

# Willa Walter

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## SUMMARY

Early career elementary educator with supervised experience creating challenging, inclusive learning experiences for advanced learners in **grades 3 through 6**. Holds a Bachelor of Education in Elementary Education from University of Hawaii at Manoa and a valid **Hawaii teaching license** earned in 2026. Classroom practicum, curriculum projects, and capstone work developed skill in differentiated instruction, inquiry based learning, enrichment, formative assessment, flexible grouping, and age appropriate digital research. Designs lessons that deepen analysis, creativity, communication, and **student independence** without relying on accelerated pacing alone. Uses observation notes, student work, rubrics, and family facing communication to refine instruction. Collaborative work with mentor teachers and faculty reviewers supports thoughtful planning, reflection, and professional growth in a half time elementary **gifted and talented** assignment.

## EDUCATION

### Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education

2026

University of Hawaii at Manoa   GPA: 4.0

Honolulu, HI

**Coursework:** Gifted education, differentiated instruction, formative assessment, elementary curriculum design

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Gifted Education:** Advanced learners, enrichment, depth and complexity
- **Elementary Instruction:** Grades 3 to 6, lesson design, learning experiences
- **Differentiated Instruction:** Task complexity, scaffolding, student choice
- **Assessment Methods:** Pre assessment, formative checks, rubrics
- **Curriculum Design:** Interdisciplinary units, curriculum adaptation, learning goals
- **Inquiry Learning:** Authentic problems, higher order questions, research
- **Grouping Methods:** Flexible grouping, small groups, mixed readiness
- **Classroom Practice:** Classroom management, transitions, academic discussion
- **Digital Learning:** Digital research, presentation tools, source evaluation
- **Communication Tools:** Family communication, student reflection, faculty presentation
- **Licensing Standards:** Hawaii teaching license, Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, Emergency Hire Permit
- **Professional Learning:** Teacher Education Program, instructional reflection, mentor feedback

## SKILLS

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|---------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Gifted and Talented Education | • Enrichment           | • Lesson Planning          | • Student Assessment    |
| • Grades 3 to 6 Instruction     | • Curriculum Design    | • Classroom Management     | • Curriculum Adaptation |
| • Differentiated Instruction    | • Formative Assessment | • Family Communication     | • Elementary Education  |
| • Inquiry Based Learning        | • Flexible Grouping    | • Instructional Technology |                         |

## EXPERIENCE

### Gifted and Talented Curriculum Project

January 2026 - May 2026

University Project

Honolulu, HI

Created and presented a supervised interdisciplinary enrichment curriculum for **grades 3 through 6**, connecting advanced learning goals with assessment, inquiry, digital research, and independent student products.

- Designed interdisciplinary **enrichment** units around authentic problems and multiple research pathways.
- Created formative checks that guided task complexity, grouping, and extension choices.
- Developed **inquiry** prompts and choice based products supporting **creativity** and evidence use.
- Tested lessons with peer learners, then revised directions using rubric feedback.
- Integrated **digital research** tools with source evaluation and responsible use expectations.
- Presented curriculum alignment and **assessment** decisions to faculty reviewers.

### Gifted Education Instructional Lab Practicum

September 2025 - December 2025

Student Lab

Honolulu, HI

Facilitated supervised elementary learning sessions for **advanced learners**, applying **differentiated instruction**, structured discussion, flexible grouping, classroom routines, and reflective planning under mentor guidance.

- Facilitated small group lessons using advanced texts and open ended tasks.
- Adapted activities through conceptual complexity and **student choice**, not added workload.
- Recorded observation notes and student work evidence after each **instructional** session.

- Planned follow up questions and enrichment from response patterns and mentor feedback.
- Practiced transitions, respectful discussion, independence, and productive material use.
- Prepared family facing examples that explained enrichment goals and learning evidence.

**Elementary Gifted Learning Capstone**

January 2025 - May 2025

Capstone Project

*Honolulu, HI*

Completed a faculty supervised study of advanced learning in mixed readiness classrooms, translating instructional research into sample sequences, assessment tools, and teaching demonstrations for **elementary** settings.

- Investigated differentiation approaches for **advanced learners** in mixed readiness classrooms.
- Organized literature findings around inquiry, **flexible grouping**, and student autonomy.
- Built **grades 3 through 6** sequences linking core goals with enrichment tasks.
- Developed rubrics measuring reasoning, communication, revision, and depth of understanding.
- Tested grouping decisions with simulated class profiles and documented **instructional** changes.
- Delivered a teaching demonstration and incorporated evaluator feedback into final materials.

**PROJECTS**

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**Interdisciplinary Enrichment Unit** 📅 2026

Created a grades 3 through 6 learning sequence centered on authentic problem solving, student choice, research, analysis, presentation, and reflective assessment.

**Advanced Learner Assessment Sequence** 📅 2025

Built formative checks, rubrics, reflection prompts, and flexible grouping decisions that helped connect evidence with meaningful enrichment choices.

**LEADERSHIP & AWARDS**

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- Dean's List, 2025 and 2026
- Elementary Education Capstone Distinction, 2026
- Future Educator Scholarship, 2025

**CERTIFICATIONS**

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- Hawaii Teaching License 📅 2026
- Gifted Education Foundations 📅 2026

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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- Elementary Education Student Association, Peer Mentor, 2025 to 2026
- Campus Literacy Outreach Volunteer, 2025 to 2026
- Student Curriculum Showcase Presenter, 2026

**LANGUAGES**

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- English (Native)
- Spanish (Beginner)

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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**Work Status** : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

**REFERENCES**

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AVAILABLE ON REQUEST