

Low Residency Composition and Applied Linguistics (CAL) PhD Program begins in Summer 2021



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Paulo Freire's (1998)
*Pedagogy of Freedom:
Ethics, Democracy, and
Civic Courage:*

What is to be thought and hoped of me as a teacher if I am not steeped in that other type of knowing that requires that I be open to caring for the well-being of my students and of the educative experience in which I participate? This openness to caring for the well-being of the students does not mean of course, that, as a teacher, I am obliged to care for all my students in the same way. What it does mean is that I am not afraid of my feelings and that I know how to express myself effectively in an appropriate and affirming way (p. 124-125).

Program Mission

Indiana University of Pennsylvania's doctoral program in Composition and Applied Linguistics (CAL) is one of the few programs in the world designed to provide students with a comprehensive, interdisciplinary, and research-based understanding of first and second language literacy and writing instruction.

With accomplished, international faculty in the fields of Composition, TESOL, Rhetoric, Digital Humanities, Writing Centers, Writing Program Administration, and Applied Linguistics, our program offers the unique experience of working across disciplinary lines and integrating research on language, literacy, culture, and writing.

Our curriculum is built on the concept of the teacher-scholar that aligns with the expertise of Drs. Dana Driscoll, Cristina Sanchez-Martin, Matthew Vetter, David Hanauer, Gian Pagnucci, Curt Porter, and Gloria Park. We help doctoral students conduct innovative research and we promote teaching practices that are informed by research. Our students become accomplished teacher-scholars known for their enthusiasm, research, teaching, and publications. They enjoy careers as faculty members, literacy researchers, writing program directors, academic administrators, and expert consultants.

Faculty Expertise

Dana Driscoll, PhD is a world-renowned teacher scholar in the areas of writing centers, writing transfer, writing program administration, long-term writing development, learning theory, and composition theory. She has authored over 40 journal articles and book chapters with students and alumni around the globe. She is the director of the Jones White Writing Center, an endowed Writing Center serving the entire population at IUP. Dr. Driscoll has designed and implemented several critical courses in our PhD program: ENGL 867: Research on Writing Centers and WPA, ENGL 835: Research Design and Craft of Writing, ENG 880: Writing for Publication, and ENGL 846: Learning Transfer and Writing Development, just to name a few.

Matthew Vetter, PhD is a digital composition and rhetoric specialist. He is our resident Professionalization and Placement Coordinator for our MA and PhD level students who are on the academic and alternate to academic career job market. This is a critical component to our curriculum in preparing students for the realities of the current job market. Dr. Vetter is a mid-career teacher scholar whose work appears in critical journals in the field. He has designed and implemented ENGL 830: Research in College Composition Teaching, ENGL 831: Rhetorical Traditions, and ENGL 846: Digital Rhetoric, just to name a few. He is also the founder of IUP's annual Interdisciplinary Art+Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-thon, which began in 2016.

Cristina Sanchez-Martin, PhD is a transnational teacher scholar specializing in raciolinguistics and transnational and global literacies in second language/multilingual writing teacher education. She is an emerging scholar and joined our program in August 2018 as our transnational literacy specialist. Since then, she has designed and implemented courses such as ENGL 805: Language and Social Context (Raciolinguistics and Antiracism in Applied Linguistics) and ENGL 851: Writing in Transnational Contexts. She is one of our resident online pedagogy specialists.



Program Highlights



- 36 credits of coursework & 12 credits of dissertation research
- Four-Week On-Campus Residency in July—Take Two Courses
- Take one-two courses per Fall and Spring
- ENGL 900: Dissertation Writing designed to complete the first three chapters
- ENGL 870: Professionalization & Placement Practicum
- Eight-hour Graduate Assistantship for those taking six credits per Fall and Spring

For More Information

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