

JENNY SPERLING, PhD

she or they

Assistant Professor, Critical Studies in Education
Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

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Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education
820 Van Vleet Oval, Collings Hall
Norman, OK 73019

RESEARCH INTERESTS

sexuality health education | queer and trans studies in education | inclusive postsecondary education programs | feminist, queer, disabled, trans, critical race epistemologies, theories, and methodologies | ethnography and qualitative research | sociolinguistic methods and discourse analysis

EDUCATION

PhD Education, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2021
Interdisciplinary Emphases:
(a) Feminist Studies
(b) Language, Interaction & Social Organization
Dissertation: [*Misrepresentation, mixed messaging, and missed opportunities: A critical queer ethnography of high school sex education curriculum and policy*](#)
Committee: Drs. Rebeca Mireles-Rios, Mary Bucholtz, Dorothy Inés Casillas

MA Education, University of California, Berkeley, 2015

BA Spanish, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2011

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies	2021 – Present
Core Affiliate Faculty, Women's & Gender Studies	2022 – Present

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Vice President of Internal Affairs	Graduate Student Association in Education	2016 – 2018
Diversity and Equity Committee	Gevirtz Graduate School of Education	
Graduate Student Teaching Fellow	UCSB/Santa Barbara Unified School District School Kids Investigating Language in Life and Society Academic preparation program	2016 – 2020
Teaching Assistant	Gevirtz Graduate School of Education Feminist Studies Department Department of Linguistics & Interdisciplinary Studies	2016 – 2020
Teaching Assistant/Pedagogical Advisor	Instructional Development Program	2018 – 2020
Teaching and Learning Fellow	South Coast Writing Project	2017

SAP NORTH AMERICA + HANDSON BAY AREA, CA

Adjunct/Instructor of Record Linguistic Anthropology Department 2016 – 2018

Co-Teacher	Adelante Bilingual Charter School 5 th Grade Dual-Immersion Class	2018
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Academic Coach Athletic Study Center 2013 – 2015

Qualitative Research Methods I	(EIPT 6043)
Topics in Gender, Values, & Education: Kinship, Care & Othermothering	(EDS 5833)
Internship in Education/Demystifying Dissertation Writing	(EACS 6920)
Qualitative Inquiry	(EACS 6133)
Ethnographies and Education	(EDS 5970)
Decolonizing Approaches to Community-Engaged Research	(EDS/EDAH 6933)
Critical Queer Studies and Education	(EDS/EDAH 5970)
Education and Community Relations	(EACS 6263)
The Politics of Educational Administration	(EACS 5333)
Principal Internship	(EACS 5923)
First-Year Student Mentoring – 2SLBTQIA+ @ OU	(UNIV 1210)

Culture and Development	(ED123)
Sex, Love and Romance	(FEMST150)
Women, Representation and Cultural Reproduction	(FEMST40)
Women Society and Culture	(FEMST20)
Language in Society	(LING50)
Transitioning to Academic Excellence	(INT20)
Introduction to the Research University	(INT10)

¹denotes graduate students ²denotes community members outside academia

Phan, Q., & **Sperling, J.** (2025). Legislating a strategic plan: Anti-2SLGBTQIA+ discourse and the political agenda reshaping higher education in Oklahoma. *Education Sciences*, 15(7), 851.

Sperling, J. (2022). More time, more conversation, more care: California high school youth queering comprehensive sexuality education. *Anthropology & Education Quarterly*, 54(2), 107-121.

Sperling, J. (2022). Guest speakers and sexuality education: An ethnographic look inside one California high school. *American Journal of Sexuality Education*. 1-22.

Sperling, J. (2021). Comprehensive sexual health education and intersex (in)visibility. An ethnographic exploration inside a California high school classroom. *Sex Education*, 1-16.

Sperling, J. (2019). “I just want to finish high school like everybody else”: Continuation high school students resist deficit discourse and stigmatization. *Equity & Excellence in Education*, 52(4), 465-484.

REFEREED BOOK CHAPTERS

Sai Suresh, M.¹, Wagnon, J.D.¹, **Sperling, J.**, Campos, R., Hall, T.N., Wakio, S., & Virgüez, E. (2024). Reframing international students’ success: Emphasizing institutional responsibility for international student wellbeing and belongingness. In G. Pagliarulo McCarron & B. Silver (Eds.), *Supporting College Students of Immigrant Origin: New Insights from Research, Policy, and Practice* (pp. 332-353). Cambridge University Press.

