

TEL Hawaii

The **Theological Education for Leadership** (TEL) program was established 38 years ago at Pacific School of Religion (PSR), Berkeley, CA, to offer clergy, lay leaders, and spiritual seekers from various racial/ethnic communities progressive, accessible Christian theological education through specialized courses and seminars. Today, TEL continues to make available a seminary quality of instruction and instructors to community ministry-based audiences, like those found throughout the Hawai'i Conference of the United Church of Christ (HCUCC).

TEL courses and seminars are all designed with a multicultural and intersectional perspective and has served as a gateway to theological education for many, whether for personal spiritual formation, lay leadership training, professional growth, or continuing education. TEL fosters a strong and supportive community environment while enabling participation at a distance through online learning.

The TEL curriculum includes a variety of courses and seminars, which include introductions to topics such as Christian ethics, the care and administration of the church, Christian history, and the Old and New Testaments. Courses are scheduled for 4 Saturdays (usually consecutively) and meet for 3 hours. Seminars meet in one session for 3 hours. A TEL certificate requires 10 courses and 2 seminars.

PSR and the Hawai'i Conference of the United Church of Christ hold a long-standing partnership that has provided the TEL program the opportunity to offer practical theological education to leaders throughout the conference. HCUCC and local Hawai'i UCC associations support this educational effort by extending scholarships to assist with tuition. (See HCUCC or your local association for more details.)

You are invited to take a class or complete the certificate of theological education for leadership.

Turn this page over to see what other TEL Hawai'i students have to say about the program.

Blessings,

Rev. Tana Roseboro

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Hear From Our Students



Stanley Puaa - Current student

"Working with other TEL students has had a huge impact on me including helping improve my writing, understanding of scripture, and perspectives on marginalized communities. For me, 'students learning from students' has been the most valuable thing about TEL. We're like Ohana (a family), a combination of graduate students and adult learners like me, of all ages, backgrounds, and perspectives. Please don't misunderstand me, our professors, Dean, and faculty are amazing, but I've personally learned a lot through our group discussions, and from other points of view and understanding; it gives me an appreciation for other opinions."



Tiffany Marrotte – Graduate

"TEL made it possible for me to become the Youth Director at my church, Koloa Union Church. My pastor and I believed that TEL would be a good pathway for me to get my credentials to work with the youth. The Kauai Association offered a discounted percentage off each class and that made paying for classes affordable. TEL is a great experience, even if you just take one class at a time. It gives you a different sense or way of looking at many things throughout your life."



Linda Kaauwai-Iwamoto - Graduate

"I am so happy and so thankful for TEL to have opened to the Hawaii conference. CTEL has enabled me to live out a childhood dream, to deliver a sermon from the same pulpit as my grandfather. I also was accepted at Pacific School of Religion as an MDiv student. I am so excited because I can see the future of being ordained one day."

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