

KRISTA EVANS, PhD, AICP

Director of Planning & Geography
Associate Professor of Human Geography & Planning
School of Earth, Environment & Sustainability

Missouri State University
901 S. National Ave.
368 Blunt Hall
Springfield, MO 65897

(417) 836-5688

KristaEvans@MissouriState.edu

Education

2017 **Ph.D. Planning, Design & the Built Environment**, Clemson University, Clemson, SC

2014 **M.S. Resource Management**, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA

2001 **B.S. Human Geography**, Magna cum Laude, Northern Michigan University,
Marquette, MI

Teaching & Administrative Experience

August 2023-present **Associate Professor of Human Geography and Planning**, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

- Teach a variety of Planning and Human Geography courses, including: Intro to Urban Studies, World Regional Geography, Urban Geography, Rural Geography, Fundamentals of Planning and Land Use Planning
- Teach the practical application planning course, Planning Practicum
- Member of the graduate faculty and serve as thesis advisor and on thesis committees for graduate students
- Created and led study abroad trips entitled "Planning & Pasta" to Italy & "Ghost Towns and Geography of the Northern Rockies" to Montana & Wyoming

April 2021-December 2025 **Director of Planning & Geography**

- Recruitment & retainment of Planning & Geography students
- Curriculum and faculty enhancement & development
- Academic & career advising

August 2017- August 2023 **Assistant Professor of Human Geography and Planning**, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

August 2014-May 2017 **Graduate Teacher of Record/Teaching Assistant**, Clemson University, Clemson, SC

- Co-taught the graduate student capstone course, Planning Studio
- Designed an array of studio projects; regional, community-visioning, downtown redevelopment, comprehensive, and corridor plans
- Introduced students to various technical aspects and hands-on community planning processes

Publications

- Kpeebe, Y., **Evans, K.** 2025. "Geography of Tiny House Villages for the Homeless (Revisited): Implications for Planning and Policy in the United States." *Journal of Housing and the Built Environ* (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10901-025-10197-y>
- Kpeebe, Y., & **Evans, K.** 2025. "The *Grants Pass v. Johnson* Ruling: Decriminalizing Homelessness Is the First Step in Solving America's Housing Crisis." *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01944363.2025.2463969>
- Kpeebe, Y., **Evans, K.** 2025. "Understanding the Spatial Distribution of Tiny House Villages for the Homeless and the Contextual Factors Underlying their Establishment in the United States". *GeoJournal* 90, 20. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10708-024-11271>
- Evans, K. 2024. "Home is Where the Tiny House Is? Re-framing Downsized Livings Potential." In *Transforming Issues in Housing Design*. Edited by Kutay Guler. 73-85. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Evans, K. 2023. "An Examination of Perceptions and Preferences For Tiny House Villages For the Homeless in Missouri." *International Journal of Housing Policy*. DOI: [10.1080/19491247.2022.2072661](https://doi.org/10.1080/19491247.2022.2072661)
- Evans, K. 2022. "Common Ground: An Examination of Rural Planning and the Growing Amish Presence in Missouri." *Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies*. 10(1):23-40.
- Evans, K. 2021. "It Takes a Tiny House Village: A Comparative Case Study of Barriers and Strategies for the Integration of Tiny House Villages for Homeless Persons in Missouri." *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. DOI:[10.1177/0739456X211041392](https://doi.org/10.1177/0739456X211041392)
- Evans, K. 2020. "Tackling Homelessness with Tiny Houses: An Inventory of Tiny House Villages in the United States." *The Professional Geographer*, 72 (3), 360-370. DOI:10.1080/00330124.2020.1744170
- Evans, K. 2019. "Exploring the Relationship Between Visual Preferences for Tiny and Small Houses and Land Use Policy in the Southeastern United States." *Land Use Policy*. 81, 209-218. DOI:10.1016/j.landusepol.2018.10.051
- Evans, K. 2018. "Overcoming Barriers to Tiny and Small Home Urban Integration: a Comparative Case Study in the Carolinas." *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. 1-12, July 2018. DOI: 10.1177/0739456X18788938
- Evans, K. 2018. "Integrating Tiny and Small Homes into the Urban Landscape:

History, Land Use Barriers and Potential Solutions.” *Journal of Geography and Regional Planning*. Vol. 11(3): 34-45, March 2018. DOI: 10.5897/JGRP2017.0679

- Evans, K. 2016. “The Evolution of Public Markets in the United States.” *Space-Society-Economy*. 10,11: 127-132.
- Evans, K. 2016. “Making the Case for Internationalization: reflections on the transnational planning studio experience”. *Town Planning Review*. Vol. 87: 371-377.
- Evans, K. 2014. “The ‘True West’ and Northern Rocky Mountain Ghost Town Preservation”. *Journal of the West*. Vol. 53(3): 3-7, Summer 2014.

