University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH

Info About UH Mānoa

UH Mānoa is a land, sea, space, and sun grant research university of international standing with pioneering research and strengths in various areas. These include, but are not limited to: tropical agriculture, tropical medicine, oceanography, astronomy, linguistics, education, cancer, genetics, electrical engineering, volcanology, evolutionary biology, comparative philosophy, comparative religion, Hawaiian studies, Pacific Islands & Asian area studies, and Asian and Pacific region public health. The Mānoa valley serves as a backdrop for a unique and inviting campus. It includes an authentic Japanese tea house and garden located on the East-West Center grounds, a Korean Studies center that is a replica of a Korean king’s throne hall, and Ka Papa Lo‘i O Kānewai, a Hawaiian cultural research and outreach program centered on the cultivation of Hawaiian taro. UH Mānoa is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Why pursue an M.A. in English at UH Mānoa?

The Master of Arts in English helps students develop critical thinking skills with “real life” application. Students gain advanced skills in crafting written and oral arguments and in different methods to study texts and cultures. Students also build advanced interpretation skills which apply to a range of media. With advanced research and writing skills, a variety of career opportunities become available, such as professional writing/publishing, editing, and teaching at high school or college levels, to name a few. Graduates are also well prepared to pursue a doctoral program in English or other paths including law, social justice, and public humanities.

What distinguishes us from other graduate programs in English is our unique foci: Hawaiian, Asian/American, and Pacific Literatures in English; creative writing with culturally-diverse esthetics; life writing; place-based composition and Indigenous rhetorics. Graduate students are mentored by award-winning faculty scholars covering diverse interests. Our students develop critical, research, and creative projects that engage with ethical, cultural, esthetic, rhetorical, and political issues. Students learn to adopt responsible frameworks for critical reading and writing within the complexities of Hawai‘i and Oceanic contexts.

Works by Faculty

Faculty: Research Areas & Expertise

Faculty include many teaching-award recipients, award-winning fiction & non-fiction writers and poets as well as scholars with ACLS, Fulbright, Guggenheim, Mellon, and NEH fellowships. 
http://english.hawaii.edu/department/faculty-awards/
Distinctive areas of research and expertise: Asian American Literature, Creative Writing, Hawaiian and Pacific Literatures, Life Writing; Critical Race Studies and Empire in pre-1900 literatures in English, Indigenous and Minority Rhetorics, Queer Studies, Place-based Composition Studies, Translation Studies.
**ACADEMIC JOURNEY**

- **MA in English**: 33 credits; 21 months
- **Foundational courses**: 6 credits
- **Specialization & electives**: 24 credits; 21 for Creative Writers
- **Capstone Project**: 3 credits OR Creative Writing Thesis: 6 credits

**KNOWLEDGE/SKILL BUILDING**

- **Foundational knowledge and research**
- **Adopt responsible frameworks for work**
- **Tutoring and college-level teaching skills**
- **Work in the Writing Center, Mentoring Program, or assist in a large-enrollment classroom.**

**ININVOLVEMENT**

- **In the community**
- **On campus**
- **In conferences**

**CAREER PLANNING**

- **Professional materials**
- **Professional development**
- **Workshops (alumni, other professionals)**
- **Campus opportunities**
- **Other opportunities and experiences**

**ENGAGE FIRST YEAR, MATRICULATION INTO PROGRAM**

- Meet with graduate director for advising and attend orientations
- Complete 6 credits of foundations in 2 of the MA concentrations.
  - Meet with faculty advisers each semester.
  - Complete credits of specialization and elective courses.
  - Attend “Building your Options with an MA in English” workshop with alumni.
  - Apply to a PhD program and/or discuss your professional goals with adviser.
  - Write and present a capstone MA Project or a Creative Writing MA thesis.

**NAVIGATE MIDWAY THROUGH PROGRAM**

- Participate in departmental colloquium featuring first-year MAs
  - Participate in off-campus creative writing reading series (e.g., MIA).
  - Participate in department committees, such as policy, creative writing, composition & rhetoric.
  - Participate in the College’s Graduate Student Conference.
    - Present your work at national conferences.
    - Apply for travel awards, scholarships, and other awards.

**COMMUNICATE PREPARATION TO GRADUATE AND GO FORTH**

- Participate in a workshop to prepare a resume and write a conference abstract.
  - Discuss career opportunities with advisers and alumni.
  - Expand community and professional network via symposia, readings, and workshops with visiting writers.
    - Develop portfolio of critical papers, projects, professional experiences, and other accomplishments.
    - Update resume and solicit letters of recommendation.

**Links**

- **Program Website**: [http://english.hawaii.edu/graduate-program/the-ma-program/](http://english.hawaii.edu/graduate-program/the-ma-program/)
- **Contact Information for program**: enghi@hawaii.edu
- **Funding Opportunities**: [http://english.hawaii.edu/graduate-program/financial-aid/](http://english.hawaii.edu/graduate-program/financial-aid/)
- **Previous research by graduates**: [http://english.hawaii.edu/graduate-program/achievements/](http://english.hawaii.edu/graduate-program/achievements/)
- **Where graduates go after completing their degree**: [http://english.hawaii.edu/from-our-alumni/](http://english.hawaii.edu/from-our-alumni/)
- **Faculty webpages, CVs, or profiles**: [http://english.hawaii.edu/faculty-list/](http://english.hawaii.edu/faculty-list/)

**Career options with this degree:**

- Community College or High School Teacher
- Tutoring Center Administrator
- Grant Writer
- Editor in a publishing house
- Professional, Technical, Freelance Writer
- Public Relations or Communications Manager