BOOK REVIEW

Sperling, J. (2020). Queer voices from the locker room. *Journal of LGBT Youth*, 1–3.

IN PRESS/ACCEPTED

Journal Articles

Sperling, J. (in press). “She like, sugarcoats things”: Maternal influence on sexual (in)agency of young college women with disabilities. *Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*.

Sperling, J., Phan, Q., Nikita², & Allen Wrench². (in press). The critical role of collegiate drag shows in enhancing visibility and fostering inclusivity on campus. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*

Book Chapters

Sperling, J., Creed, C.², & Phan. Q. (in press). Between hegemonies: Power and truth in Oklahoma Education in J. DeVitis (Ed.), *Post-Truth's assault on America's schools and colleges*. Emerald Publishing Press

REJECTED, UNDER REVISIONS

Sperling, J., Suresh-Mueller, M.¹, Phan, Q.¹, Wagnon, J.¹, Roseburr Olotu, D.¹, Wheeler, A.¹ Reimagining educational research: A kitchen-table talk on collective dreaming and the pursuit of methodological freedoms.

Phan, Q., Schafer, A.¹, & **Sperling, J.** Exploring queerness and embodiment in the academy: A collaborative autoethnographic inquiry across diverse positionalities and roles.

IN PREPARATION

Sperling, J., Murray, R., & Pratt, P.¹ “From Barney to bondage”: Early Lessons and Emerging Desires for Expansive Futures.

Sperling, J. Pratt, P.¹, & Murray, R. Making sex education in higher education a priority: Methodological insights from working with young adults with I/DD.

Smith, R.B., Drew, C., Reynolds, A., **Sperling, J.** Plotner, A., Patten, B., & Stinnett, C.V. Parent perceptions of relationships and sexuality education for college students with intellectual and developmental disability. *Disability and Sexuality*.

EXTERNAL GRANTS

2025 – Present	Launch Innovation Accelerator \$150,000 Autistic Teens Learning About Sexuality (ATLAS) <i>Role: Co-Principal Investigator with Dr. Jaye Capretto, OU Health Sciences Center</i> May 2025 – April 2026
2024 – Present	Spencer Foundation, Small Grant \$50,000 Exploring Queer and Trans Staff and Faculty Experiences in Oklahoma Admistr Anti-2SLGBTQIA+ Legislation in Higher Education <i>Role: Principal Investigator</i> July 2024 – July 2026
2024	Breakthrough Innovation Accelerator \$100,000 Child Trends Inc. – Office of Population Affairs Autistic Teens Learning About Sexuality (ATLAS) <i>Role: Co-Principal Investigator with Dr. Jaye Capretto, OU Health Sciences Center</i> September 2024 – May 2025
	University of Vermont, Queer and Trans People in Education \$1,500 Educational Policy Research Grant Exploring Queer and Trans Staff and Faculty Experiences in Oklahoma Admistr Anti-2SLGBTQIA+ Legislation in Higher Education <i>Role: Principal Investigator</i> May 2024 – May 2025

INTERNAL GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2024	Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education, OU Summer Research Grant \$5,685
2023	Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education, OU Research and Travel Grant, Fall \$550
2022	Junior Faculty Fellowship, OU Research Council \$ 8,000 Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education Research and Travel Grant, Fall \$650
2021	UC Santa Barbara Gevirtz Graduate School of Education, Block Grant Fellowship – \$8,500
2020	UC Santa Barbara Chicano Studies Institute Dissertation Grant – \$2,700
2019	UC Santa Barbara Philip & Helen Grant Research Fellowship – \$350 UC Santa Barbara Gevirtz International Travel Grant – \$1,100 UC Santa Barbara Gevirtz Graduate School of Education Block Grant
2018	UC Santa Barbara Gevirtz Graduate School of Education Block Grant – \$3,500
2017	UC Santa Barbara Gevirtz Graduate School of Education Block Grant – \$4,000

- 2016 UC Santa Barbara Gevirtz Graduate School of Education Block Grant – \$4,250
- 2015 UC Santa Barbara Gevirtz Graduate School of Education Block Grant – \$4,250

