

Susan L. Zimlich

Department of Teaching & Learning
Southeastern Louisiana University
SLU 10749
Hammond, LA 70402
Office Phone: (985)549-5083
E-mail: susan.zimlich@selu.edu

Education

- Ph.D., Special Education & Multiple Abilities/ Gifted & Talented, 2012, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- Ed.S., Special Education & Multiple Abilities/ Gifted & Talented, 2010, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- M.A., Elementary Education, 1999, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- B.S., Math & Chemistry, 1997, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR

Alabama Certifications

- Class AA Special Education/ Gifted & Talented, 2010, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- Class A Early Childhood, 1999, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- Class A Elementary K - 6, 1999, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

Honors and Awards

- Tommy Russell Award for Excellence in Doctoral Studies, The University of Alabama, 2011
- Nancy Gooch Luke Scholarship for Continuing Education, Lynn Fanning School, 2006
- Outstanding Graduate Student in Early Childhood Education, The University of Alabama, 1999
- Lewis & Clark College Scholarship Recipient, 1993 - 1997
- Lewis & Clark College Dean's List, Fall 1994 & Spring 1995
- Westinghouse Scholarship, 1993

Association Memberships

- International Society for Technology in Education
- National Association for Gifted
- Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education
- Louisiana Education Research Association

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor 2013-Present

Instructor 2012-2013

**Department of Teaching & Learning, Southeastern Louisiana University,
Hammond, LA**

- teach graduate level courses in gifted and talented education
- teach undergraduate education courses
- supervise student teachers, interns, and practicum students
- advise undergraduate education majors
- provide professional development
- Committee work, as needed
- sit on M.A.T. oral defense committees
- edit and revise SPA reports for gifted certification for NCATE
- trained in the Quality Matters program for online teaching
- consultation with St. James Parish Center for the Gifted

Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Catherine de Wet, Dr. Jane Newman, and Dr. Madeleine Gregg, fcJ 2007 - 2012

**Special Education & Multiple Abilities Department, The University of Alabama,
Tuscaloosa, AL**

- aid in developing literature reviews
- edit scholarly writing
- assist in administrative duties for the Master's level certification in Gifted and Talented Education
- assist in administration, observation, and teaching of preservice teachers enrolled in the Multiple Abilities Program for teacher certification, including:
 - teaching a mini-course about educational technology
 - supervising literacy and science activities with at-risk preschool students
 - supervising literacy tutoring with struggling first and second grade readers
 - observing teaching in an afterschool science, literacy, and art program
- organize the annual Duke Talent Identification Program ceremony
- manage data collection for research for the Multiple Abilities Program

Graduate Teaching Assistant 2008 - 2010

**Special Education & Multiple Abilities Department, The University of Alabama,
Tuscaloosa, AL**

- taught an orientation course for all students earning certification through the College of Education
- co-taught and taught graduate level classes under supervision during the medical leave of Dr. Catherine de Wet
- taught various courses for preservice teachers in Special Education
- aided in academic advising for incoming College of Education freshman and

transfer students

**Master Teacher and Registrar for Summer Enrichment Workshop 2008 – 2011
Special Education & Multiple Abilities Department, The University of Alabama,
Tuscaloosa, AL**

- oversaw registration and class assignments for above average students in grades K-8
- supervised unit planning for interns earning Masters' level certification in Gifted and Talented Education
- observed and provided feedback to interns during the three week enrichment camp

Teacher of Gifted and Talented 2000 – 2007

Lynn Fanning Elementary School, Madison County Schools, Meridianville, AL

- taught identified gifted and talented second through fifth graders
- attended training in Talents Unlimited
- trained in screeners such as the Torrance Test of Creative Thinking
- lead various staff development
- developed resource materials for enrichment centers
- consulted and co-taught with teachers in general education classrooms
- managed data for Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation

Fourth Grade Teacher 1999 - 2000

Rolling Hills Elementary School, Huntsville City Schools, Huntsville, AL

- attended training in Success for All reading program
- taught the group of remedial math students for the grade level
- facilitated the chess club
- managed the after-school science club

Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Carol Donovan 1997 - 1998

Elementary Education Department, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

- managed and analyzed data for various research projects including:
 - children's book choices
 - children's writing
 - teacher education effectiveness
- created presentations
- determined reading levels
- compiled research materials

