

Stephanie Bates, MPA

Project Coordinator

With a background in academia, the humanities, and public administration, Stephanie joined the Delta Population Health Institute in 2022 as Project Coordinator for the National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High-Risk and Underserved, Including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities. She previously worked as a freelance academic tutor, editor, and non-profit consultant and also taught collegiate-level Spanish for over 5 years at both the University of Oklahoma and Arkansas State University - Jonesboro. During her tenure as a graduate assistant and instructor, she presented at local, state-wide, and regional academic conferences in both English and Spanish on topics of women's and gender studies and foreign language pedagogy. In 2010, she co-published the article, "Performativity' del género de Leonor/Leonardo y la creación de "Gender Trouble" en Valor, agravio y mujer de Ana Caro" in the international peer-reviewed academic journal, *Anagnórisis*. As a Spanish instructor, she taught over 30 sections of elementary and intermediate Spanish courses, directed novice and advanced conversation tables, planned cultural enrichment events and film screenings, and managed language tutors in the departmental Multimedia Center.



More recently, as the library manager of Capitol Hill Library in the Hispanic district of south Oklahoma City, Stephanie managed a multilingual (English/Spanish/Tagalog/ASL) staff and was fortunate to set up the branch's first ever Citizenship Corner for those wishing to become U.S. citizens. As manager, she also partnered with a local literacy organization's newly formed English as a Second Language (ESL) book club for adult learners and helped to provide qualitative data for a successful grant proposal for the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) 2018 grant for the Capitol Hill district, coordinated by the City of Oklahoma City with the mission of improving neighborhoods holistically through investments in physical infrastructure and housing, expansion of citizen opportunities, and social and economic efforts to improve quality of life. Stephanie also wrote and was awarded a state council Oklahoma Humanities' "Let's Talk About It, Oklahoma" grant for a book series on ethnic women's voices, which marked their first ever bilingual English/Spanish program in the state of Oklahoma.

Stephanie has dual master's degrees from the University of Oklahoma in Spanish and in Public Administration as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and Political Science minor, also from OU. She has completed additional graduate coursework in Education and Human Relations and is currently a second-year doctoral student in Heritage Studies at Arkansas State University - Jonesboro. Her research focuses on politics, critical intersectionality, radical empathy, and heritage management through the lenses of racial, economic, social, and environmental justice.