AWARDS

- 2024 **Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education, Advising and Teaching Award.**
Recognizes a faculty member whose teaching and/or advising has made distinguished contributions to the professional and scholarly growth of students across areas that include engaging students in deep and meaningful learning, designing and developing new courses/scholarly programming/engaged learning opportunities, and effectively engaging in the scholarly growth and work of students.
- 2022 Nomination for **Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education, Pre-Tenure Faculty Award.**
Recognizes a pre-tenure faculty member for distinguished cumulative performance in developing a line of inquiry that contributes important knowledge and understanding to the field; a teaching and advising record that demonstrates scholarly pedagogical growth; and a record of professional and community service.
- 2021 **OU Faculty Senate, Ed Cline Faculty Development Award – \$2,500**
Provides support to enhance the professional development of faculty.

EXTERNALLY FUNDED RESEARCH

**2025 – 2026 Autistic Teens Learning About Sexuality (ATLAS).
Launch Innovation Accelerator Grant | \$150,000
Role: Co-Principal Investigator** with Dr. Jaye Capretto, Co-PI at OUHSC

Funded by Office of Population Affairs through the Department of Health and Human Services, this 12-month accelerator supports the development, advancement, and growth of ATLAS: an immersive online gaming experience that empowers autistic and neurodivergent youth. ATLAS game blends visual novel storytelling and point-and-click exploration to create a dynamic and engaging experience to help youth develop critical knowledge and skills for navigating relationships, understanding the nuances of consent, and building self-awareness.

**2024 – 2026 Exploring Queer and Trans Staff and Faculty Experiences in Oklahoma Amidst Anti 2SLGBTQIA+ Legislation in Higher Education. Spencer Foundation. Principal Investigator | \$50,000
Role: Principal Investigator** with team: Erin Simpson, PhD & Quan Phan, PhD

Grant to fund 2-year ethnographic multi-sited case study across three public institutions in Oklahoma -- University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, and the University of Oklahoma -- exploring the experiences of 30 queer and trans staff and faculty, examining how they navigate and respond as campus workers of the institutions they serve. This longitudinal commitment not only addresses a gap in educational research, but is an urgent matter, as we investigate the sociopolitical dynamics specifically of QTSP, institutional faculty and staff at large, and three flagship universities in a deeply conservative state.

**2024 – 2025 Autistic Teens Learning About Sexuality (ATLAS). Breakthrough Innovation Accelerator | \$100,000
Role: Co-Principal Investigator** with Dr. Jaye Capretto, Co-PI at OUHSC
Team: OU Special Education Graduate Student, Gale Hann (Autistic Self-Advocate) and Interdisciplinary Team of Faculty from OUHSC

Funded by Office of Population Affairs through the Department of Health and Human Services, this 10-month accelerator supports the development, advancement, and growth of our innovation: an immersive online gaming experience that empowers autistic and neurodivergent youth to explore sexuality and relationships through immersive gameplay and interactive storytelling. ATLAS represents a groundbreaking step toward sexual health equity, empowering autistic youth to lead informed, confident, and connected lives with a deeper understanding of themselves and their communities.

2022 – 2023 Sexual Health Education for Children on the Autism Spectrum: Autism Sexual Health Development App | \$65,000, with continuance grant of \$40,000

Principal Investigators: Dr. Kathryn Moore (OUHSC) Dr. Jason Lee (OUHSC), Dr. Jaye Capretto (OUHSC)
Role: Team Member with other interdisciplinary faculty from OUHSC

Funded by Office of Population Affairs through Honestly Sexual Health (previously Thrive SPARK Innovation, Oklahoma City) this work supported creation of online resource regarding sexual and reproductive health, particularly for caregivers of autistic youth. Online interviews with caregivers and families were conducted as website materials and curricula were developed. Continuance grant was awarded for first five months of 2023.

OU FUNDED RESEARCH

2021 – 2024 Advancing Sexual Health Education for Young Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Role: Principal Investigator

Funded with support from the Junior Faculty Fellowship through OU Research Council as well as the Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education Summer Research Grant, this three-year ethnographic study explored what experiences and influences shaped the sex education and knowledge of young college students with intellectual and developmental disabilities prior to college and participating in an inclusive postsecondary education program at a public research university.

