

STATE OF HAWAI'I  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA  
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST  
COLLEGES OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
**COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES**

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

**OFFICE OF THE DEAN – Org Code: MADNAH**

The Office of the Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities directs and coordinates the activities, curricular, personnel and budget affairs of the College and its ancillary support components including budget management, program management, staff supervision, community relations, grievance and litigation, and travel.

The role of the college is to implement the mission statement of the university, which is:

- to provide all qualified people in Hawai'i an equal opportunity for high quality university education
- to create knowledge and gain insights through research and scholarship
- to preserve and contribute to the artistic and cultural heritage of the community
- to provide other public service through the dissemination of current and new ideas and techniques.

The college serves two broad constituencies: (1) students seeking general education subjects within and beyond the arts and sciences "Core" and (2) undergraduate and graduate majors within our departments and in the Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies programs.

In concert with the role the college plays in implementing and enhancing state and university plans and in helping departments, faculty, staff, and students reach their goals, our mission is:

- to support the university's special interest in Asia and the Pacific
- to reaffirm the centrality of the arts and humanities in higher education
- to help students adapt to rapid cultural and technological change
- to reassert the value of personal involvement in and responsibility to society
- to prepare students for meaningful positions in the economy of Hawai'i, the nation, and the Pacific.

Because of the university's geographical position, the college and its departments are unusually conscious of the importance of the Pacific Basin nations and Asia, and many course offerings in proportion of the teaching and research in these areas has been done by faculty and students in our college. The college maintains a close relationship with the School of Pacific and Asian Studies (SPAS), because so many of our faculty are involved in SPAS activities.

**DEPARTMENTS – Org Code: MADPAH**

The College of Arts and Humanities consists of the following instructional departments:

American Studies – Org Code: MAAMST  
Art and Art History – Org Code: MAARTH  
History – Org Code: MAHIST  
Music – Org Code: MAMUS  
Philosophy – Org Code: MAPHIL  
Religion – Org Code: MAREL  
Communicology – Org Code: MASP  
Theatre and Dance – Org Code: MATD  
Academy for Creative Media – Org Code: MAACM

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – Org Code: MAASAH**

The unit provides fiscal, personnel, and administrative support to departments under the College of Arts and Humanities.

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**DEPARTMENT OF AMERICAN STUDIES**

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

**DEPARTMENT OF AMERICAN STUDIES – Org Code: MAAMST**

Provide students with a strong foundation in critical thinking, independent research, and quality writing through an interdisciplinary analysis of American society, history, culture, and politics. With its unique emphasis on politics, race relations, cultural studies, and U.S. engagement with the larger Asia-Pacific region, UHM's American Studies Department encourages students to examine the dynamic and diverse cultures of the United States in a global context. Major Academic Areas: American art, architecture, history, literature, religion, gender, race, cultural studies, performance studies, global studies, historic preservation, and museum studies.

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**DEPARTMENT OF ART AND ART HISTORY**

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

**DEPARTMENT OF ART AND ART HISTORY – Org Code: MAARTH**

The department is a comprehensive and diverse center for the study of visual art and art history, and the only master's degree granting program in the visual arts in the region. Comprised of nine distinct but interrelated media programs as well as an art history program that specializes in the art of Asia and Hawai'i/Pacific, the department combines seasoned faculty expertise with state-of-the-art facilities. Major Academic Areas: art history, ceramics, drawing/painting, electronic art, fiber, glass, graphic design, photography, printmaking, and sculpture.

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**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY – Org Code: MAHIST**

History traverses many cultures and eras, and offers fascinating insights into the past. The Department of History at the University of Hawai'i helps students to develop skills in evaluating evidence, organizing information, clarifying concepts, and writing narratives. The faculty are active researchers in the fields of Asian, Pacific, Hawaiian, American, European and World history. Major Academic Areas: Asian, Pacific, Hawaiian, American, European and World history.