Presentations

- Evans, K. 2025. “Why Create a Land Bank? A Qualitative Exploration of Four Communities in Missouri.” Research presentation. *Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning*. Minneapolis, Minnesota (23 Oct 2025).
- Kpeebe, Y, & K Evans. 2025. “Beyond Shelter: Understanding the Growth and Distribution of Tiny House Villages for the Homeless.” Research presentations. Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. Minneapolis, Minnesota (24 Oct 2025).
- Evans, K. 2025. “Perceptions of Housing Affordability Issues, Barriers and Interventions in the State of Missouri.” Research presentation. *Bi-state APA Conference*. St. Louis, Missouri (15 Sept 2025).
- Evans, K. 2024. “Land Banking as an Affordable Housing Strategy in the State of Missouri.” Poster presentation. *Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers*. Honolulu, Hawaii. (18 April 2024).
- Evans, K. 2023. “Home is Where the Tiny House Is? Reframing Downsized Livings Potential.” Research presentation. *EURA 2023*. Reykjavik, Iceland. (24 June 2023).
- Evans, K. 2022. “Common Ground: an Examination of Rural Planning & the Growing Amish Presence in Missouri.” Paper presentation. *Annual Meeting of the Ozarks Studies Association*. Springdale, Arkansas. (27 May 2022).
- Evans, K. 2022 “Homelessness and Tiny Houses.” As part of a panel titled “Social Problems in the Ozarks Urban Landscape: Social Science Research.” *Annual Meeting of the Ozarks Studies Association*. (27 May 2022).
- Evans, K. 2022. “Common Ground: an Examination of Rural Planning & the Growing Amish Presence in Missouri.” Presentation for *MSU GGP Research Colloquium Series*, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO (22 April 2022).
- Evans, K. 2021. “It Takes a Tiny House Village: a Mixed Methods Assessment of Barriers, Strategies, and Stakeholder Preferences for Tiny House Villages for the Homeless in Missouri.” Paper presentation. *The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Annual Conference*. Virtual meeting due to Covid-19 (22 October 2021).
- Evans, K. 2020. “An Inventory of Tiny House Villages for the Homeless in the United States.” Paper presentation. *American Association of Geographers (AAG) Annual Conference*. Virtual meeting due to Covid-19 (7 April 2020).
- Evans, K and Griesemer, B. 2019. “It Takes a Tiny Village: Tiny Houses for the

Homeless.” Paper presentation. *American Planning Association Quad State Conference*, Tulsa, OK (9 October 2019).

- Evans, K. 2018. “Tiny Houses and Planning.” Invited to present at the *Ozark Mountain Section of the American Planning Association luncheon*, Springfield, MO (19 October 2018).
- Evans, K. 2018. “The Historic Preservation of Northern Rocky Mountain Ghost Towns.” Paper presentation. *Annual Meeting of the Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Division of the Association of American Geographers*. Manhattan, KS (6 October 2018).
- Evans, K. 2018. “Integrating Tiny and Small Houses into the American Urban Fabric: a Comparative Case Study in the Carolinas.” Paper presentation. *American Association of Geographers (AAG) Annual Conference*. New Orleans, LA (11 April 2018).
- Evans, K. 2017. “Ghost Town Preservation in the American West.” Presentation for *Geography Week Colloquium Series*, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO (16 November 2017).
- Evans, K. 2017. “Tiny and Small Houses: Land Use Policy Change in the Carolinas.” Invited to present to the City of Greenville Community and Economic Department, Greenville, SC (31 March 2017).
- Evans, K. 2016. “Integrating Tiny Houses into the American Urban Fabric: a Comparative Case Study of Land Use Policy Change in the Carolinas.” Paper presentation. *The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Annual Conference*, Portland State University, Portland, OR (3 November 2016).
- Evans, K. 2016 “Integrating Tiny Houses into the American Urban Fabric: a Comparative Case Study of Land Use Policy Change in the Carolinas.” Invited to present at the *Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences Department Colloquium Series*, Clemson University, Clemson, SC (2 September 2016).
- Evans, K. 2015. “The Evolution of the American Marketplace.” Presentation at the *International Student Workshop 2015*, Gdansk University of Technology, Gdansk, Poland (30 May 2015).
- Evans, K. 2013. “Just a Façade? Managing Northern Rocky Mountain Ghost Towns.” Poster presentation at the *Symposium On University Research and Creative Expression (SOURCE)*, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA (16 May 2013).
- Evans, K. 2013. “Just a Façade? Managing Northern Rocky Mountain Ghost Towns.” Poster presentation at the *Association of Washington Geographers Conference*, Ellensburg, WA (4 May 2013).

Supervision of Planning Projects

- 2024, Spring. “Rockaway Beach Waterfront Redevelopment Plan.” Rockaway Beach, MO.
- 2023, Spring. “Lake Springfield Student Engagement Vision Plan.” Springfield, MO.
- 2022, Spring. “Fair Play Visioning Plan.” Fair Play, MO.
- 2021, Spring. “State Street Corridor Project.” West Central Neighborhood,

Springfield, MO.