UC SANTA BARBARA FUNDED RESEARCH

2019 – 2021 Graduate Student Research Fellow, Center for Publicly Engaged Scholarship, University of California, Santa Barbara

Research assistant to and mentored by Professor Rebeca Mireles-Rios and Professor Victor Rios, co-directors of project interested in educational equity and social impact of research across UCSB campus. Analyzed qualitative data and developed manuscripts for publication.

2015 – 2020 Graduate Student Researcher, Center for California Languages and Cultures, Center of the Institute for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research, University of California, Santa Barbara

Led by UC Santa Barbara Professor Mary Bucholz and Professor Inés Casillas, this social justice-oriented academic partnership between the university and surrounding schools worked with California's public-school students by providing curriculum and instruction around language, race, power, and identity. Teaching experience and data collection/analysis examined language and culture across California's schooling contexts.

PRESENTATIONS

REFEREED (Papers, Symposia, Roundtables, Poster & Alternate Sessions)

Sperling, J., & Phan, Q. (2025). The Critical Role of Collegiate Drag Shows in Enhancing Visibility and Fostering Inclusivity on Campus. American Educational Research Association. Denver, CO.

Capretto, J., **Sperling, J.**, Hann, G., Fleming, G., & Bullard, C. (2025). Autism and Sex Education Research. National Symposium on Sexual Behavior of Youth. Norman, OK.

Sperling, J. & Drew, C. (2024). Selling Sex...Ed: Bringing Sexuality and Relationship Education to Inclusive Higher Education Programs. National Sex Ed Conference, Philadelphia, PA

Sperling, J., Phan, Q., & Simpson, E. (2024). Exploring Queer and Trans Staff/Faculty Experiences in Oklahoma Amidst Anti-2SLGBTQIA+ Legislation in Higher Education, Association for the Study of Higher Education, Minneapolis, MN

Cutright, C., Shaw, J., Hatfield, S., Morris, K., Adelman, M., Fulop, M., Pirie, S.C., Richardson, B., **Sperling, J.**, Walls, A., & Wang, C. (2024). Research, Praxis, and Solidarity with 2SLGBTQIA+ Young People in Turbulent Times, American Anthropological Association, Tampa, FL (Virtual)

Sperling, J. (2024). “She Like, Sugarcoats Things”: Maternal Influence on Sexual (in)Agency of Young College Women with Disabilities. State of the Art Conference, Chapel Hill, NC

Suresh-Mueller, N., Wagnon, J., Hall, T., & **Sperling, J.** (2023). Reframing International Students’ Success: Emphasizing Institutional Responsibility for International Student Well-being and Belongingness. Association for the Study of Higher Education, Minneapolis, MN

Sperling, J., Suresh-Mueller, N., Wagnon, J., Phan, Q., Roseburr-Olotu, D., Wheeler, A. (2023). Reimagining Educational Research: A Kitchen-Table Talk on Collective Dreaming and the Pursuit of Methodological Freedom. American Educational Studies Association, Louisville, KY

Sperling, J. & Drew, C. (2023). Not Just Giving the “Talk” but Walking the Walk: Preparing Young Adults for Inclusive Postsecondary Education. State of the Art Conference, Colorado Springs, CO

Moore, K., Capretto J., Hann, G., Bullard, C., **Sperling, J.**, & Fleming, T. (2023). Sex Education Promotes Autistic Adolescent Wellbeing. Zarrow Mental Health Symposium: New Horizons in Brain Science, Oklahoma City, OK (Virtual)

Roseburr Olotu, D., Wheeler, A., & **Sperling, J.** (2023). For the Love of Melanin: The Art of Storyworlding and Community Building for Graduate Students of Color. National Conference on Race & Ethnicity, New Orleans, LA

Moore, K., Capretto J., Hann, G., Bullard, C., **Sperling, J.**, & Fleming, T. (2023). Development of ATLAS: A Prototyped App-Based Sexual Health Education Resource Supporting the Caregivers of Autistic Adolescents. AIR-P Research, Autism CARES. Washington, DC.