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**DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

**DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC – Org Code: MAMUS**

A fully accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) featuring a faculty consisting of acclaimed performers, respected and noted composers, scholarly historians, innovative educators and a world-class ethnomusicology program. The department offers a blend of academic and practical instruction in Western music traditions and in the music of the Pacific region. Students are supported through a varied array of beginning to advanced non-Western ensembles as well as high quality Western music performance groups. Major Academic Areas: composition, piano, voice, instrumental, ethnomusicology, music education and musicology.

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**DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

**DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY – Org Code: MAPHIL**

Since its founding in 1936, the mission of the Department of Philosophy has been to sustain programs that foster East-West comparative philosophy while offering a solid foundation in Western philosophy. We endeavor to teach, to consolidate and to extend, not only Western approaches to philosophy, but also the work of Asian philosophers and, finally, approaches to philosophical issues that draw upon the diversity and the intermingling of traditions. Major Academic Areas: Western philosophy, Asian philosophy (Chinese, Japanese, Indian, South Asian Buddhist, Islamic), comparative philosophy, ethical theory, epistemology and philosophy of science, aesthetics, metaphysics, the history of philosophy, logic & reasoning, social & political philosophy, philosophy of law, and practical ethics.

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**DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION**

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

**DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION – Org Code: MAREL**

The department provides students the opportunity to learn about the histories, beliefs, discourses, and practices of the world's religions. The multi-cultural and multi-religious ethos of Hawaii allows students ready access to a diverse spectrum of the religious traditions that exist and are practiced here. At the undergraduate level, students are encouraged to gain a basic understanding of the concept of religion and to explore a broad spectrum of the world's religions. The graduate program focuses primarily on the religions of Asia and the Pacific and is designed to prepare students for study at the doctorate level as well as teaching of religion. Major Academic Areas: Multi-disciplinary studies of religions in Asia and the Pacific: comparative religion, history of religion, theory and philosophy of religion, textual studies of religion, ritual studies, visual religion, regional studies of religion (India, China, Japan, and Polynesia).

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICOLOGY**

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICOLOGY – Org Code: MASP**

The Communicology program focuses on research and education in communication processes and functions, strengthened and enriched by the cultural diversity of Hawai'i. Our students obtain a liberal education of considerable breadth and depth in regard to communication theory and research, and are afforded ample opportunity to develop their communicative knowledge and skills by applying theory in diverse settings. Major Academic Areas: human message processing, relational communication, social influence, and intercultural communication.



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**DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE**

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

**DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE – Org Code: MATD**

The Department of Theatre and Dance offers a wider range of cultural performances and artistic studies than any other university in the world. The performing arts are a mirror with which to reflect society; we train our students to gain insight and compassion through the study of a wide array of cultural offers, with Asian, Western and Hawaiian performance sharing our classrooms and stages. Especially important are those connections between classroom and stage, between studying forms of theatre and dance and then experiencing those forms in performance; we facilitate in-depth connections throughout the world as performers, educators, administrators and researchers.

Major Academic Areas: Theatre—Asian, Hawaiian and Western (Acting, Directing, History, Theory), Playwriting, Design, TYA (Theatre for Young Audiences), Performance Studies.

Dance—history, anatomy, notation, movement analysis, and pedagogy; performance of modern, ballet and Asian and Pacific dance forms; choreography; dance education; culture and performance studies.

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**ACADEMY FOR CREATIVE MEDIA**

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT

**ACADEMY FOR CREATIVE MEDIA – Org Code: MAACM**

The academy emphasizes narrative, or story-telling, theories, skills and application across multiple platforms of digital media and within a context of cultural and aesthetic values. More than just a “film school,” ACM seeks to empower students to tell their own stories of Hawaii, the Pacific and Asia rather than have those stories told for them through a different cultural lens that is distant and often distorted. Major Academic Areas: digital cinema, animation, and critical studies.