Grader 1994 - 1997

Math Department, Lewis & Clark College, Lewis & Clark College, Portland OR

- scored assignments for Precalculus and Calculus courses

Math Skills Center Tutor 1994 - 1997

Math Skills Center, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR

- tutored Algebra through Calculus
- scored tests for a self-paced Algebra Review class

Math Tutor 1994 - 1995

Student Academic Advising Board, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR

- individual tutoring for students in college Algebra through Calculus

Association of Western Universities Summer Research Assistant 1996, 1997
Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratories, Idaho Falls, ID

- entered research data
- organized journals
- created location specific species profiles
- conducted water safety testing
- cared for plants that were part of a nuclear research project

Summer Lab Assistant 1994, 1995

Chemistry Department, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR

- manufactured gallium arsenide crystals
- experimented with technique for coating slides with gallium arsenide

Day Care Teacher 1992-1993

Small World Day Care, Idaho Falls, ID

- taught afternoon kindergarten students
- substituted as needed at all levels, infant to upper elementary aged children
- developed and taught science experiences to elementary aged children

Other experience and volunteer work

- Daisy Scout Troop Leader, Troop 30139
- volunteer at The Well United Methodist Church
 - Vacation Bible School crafts leaders
 - Altar Team
 - Children's Worship
- Cub Scout Tiger Den Leader Black Warrior Council Pack 36; Committee member Pack 170 Istrouma Council
- volunteer at Trinity United Methodist Church, Tuscaloosa, Alabama
 - Missions committee chair
 - church choir member
 - sous chef for large church meals
- volunteer at Latham United Methodist Church, Huntsville, Alabama
 - church choir member
 - Sunday school and vacation bible school teacher
 - nursery coordinator
 - various committees, including:

- Education
 - Staff parish relations
 - vacation bible school director and co-director
 - sous chef for large church meals
 - United Methodist Women co-chair
- volunteer at Trinity United Methodist Church, Idaho Falls, Idaho
 - Sunday school teacher
 - Bell choir member

Lines of Research

- technology use with students
- teacher's use of technology
- program evaluation for multiple abilities programs
- preservice teachers' understanding and use of differentiation

Dissertation

Zimlich, S. L. (2012). Classroom Practices Using Technology in Gifted and Talented Education Classrooms: The Teachers' Perspective (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Teaching Experience

Southeastern Louisiana University

SPED495: Inclusion of Students with Disabilities in the Regular Classroom

- inclusive practices
 - co-teaching
 - differentiated instruction
 - Universal Design for Learning
 - learning centers
 - curriculum compacting
 - cubing
 - thinking strategies
 - graphic organizers
 - scaffolding
 - choice boards
- concept based teaching
- special education referral process

SPED600: Introduction to the Education of Individuals with Exceptionalities

- overview of Special Education
 - laws and policies
 - Universal Design for Learning
 - working with families
- students with exceptionalities
 - learning disabilities
 - communication disorders
 - emotional and behavioral disorders

- attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder
- intellectual disabilities
- multiple disabilities
- Autism
- physical disabilities or other health impairments
- gifted and talented

SPED670: Instructional and Assistive Technology for Individuals in Educational and Community Environments

- introduction to assistive technology
 - types of assistive technology
 - Universal Design for Learning
 - working with families
 - evaluation of needs
 - laws and policies

EDUC415: Curriculum and Instruction in the Elementary School

- field experience
 - standards
 - lesson planning
 - integrated unit planning
 - assessment & evaluation of teaching
 - questioning
 - meeting the needs of diverse learners
- science & social studies teaching strategies
 - inquiry based
 - hands-on
 - concept based
 - connectional
 - constructivism
 - collaborative learning
 - learning cycle

EDU618: Counseling for Gifted Students

- social/emotional issues for gifted students
 - perfectionism
 - underachievement/at-risk students
 - twice exceptional
 - culturally and ethnically diverse gifted students
 - peer pressure
 - gender issues
- counseling models
 - career counseling
 - preventative counseling
 - bibliotherapy
 - group counseling
 - mentors
- inclusion of parents and school personnel

EDU646: Practicum: Teaching Gifted Students

- development of curriculum
- observations of teaching
- development of leadership

EDU647: Creativity in Gifted Education

- theories/definitions of creativity
- assessing creativity
- teaching creativity
- strategies for creativity
- eminent persons who were creative
- understanding creativity in the context of schools