Phan, Q., Schafer, A., & **Sperling, J.** (2023). Centering queer embodiment in community spaces in higher education. American College Personnel Association, New Orleans, LA

Sperling, J., Murray, R., & Pratt, P. (2022). Sexual health education and young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Division on Career Development and Transition, Little Rock, AR

Phan, Q., Schafer, A., & **Sperling, J.** (2022). Centering queer embodiment and community spaces in higher education. Association for the Study of Higher Education, Las Vegas, NV

Sperling, J., Murray, R., & Pratt, P. (2022). Advancing sexual health education for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in panel session titled, “Unsettling normative landscapes: Critical inquiries using disability studies frameworks”, American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (Virtual)

Sperling, J., Murray, R., & Pratt, P. (2022). Advancing sexual health education for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. State of the Art Conference, Syracuse University, NY

Sperling, J. (2021). Interrogating whiteness and research relationality: Conducting ethical and decolonial participatory action research. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting (Virtual)

Sperling, J. (2021). Misrepresentation, mixed messaging, and missed opportunities: High school sex education curriculum and policy. National Sexual Health Conference (Virtual)

Sperling, J. (2021). “Obviously you’re not going to *just* cater to straight people”: Sex(uality) education, representation, and liberation in and beyond the classroom. 2021 GGSE Research Symposium, UC Santa Barbara, CA (Virtual)

Sperling, J. (2021). Inclusive to and for whom? Intersex (in)visibility and California high school sexual health education. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting (Virtual)

Sperling, J. (2021). Prioritizing youth lives and community needs: High school sexual and reproductive health education and services reimagined. Hawaii International Conference on Education (Virtual)

Sperling, J. (2020). Toward a youth-driven agenda for California high school sex education: An investigation of experiences and perspectives regarding curriculum and policy. Gender and Education Association International Conference, Calgary, Canada (Cancelled due to Coronavirus)

Sperling, J. (2020). Gender-based ecologies of violence and high school sexual health education: A critical ethnography of a socio-politically charged California controversy. GGSE Research Symposium, UC Santa Barbara, CA (Virtual)

Sperling, J. (2020). Continuation high school girls disrupt the deficit discourse. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association San Francisco, CA (Cancelled due to Coronavirus)

Sperling, J. (2020). Gender-based ecologies of violence and high school sexual health education: A critical ethnography investigating a sociopolitically charged California controversy. LGBTQIA+ Virtual Graduate Research Festival, Santa Barbara, CA

Sperling, J. (2020). Toward a youth-driven agenda for California high school sex education: An investigation of experiences and perspectives regarding curriculum and policy. 12th Annual Conference for Social Justice in Education, CSU Channel Islands, CA (Cancelled due to Coronavirus)

Sperling, J. (2020). Gender-based ecologies of violence and high school sexual health education: A critical ethnography investigating a socio-politically charged California controversy. Graduate School of Education Research Day Conference. Berkeley, CA (Cancelled due to Coronavirus)

Sperling, J. (2019). The California Healthy Youth Act (AB329) and high school health curriculum implementation: Girls and LGBTQ perspectives of sexuality education. Research on Women and Education AERA Special Interest Group, Nashville, TN

Sperling, J. (2019). “And they keep adding things on and I didn’t say that”: Continuation high school girls’ racialized realities in traditional schools. Race, Inequality, and Language in Education, Stanford, CA

Sperling, J. (2019). “The only thing different about us is our life story”: High school students refute misperceptions. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, CA

Sperling, J. (2018). "I am categorized" and community misperceptions: Educational sociolinguistics creates space for social change. Sociolinguistics Symposium, Auckland, New Zealand

Sperling, J. (2018). "The only thing different about us is our life story": Continuation high school students and alternative education. Working Conference on Discourse Analysis in Education Research, Columbus, OH

Sperling, J. (2018). Partnerships or pedagogical collaboration? A research university and a continuation high school. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New York City, NY

Sperling, J. (2017). "Hey we're doing the best we can": One Teacher-Researcher's Positionality and Some Ethical Dilemmas. Paper participant for panel titled "Research, Me-search, and Soulsearch: Learning Ethnographic Ethics in Linguistic Anthropology. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C.

