapping in the Ozark and Arkansas Valley Region, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, 2010.