

PhD in English with Concentration in Rhetoric, Composition, and Pedagogy (RCP)

[RCP Web Page](#)

[UH English Dept.](#)

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Situated within the most ethnically diverse city in the United States at a thriving university known for its heterogeneous populations, the RCP concentration prepares critical scholars and educators at the cutting edge of Rhetoric and Composition. With wide-ranging areas of expertise, faculty work with doctoral students to explore emerging theories and put teaching and scholarship into conversation. RCP students work in a collaborative and supportive environment to see how writing makes meaning for individuals, communities, and professional networks.

Who Are Our Graduate Students?

- Doctoral students in the RCP concentration excel through teaching, research, and service.
- Current RCP students present at conferences such as the CCCC, one student having recently received a CCCC Gloria Anzaldúa Rhetorician Award.
- Students with TAships teach First Year Writing I and II and have opportunities to teach other undergraduate English courses.
- RCP students or recent alumni have published in journals such as *Composition Forum*, *The Journal of Teaching Writing*, *Teaching English in the Two-Year College*, *CCTE Studies*, and *Open Words: Access and English Studies*.
- RCP alumni hold full-time positions at postsecondary institutions including Montana State University, the University of California – San Diego, Chaffey College (CA), Murray State University (KY), and the University of Georgia. Many others work at postsecondary institutions in Texas, in or beyond Greater Houston, while some choose to teach in public or private secondary schools.

Why Study Rhetoric and Composition at UH?

- ✓ **Student Population:** UH has one of the nation's most ethnically diverse student populations among public research universities. Our students bring rich multilingual experiences and critical identity and cultural practices.
- ✓ **Cohort Size:** Each year, we admit approximately 1-4 new PhD students to the RCP concentration, ensuring that RCP students can interact meaningfully with rhetoric and composition and linguistics faculty.
- ✓ **Job Placement:** RCP alumni who did a national job search secured full-time positions at postsecondary institutions, aided by job preparation meetings and mock interviews.
- ✓ **Diversity of Interests:** Dissertation topics have included reflective journaling, teaching for transfer, restorative justice in composition, literacy practices of Korean-speakers during a natural disaster, rhetorics of African American tap dancers, the writing of Latino/a/x community college students, and trends in Rhetoric and Composition's national job market.
- ✓ **Faculty Expertise:** Students are supported by faculty with expertise in a range of subfields and who publish regularly. In addition, faculty assist graduate students in publishing their writing and in applying to present at academic conferences.