Sperling, J. (2017). "I don't like reading...it's my specialty, but I don't like it": Youth Speak(s) Identities. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Antonio, TX

Sperling, J. (2017). Let's talk Proposition 58 – Language, Education, Acquisition and Readiness Now (LEARN). 9th Annual Social Justice in Education Conference, CSU Channel Islands, CA

Sperling, J. (2016). Rethinking "checked-out" students' silence: Transformations in an innovative classroom. Annual Meeting of the Literacy Research Association, Nashville, TN

Sperling, J. (2016). Navigating the ecology of a school and linguistics-based outreach program: An investigation of interactions about curriculum in the making. Working Conference on Discourse Analysis in Education Research, Columbus, OH

Sperling, J. (2016). Unpaved Roads for Latina Intercollegiate Athletes. 8th Annual Social Justice in Education Conference, CSU Channel Islands, CA

INVITED

Sperling, J. (2024, April). Lavender Graduation Commencement Speaker. University of Oklahoma, Norman.

Sperling, J. (2023, February). Limitless Possibilities of Queer Friendship. Invited Speaker for [This I Believe: OU](#). First-Year Learning and Engagement. University of Oklahoma, Norman.

Sperling, J. (2022, September). "Ask Me Anything" Faculty Panel for The Academic Job Search Series. Sponsored by the Center for Educational Development and Research. Graduate Student Professional Development Series. University of Oklahoma, Norman.

Sperling, J. (2022, August). "What I Wish I Knew" Faculty Panel for New Faculty Orientation. Sponsored by the Center for Faculty Excellence. University of Oklahoma, Norman.

Sperling, J. (2022, March). Give Them Their Flowers: Activist and Leaders in the LGBTQ+ Community. Women's Hirstory Month Event sponsored by University of Oklahoma, Traditions East Graduate Housing Unit.

UNIVERSITY & PUBLIC SCHOOL/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PRESENTATIONS

April 2022 "2SLGBTQ+ 101: Affirming and Respecting Pronouns + Gender Diversity"
GET FIT 2022 Conference, Norman Public Schools
Co-presenters: Dr. Meredith Worthen, OU and Dr. Rachel Schmitz, OSU

March 2022 “A Whole-School Approach to Supporting and Empowering All Menstruators”
Norman Public Schools, Middle School Teachers and Counselors
Co-presenters: Undergraduate Students from OU Women’s Health Advocacy Executive
Board -- Stacey Johnson and Kylie Hutchison

IN THE MEDIA

Invited Collaborative Discussions

2022 “Sex Education in Schools” on Pink Talks featuring myself and Eva Goldfarb, PhD --
European Association of Young Educators, [YouTube recording](#)

Interviews

2021 Rethinking Sex Ed with Jenny Sperling. Interview on Schooled Radio. KCSB 91.9
- <https://schooledradio.com/2021/02/09/rethinking-sex-ed-with-jenny-sperling/>
- <https://www.audible.com/pd/Talking-with-Jenny-Sperling-about-um-Sex-Podcast/B08W8W1752>

ADVISING EXPERIENCE

COMPLETED DISSERTATIONS (PhD)

As Dissertation Committee Chair

1. Dr. Stefanie Renee Heinrich, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma, 2025
Dissertation: *Power, Prayer, and Play: Tracing Christian Hegemony in Sport Through Critical Discourse Analysis*
2. Dr. Madhunika Suresh Mueller, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma, 2025
Dissertation: *Kataikal: Navigating Home and Sense of Belonging as Queer Desi/South Asian Transnational Graduate Students in Higher Education*
3. Dr. Darnell Smith, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma, 2025
Dissertation: *Make-It-Yours: Black Male Student-Athletes Recount their Division II Experiences*
4. Dr. Quan Phan, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma, 2024
Dissertation: *Tracing Desires, Painting Utopia: Examining 2SLGBTQIA+ Students’ Queer Worldmaking in Higher Education through Participatory Art-Based Research*
5. Dr. Sage Mauldin, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma, 2023
Dissertation: *The Impact of Cisheteronormative Policies and Practices on the Experiences of LGBTQIA+ Faculty in Higher Education*