- 2020, Spring. "Seeds for Downtown Success: Downtown Revitalization Plan, Seymour, MO." Seymour, MO. *winner of the 2020 MO Chapter of the APA Outstanding Student Project award.
- 2019, Spring. "City of Willard 2019 Comprehensive Plan." Willard, MO.
- 2018, Spring. "City of Billings Visioning Plan 2018." Billings, MO. Missouri State University, undergrad students. *winner of the 2018 MO Chapter of the APA Outstanding Student Project award.
- 2016, Fall. "Seneca Report: Comprehensive Plan Review, North 1st Street Corridor Plan, Downtown Revitalization Plan." Seneca, SC. Clemson University, graduate students.
- 2015, Fall. "Greater Sullivan Neighborhood Visioning Plan." Greenville, SC. Clemson University, graduate students.
- 2014, Fall. "Ten at the Top." Regional plan for ten counties in Upstate SC. Clemson University, graduate students.

Service

- Missouri State University Education Abroad Advisory Committee (university wide)
- Immediate Past President of the Ozark Mountain Section of the APA Missouri Chapter, current
- President of the Ozark Mountain Section of the APA Missouri Chapter, Jan 2023-June 2024
- Vice President of the Ozark Mountain Section of the APA Missouri Chapter, Jan 2019-Jan 2023
- Community Planning Faculty Search Chair, 2023-24
- Ex-officio Board of Directors representative, Missouri State University for *Better Block Springfield* Jan 2021-Dec 2022
- Missouri Association of Planning Students (MAPS) co-advisor, 2019-present
- Habitat for Humanity Build Day with Planning & Geography students, March 23, 2022
- Human Geography Faculty Search Chair, 2021-22
- Mobile Tour organizer, "Tiny Houses & Eden Village." *APA State Chapter Annual Conference*. October 7, 2020.
- Member of the Ozarks Studies Committee at Missouri State University
- Better Block Springfield Traffic Calming pop-up organizer/ student involvement October 3, 2019
- Better Block Springfield Parking Day pop-up organizer/ student involvement September 20, 2019
- MSU Graduate Council member, 2019-21 appointment
- Judge for the Ozark Science and Engineering Fair, March 2018- 2022
- Search committee member for six senior planners at the Southwest Missouri Council of Governments, 2018-20
- Springfield Community Gardens volunteer with MAPS (Missouri Association of

Planning Students) held 2018

- Habitat for Humanity of Greenville, SC, Build Day held Fall 2015

Awards

- 2024 MO Chapter of the APA Outstanding Student Project award for “Rockaway Beach Waterfront Redevelopment Plan.”
- 2021 Missouri State University, College of Natural and Applied Sciences Award for Excellence in Teaching
- 2021 Missouri State University, College of Natural and Applied Sciences Award for Faculty Excellence
- 2020 MO Chapter of the APA Outstanding Student Project award for the “Seeds for Downtown Success: Downtown Revitalization Plan, Seymour, MO.”
- 2018 MO Chapter of the APA Outstanding Student Project award for the “City of Billings Visioning Plan 2018.”
- 2014 Braden-Dodd Memorial Fellowship recipient
- 2013 Master’s Research or Creative Activity Fellowship
- 2013 Graduate Studies and Research Dean's Award, Central Washington University
- 2001 Geography Department Outstanding Graduating Senior, Northern Michigan University

Grants

- **Community Foundation of the Ozarks** Spring 2024. **\$2,800** grant awarded to begin new research project entitled “An Exploration of Land Banking Policy and Affordable Housing in the State of Missouri.”
- **Missouri State University Faculty Research Grant** September 2020 submission. Successfully acquired **\$2,706** to begin a new research proposal entitled, “Exploring the Relationship between the Growing Amish Subpopulation and Rural Planning in Missouri.”
- **Economic Adjustment Assistance, Statewide Flood Recovery Grant** February 2020 submission. Co-PI (5%) for a successful grant of \$75,000 to provide long-term flood recovery support to the Missouri Association of Councils of Government (MACOG) in response to the 2017 flood events. My role was to provide educational opportunities/community outreach events for student interns at CRPM with flood-impacted communities in Southern Missouri. Grant ran until December 26, 2020.
- **Kittitas County, WA Hotel-Motel Tax Grant** December 2013 submission. Successfully acquired \$6,200 in grant funds from the Ellensburg County Commission for advertising and web-design for the historic Thorp Mill, Thorp, WA
- **Society for the Preservation of Old Mills Grant** December 2012 submission. Successfully acquired \$2,000 in grant funds from the Society for the Preservation of Old Mills in Pennsylvania seeking funding for the historic Thorp Mill roof project
- **Kittitas County, WA Hotel-Motel Tax Grant** October 2012 submission. Successfully acquired \$5,600 in grant funds from the Ellensburg County Commission for a new roof at the historic Thorp Mill, Thorp, WA

Membership

- American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
- The American Association of Geographers (AAG)
- The American Planning Association (APA)
- The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP)
- Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU), Geography Honor Society