

Nakota DiFonzo

ndifonzo@hawaii.edu

Education:

Ph.D. Program:

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA
Department of History

Honolulu, HI
August 2023- Present

M.A. Program:

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
Department of Asian Studies

Eugene, OR
Sept. 2017- June 2020

B.A. Program:

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
Department of History

Eugene, OR
Sept. 2014- Sept. 2017

Foreign Language Training:

TAMKANG UNIVERSITY
Chinese Language Center

New Taipei City, Taiwan
June 2024- Aug. 2024

XIAMEN UNIVERSITY
Department of Overseas Education

Online
Oct. 2020- Jan. 2021

XIAMEN UNIVERSITY
Department of Overseas Education

Xiamen, China
Sept. 2018- June 2019

NATIONAL CHENG KUNG UNIVERSITY
Chinese Language Center

Tainan, Taiwan
June 2018- Aug. 2018

Research:

- In progress: “Classroom Colonialism: Messy Modernity in Shanghai’s American Universities.” (Ph.D. dissertation, advised by Dr. Shana Brown)
- “The Evolving Fashion of Taiwan from 1949-1987: Expression, Consumption, and Futurity.” (M.A. thesis, advised by Dr. Daniel Buck)

Academic Presentation and Conferences:

- Asian Studies Graduate Research Event [hosted by the University of Oregon, online]: *The Evolving Fashion of Taiwan from 1949-1987: Expression, Consumption, and Futurity* (May, 2021)
- North American Taiwan Studies Association (NATSA) Conference [hosted by the University of California in Irvine, online]: *The Evolving Fashion of Taiwan from 1949-1987: Expression, Consumption, and Futurity*. (May, 2021)

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Scholarships and Awards:

Critical Language Scholarship	June 2024- Aug. 2024
Chinese Government Scholarship	Sept. 2020- June 2021
Chinese Government Scholarship	Sept. 2018- June 2019
Taiwan United States Alliance Global Ambassador Scholarship	June 2018- Aug. 2018
Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS)	Sept. 2017- June 2018

Notable Teaching Experience:

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII History Teaching Assistant	Honolulu, HI August 2023- Present
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- General responsibilities include grading assignments and holding office hours.
- Spring 2024 assignment: World History before 1500 (lower division), a survey course on notable civilizations, their histories, and common themes that define them.
- Fall 2023 assignment: World History before 1500 (lower division).

WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY Adjunct Professor	Online Aug. 2022- Present
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- General responsibilities include lesson-planning, lecturing, and grading assignments.
- Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 assignment: History of The Atlantic World (lower division), a survey course which demonstrates that the Atlantic Ocean facilitated a space of exchange between Europe, Africa, and the Americas, and had a significant influence on shaping the politics, economics, and cultures of the peoples who inhabited those places.
- Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 assignment: Gender in World History (lower division), a survey course which examines notable world civilizations from a gendered perspective.

BURBANK SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL World History Instructor	Burbank, CA June 2022- July 2022
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- General responsibilities include preparing lessons, lecturing, and grading assignments.
- Students are assisted in recovering the credit from the world history course that they failed in the previous school year.
- This class is a six-week, custom-designed course in which students engage with the history of one notable civilization each week. The civilizations discussed are: the Aztec Empire, the Mali Empire, the Ottoman Empire, China, Japan, and the United States.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON Religious Studies Teaching Assistant	Eugene, OR Sept. 2019- June 2020
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- General responsibilities include grading assignments and holding office hours.
- Fall 2019 assignment: Religious Studies 101: World Religions: Asian Traditions (lower division), a survey course on religions in South Asia, Southeast Asia, and East Asia.
- Winter 2020 assignment: Religious Studies 359: Religion After Atheism (upper division), a course on Western and Eastern religion's reaction to modern atheism.
- Spring 2020 assignment: Religious Studies 102: World Religions: Near East Traditions (lower division), a survey course on Christianity, Judaism, Islam.

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THE AMERICAN ENGLISH INSTITUTE
Tutor/ Coordinator/ Mentor

Eugene, OR
Sept. 2014- June 2017

- Aid foreign students in one-on-one English tutoring.
- Assist classroom instructors in teaching the English curriculum to students.
- Coordinate off-campus activities for students to experience American culture.

Notable Responsibilities

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION
History Department Representative

Honolulu, HI
Oct. 2023- Present

- Advocate for History department graduate students who submit funding applications to the Graduate Student Organization at the monthly meeting.

Extracurricular Projects:

THE "WHAT IS ASIA?" PODCAST
Podcast Host

Online
Jan. 2021- Present

- In a one-on-one interview format, I interview scholars and experts of Asia on their fields of specialty, and aim to make conversations in Asian Studies more accessible to general audiences.
- The podcast is available on nakotadifonzo.com and youtube.com.

Language Skills:

Chinese (HSK 5)

Japanese

French

Speaking: Advanced
Listening: Advanced
Reading: Advanced
Writing: Advanced
Literary Chinese: Proficient

Speaking: Beginner
Listening: Beginner
Reading: Beginner
Writing: Beginner

Speaking: Beginner
Listening: Beginner
Reading: Beginner
Writing: Beginner

References:

- Shana Brown, advisor, associate professor of History: shanab@hawaii.edu; 808-956-7151
- Wensheng Wang, associate professor of History: wensheng@hawaii.edu; 808-956-4233
- Daniel Buck, M.A. advisor: danielb@uoregon.edu; 541-346-2353
- Tuong Vu, Department of Asian Studies director: thvu@uoregon.edu; 541-346-6963
- Bryna Goodman, Thesis committee member: bgoodman@uoregon.edu; 541-346-4825