As Committee Member

1. Dr. Peighton Pratt, Special Education, University of Oklahoma, 2025
Dissertation: *Exploring Comprehensive Sexuality and Relationship Education for College Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disability in Inclusive Postsecondary Programs*
2. Dr. Isela Plasencia de Alba, Special Education, University of Oklahoma, 2025
Dissertation: *Personal Online Safety for College Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: A Scoping Review, Program Survey, and Single-Case Experimental Design*
3. Dr. Angela Barbour, Special Education, University of Oklahoma, 2025
Dissertation: *Exploring Autism Support Programs at Four-Year Institutions in the United States*

4. Dr. Ayanna M. Wheeler, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma, 2025
Dissertation: *We are Here: A Counternarrative Study on Black Mothers' Experiences as Undergraduate College Students*
5. Dr. Kayla Crouso, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma, 2025
Dissertation: *Education as Satyagraha: An Intercultural Philosophy of Education for Sustainable Development and Cultural Transformation Toward Peace and Nonviolence*
6. Dr. James Wagnon, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma, 2024
Dissertation: *Aniywiyi Anisgaya Dinedeyohvsgi Dikanobedi Getsilvquodi: Honoring Indigenous Male Professors' Stories, Looking into Their Journeys within Higher Education*
7. Dr. Adria Chappel, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma, 2024
Dissertation: *Black Undergraduate Nursing Students' Experiences with Racism while Attending a Predominately White Institution*
8. Dr. Christine Chapman, Instructional Leadership & Academic Curriculum, University of Oklahoma, 2024
Dissertation: *The Paradox of 'Black Teachers for Black Students': A Critical Narrative Case Study of Black Teachers' Experiences and Perceptions of their Teacher Preparation within Predominately White Institutions*
9. Dr. Simran Sethi, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma, 2024
Dissertation: *They Arrive, They Compete, But What's Next?: Exploring the Transition Out of Sport Experiences of Former Division I International College Athletes*
10. Dr. Amanda Cummings, Instructional Leadership & Academic Curriculum, 2024
Dissertation: *The Perceptions of Latina Pre-Engineering Students in Rural Oklahoma Career Tech*

COMPLETED DISSERTATIONS (EdD)

As Committee Member

1. Dr. Shari Gateley, Educational Administration, Curriculum & Supervision, 2024
Dissertation: *Compliance vs. Restoration: Educators' Beliefs and Perceptions of Restorative Practices as a Response to Student Behavior*
2. Dr. Jill Slay, Educational Administration, Curriculum, & Supervision, 2024
Dissertation: *Teachers Impacted by Trauma and How District and School Administration Respond: A Qualitative Study*
3. Dr. Rachel Lopo, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma, 2023
Dissertation: *Jewish Community Views on Partnerships with the Judaic Studies Department*

IN PROGRESS DISSERTATIONS (PhD)

As Dissertation Committee Chair

1. Ann Schafer, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma
2. Dene L. Roseburr Olotu, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma
3. Kelli Alvarez, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma
4. Jasmine Henry, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma
5. Jacob Bloodworth, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma
6. Jasmine Small, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma

7. Vaughn Zrain-Negley, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma
8. Kourtney Cortez, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma
9. Harold Wayne, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma

As Committee Member

10. Yue Zheng, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma
11. Heath Burge, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma
12. Alberto Velazquez, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma
13. Eric Sourie, Educational Studies, University of Oklahoma
14. Yasmina Choate, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma
15. Lillian Miller, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma
16. Ebony Pope, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma
17. Megan Denney, Adult & Higher Education, University of Oklahoma
18. Lori Crews, Educational Administration, Curriculum & Supervision, University of Oklahoma
19. Jessica Dickinson, Learning Sciences, University of Oklahoma
20. Jillian O'Connor, Instructional Leadership & Academic Curriculum, University of Oklahoma
21. Tacey Shurtliff, Department of Sociology, University of Oklahoma
22. Jared Griffith, Department of Sociology, University of Oklahoma

IN PROGRESS DISSERTATIONS (EdD)

As Committee Chair

1. Andie Amis, Educational Administration, Curriculum & Supervision, University of Oklahoma
2. Michael Carter, Educational Administration, Curriculum & Supervision, University of Oklahoma

As Committee Member

1. Erin Crimmins, Educational Administration, Curriculum & Supervision, University of Oklahoma
2. Amanda Duke, Educational Administration, Curriculum & Supervision, University of Oklahoma
3. Ethan Davis, Educational Administration, Curriculum & Supervision, University of Oklahoma

MASTER'S STUDENTS

Supervised degree progress and master's exams. Master's thesis in cases noted.

