



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAI'I®

MĀNOA

Graduate Assistantship Opportunity in Soil Physics and Water Management

Overview

The **Soil Physics Lab** at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa is recruiting Master's and PhD students to join the lab starting **Fall 2025**.

Our program emphasizes:

- Soil physical and hydrological properties in tropical and subtropical environments,
- Soil biophysical regulation at the intersection of soil-plant-microbe systems, and
- Data-model integration for high-efficiency soil water management.

We connect fundamental research with practical applications, advancing sustainable water and soil management in these unique ecosystems. Interested applicants are encouraged to contact the PI to discuss research interests.

Job Description

Position: Graduate Assistantship (GA)

Appointment: 0.5 FTE, 11-month

The GA will assist in research addressing the quantification, characterization, and modeling of soil biophysical and hydrological processes in tropical and subtropical soil-plant-microbe systems. The GA is expected to develop original research related to the lab's focus areas, record and analyze field and laboratory data, and summarize results for presentations, reports, and peer-reviewed publications.

Minimum Qualifications

Candidates should demonstrate strong written and oral communication skills in English, have experience conducting field and laboratory work independently, and possess proficiency in data management and statistical analysis. Applicants must be accepted into the Graduate Division at the University of Hawai'i in a relevant field (e.g., Soil Science or Environmental Management).

Desirable Qualifications

Potential candidates who are highly motivated and meet the following criteria are encouraged to apply: (1) demonstrated coursework or experience in soil sciences, ecology, earth and environmental sciences, engineering, or related disciplines; (2) proficiency in data analysis and modeling of soil and environmental processes; and (3) experience in designing and implementing novel laboratory and field experimental methods.

Compensation

The position offers **Step 13, 11-month, 0.5 FTE** compensation, paid bi-monthly over 12 months. Funding is renewed annually, contingent upon satisfactory performance, academic progress, and fund availability.

Application Details

- **Deadline for Application:** February 1, 2025
- **Start Date:** August 1, 2025 or later, pending required paperwork.
- **Required Materials:**
 1. Letter of application,
 2. Curriculum vitae,
 3. Three letters of recommendation (if not already on file),
 4. Proof of acceptance or ongoing application to the UHM Graduate Division.

Apply to:

Dr. Jing Yan

Email: yanjing@hawaii.edu

Further Information

Soil Physics Lab: tjyanjing.github.io/yanlab

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa: www.manoa.hawaii.edu

Graduate Division: manoa.hawaii.edu/graduate

Department of Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences: manoa.hawaii.edu/tpss