The School of Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific Studies (SHAFS) was established on July 24, 1987 as an organizational unit to coordinate and focus the resources available on various aspects of Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific studies in an integrated program of research and scholarship to provide broad and substantive academic support of instructional programs, and for faculty and library resource development. The University of Hawaii Board of Regents on May 16, 2007 renamed SHAFS as the School of Pacific and Asian Studies (SPAS) effective July 1, 2007 with the creation of the Hawai‘i‘inakea School of Hawaiian Knowledge. The SPAS is expected to generate the visibility and status necessary to enhance the contributions and advance the reputation of the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa as a leading center in Pacific and Asian studies, and to attract extramural funding in support of that leadership. The major objectives of the School are:

1. Support faculty and student development, instruction, research and publications in international studies, particularly regarding the Pacific and Asia;

2. Provide a linking and coordinative function to maximize the use and development of the University’s Pacific and Asian resources within and across disciplines and departments;

3. Provide international visibility for, and publicize the University’s activities, resources and commitment in Pacific and Asian studies to a spectrum of appropriate audiences, including colleagues, interested students and potential funding sources throughout the world.

4. Serve the educational and cultural interests of Hawai‘i by helping to foster a deeper understanding of Pacific and Asian societies and peoples.

The major functions of the units of the School are:

A. Office of the Dean (Chart II)
   Provides executive/managerial direction and support to the primary programs of instruction, research, and community service.

   Plans, organizes and administers
   1. Program curricula and course development
   2. Program evaluation
   3. Staff recruitment and development
   4. Research and development activities
   5. Outreach instructional and community service programs
   6. Budget development, allocation, and administration
   7. Accounting for resources
   8. Procurement and property management
   9. Personnel services
   10. Other logistical support services
   11. Student academic services

B. Centers and Programs (Charts III through X)
   Centers and Programs provide instruction, research, and community service relevant to their focus.

   1. Academic programs offered are:
      MA in Pacific Islands Studies
      Certificate in Pacific Islands Studies
      BA in Asian Studies
      MA in Asian Studies

   2. Research is encouraged through development of faculty research skills.

   3. Community service is provided in outreach activities, including workshops, materials development, and community presentations.

B. Committee for the Preservation of Hawaiian Language, Art and Culture (Chart XI)

   This Committee, created by the State Legislature, serves as an advisory body to determine the worth and value of programs and projects dealing with the preservation and study of Hawaiian language, art and culture.