DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ENGLISH

The Doctor of Philosophy in English at UH Mānoa aims to produce capable critics, scholars, and teachers who are widely read, trained in the methods of systematic scholarship, and competent to function professionally in a range of research and education institutional contexts. Doctoral candidates are given freedom to create an individualized program around their own interests and objectives.

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. All applicants to the program are automatically considered for Teaching Graduate Assistantships that include a full tuition waiver and stipend.

Why pursue a Ph.D. in English at UH Mānoa?

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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.

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

### Engage
- Meet with graduate director for advising and attend orientations; engage with your faculty mentor; initiate coursework.
- Meet with graduate director each semester; complete second language requirement, if applicable.
- Finish coursework requirements and prepare for area exams based on specialization interests.
- Complete written and oral area examinations. Then, select advisor and committee for your dissertation.
- Prepare scholarly essays and/or creative writing for publication.
- Finish and defend dissertation; enter the job market.

### Navigate
- Identify areas of research and specialization interest, and develop college-level teaching skills.
- In the community
  - Learn about the community and department by interacting with faculty.
  - As part of your professionalization, attend university lectures, readings, and departmental colloquia.
  - Get involved as a graduate representative on department or university committees (such as Policy, Creative Writing, Composition & Rhetoric, or Graduate Student Organization).
- On campus
  - Submit your work for peer-reviewed publication.
  - Present at UHM Graduate Student Conferences and at national/international conferences.
  - Apply for travel awards, scholarships, and other awards.
- In conferences
  - Discuss career objectives with graduate director and your mentor.
  - Expand community and professional network via symposia, readings, and workshops with visiting professors and writers.
  - Regularly update your curriculum vitae and develop portfolio (critical papers, creative projects, and other accomplishments).
  - Participate in job market workshops and plan for letters of recommendation.

### Communicate
- Prepare for and present scholarly and creative work to faculty, students, and other professionals.
- Teach college-level courses.
- College Professor
- Educational Consultant/Higher Education Administrator
- Editor in Academic/Non-Academic Publishing
- Secondary School Faculty
- Public Relations Manager
- Public Humanities Professional

## Involvement

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

## Knowledge/Skill Building

- **Identify areas of research and specialization interest, and develop college-level teaching skills.**
  - Fulfill required coursework in the Hawaii/Asia/Pacific focus.
  - Demonstrate written and oral ability to place creative and scholarly work within broader artistic and critical conversations.
  - Engage in responsible and ethically conducted research from our cultural location in Hawai’i and the Pacific.
- **Specialized knowledge and research development**
- **Adopt responsible frameworks for work**
- **College-level teaching skills**

## Career Planning

- **Discuss career objectives with graduate director and your mentor.**
  - Expand community and professional network via symposia, readings, and workshops with visiting professors and writers.
  - Regularly update your curriculum vitae and develop portfolio (critical papers, creative projects, and other accomplishments).
  - Continue fine-tuning career objectives with the graduate director and other faculty.
  - Participate in job market workshops and plan for letters of recommendation.

## Links

- **Program Website:** [http://english.hawaii.edu/graduate-program/the-phd-program/](http://english.hawaii.edu/graduate-program/the-phd-program/)
- **Contact Information for program:** [enghi@hawaii.edu](mailto:enghi@hawaii.edu)
- **Funding Opportunities:** [http://english.hawaii.edu/graduate-program/financial-aid/](http://english.hawaii.edu/graduate-program/financial-aid/)
- **Recent 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:**
  - College Professor
  - Educational Consultant/Higher Education Administrator
  - Editor in Academic/Non-Academic Publishing
  - Secondary School Faculty
  - Public Relations Manager
  - Public Humanities Professional