Educational Studies

Joumana Asfour, Educational Studies (2024)
Aana Nadeem, Educational Studies (2023)
Azden Randle, Educational Studies (2022)

Educational Administration, & Curriculum & Supervision

Sara Alrumaizan (2023)	Taylor Kirtley (2023)	Hannah Virnau (2023)
Logan Curtis (2023)	Carmen Oswalt (2023)	Christel Wallace (2023)
Lisa Goering (2023)	Leigh Ann Parsons (2023)	Luz Washington (2023)
Ashton Jackson (2023)	Mikella Stanton (2023)	

CONERENCE & CREATIVE ACTIVITIES ORGANIZER

University of Oklahoma

2023, Oct. Organized and Co-Hosted Invited Speaker, Dr. Z Nicolazzo – *Doing Methods Otherwise During Worrying Times*
Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
Women's and Gender Studies and the Gender + Equality Center

2021-Present	End-of-the-Week-Accountability-Group (EWAG) Graduate Student Weekly Writing Sessions
2021-2022	Conference Organizing Committee Member Educational Leadership & Policy Studies -- <i>Love & Care Lecture Series</i>

University of California, Santa Barbara

2020	Conference Workshop Co-host “ <i>White Allies, Apprentices, And Accomplices</i> ,” Second Annual Advancing African American Linguist(ic)s Symposium
2015 – 2019	Conference Co-Chair “ <i>Disrupt and Advance</i> ,” 25 th Annual Conference through LISO doctoral emphasis “ <i>Encounter and Interface</i> ,” 23 rd Annual Conference through LISO doctoral emphasis
2016	Conference Organizing Committee Member “ <i>In the Company of Scholars</i> ”, UCSB Discourse Group

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer

Behavioral Sciences
Education Sciences
Sexuality Research and Social Policy
Anthropology and Education Quarterly
Social Sciences
Journal of Homosexuality
American Journal of Sexuality Education
Sex Education

National

2023	Organizer, Chair, and Discussant of Alternate Session: “Reimagining Educational Research: A Kitchen-Table Talk on Collective Dreaming and the Pursuit of Methodological Freedom. American Educational Studies Association (AESA) Annual Conference, Louisville, KY.
2022 – Present	Member, American Educational Researcher Association Queer Studies SIG, Awards Committee

Regional

2021 – 2024	Executive Committee Member and Director of Social Investigation of The Red Dirt Collective of Norman, Oklahoma. Nonprofit Organization, 501c3
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University of Oklahoma (OU)

2024 – 2027	JRCoE Representative to the OU Graduate Council
2024 – 2025	Member, Graduate Council, Robberson Travel and Research Subcommittee

2024 – Present	Faculty Advisor, Student Socialist League – Registered Student Organization
2022 – 2023	JRCoE Representative to the Provost’s Advisory Committee on Women’s Issues
2021 – Present	Faculty Advisor, Women’s Health Advocacy – Student Organization and Nonprofit

Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS) Department

2025 – 2028	Member, JRCoE Elections Committee
2023 – Present	Program Area Coordinator, Educational Studies
2023 – 2025	Member, JRCoE Research and Travel Committee
2022 – 2023	Chair, Educational Studies Faculty Search Committee (two tenure track lines, assistant or associate)
2022 – 2023	Member, Online EdD Working Group for Educational Administration Curriculum & Supervision (EACS)
2022 – 2023	ELPS Departmental Library Representative
Ongoing	Educational Administration Curriculum & Supervision (EACS) Comprehensive Exam Committee (Spring 2023, Fall 2023)
Summer 2022	Member, Faculty Search Committee, Educational Administration, Curriculum, & Supervision (EACS) (one tenure-track line, assistant or associate professor)
2021-22	Member, Conference Organizing Committee for <i>Love and Care Lecture Series</i>

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS, NATIONALLY

American Educational Research Association (AERA)
 American Educational Studies Association (AESA)
 Gender and Education Association (GEA)
 Council on Anthropology and Education (CAE) section of the American Anthropological Association (AAA)
 Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)