EDU648: Characteristics of the Gifted Child

- characteristics of gifted students
- conceptions of giftedness
- identification of gifted students
- program planning
- special populations
- parenting gifted students

EDU649: Methods and Materials for Teaching the Gifted

- development of curriculum
 - Parallel Curriculum Model
 - Concept Based Teaching
 - Differentiation and Tiered Instruction
 - Thinking Skills
 - Questioning
 - Assessments

The University of Alabama

EDU200: Orientation to Education

- introduction to LiveText online portfolio
- basic introduction to APA style writing
- overview of generalized coursework required for certification
- overview Alabama state initiatives
- screening of basic writing skills

SPE382: Teaching Thinking Skills

- Talents Unlimited training
- Bloom's Taxonomy of Thinking Skills
- Gardner's Multiple Intelligences
- textbook evaluation for levels of questioning
- unit planning
- various other methods for using thinking skills with special education students

SPE302: Educational Diagnostic Measurement

- basic statistics used in assessment
- familiarity with different types of assessments
- case studies
 - one student with mild disabilities

- one student with severe disabilities
- overview of administering assessments common to special education
- using informal assessment
- writing curriculum based measures
- familiarity with Alabama State Department guidelines
- interpretation of scores
- beginning IEP writing

Graduate level teaching experience due to supervising professor on medical leave

SPE682: Advanced Curriculum Workshop in Gifted Education

- advanced unit planning
- developing interest based units
- creating differentiated lessons

SPE581: Psychology of Gifted and Talented Youth

- overview of definitions of gifted and talented
- overview of identification of gifted and talented students
- overview of models for delivering services to gifted students
- familiarity with Alabama's plan for identification and delivery of services to gifted students
- case study of a student to develop a learning profile
- development of educational recommendations based on the learning profile

SPE586: Social and Emotional Components of Talent Development

- familiarity with special populations
- familiarity with psychological issues related to gifted students
- overview of resources and methods for helping gifted students
- development of plans to help students who are gifted

Poster Presentations

Zimlich, S. L. (2010). *My two cents: Creating meaningful digital stories*. Poster session presented at the meeting of the National Association for Gifted Children, Atlanta, GA.

Zimlich, S. L. (2009). *It's all in the details: Using Comic Strips to teach elaboration*. Poster session presented at the meeting of the National Association for Gifted Children, St. Louis, MO.

Zimlich, S. L. (2009). *Technology use by preservice and inservice Teachers*. Poster session presented at the meeting of the National Association for Gifted Children, St. Louis, MO.

Zimlich, S. L. (2009). *Technology use by preservice and inservice teachers*. Poster session presented at the meeting of The University of Alabama Graduate Student Research Association, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Professional Presentations

Zimlich, S. L. (2014). *Differentiation: Recognizing and honoring the learner*. Presentation at the meeting of the Louisiana Council for Exception Children, Lafayette, LA.

- Zimlich, S. L. (2014). *Teaching for lifetime dispositions OR how to teach like a ninja!* Presentation at the meeting of the Louisiana Council for Exception Children, Lafayette, LA.
- Zimlich, S. L. (2014). *Using technology in gifted and talented education classrooms: The teacher's perspective.* Presentation at the meeting of the Louisiana Education Research Association, Lafayette, LA.
- Zimlich, S. L. (2013). *Gifted children: Who are they?* Presentation at the meeting of the Louisiana Council for Exception Children, Lafayette, LA.
- Zimlich, S. L. (2013). *Technology: Making it work in the classroom.* Presentation at the meeting of the Louisiana Council for Exception Children, Lafayette, LA.
- Zimlich, S. L. (2009). *Once upon a time: Digital stories.* Presentation at the meeting of the Alabama Association for Gifted Children, Birmingham, AL.
- Zimlich, S. L. (2009). *Parenting gifted children.* Presentation at the meeting of the Alabama Association for Gifted Children, Birmingham, AL.
- Zimlich, S. L. (2008). *It's all in the details: Using comic strips to teach elaboration.* Presentation at the meeting of the Alabama Association for Gifted Children, Birmingham, AL.
- Zimlich, S. L. (January 2007). *BiblioTherapy.* Presentation at the meeting of the Madison County Schools Teachers of the Gifted, Huntsville, AL.
- Zimlich, S. L. (October 2006). *Product assessment and the Torrance Test of Creative Thinking.* Presentation at the meeting of the Madison County Schools Teachers of the Gifted, Huntsville, AL.