

National Taiwan University
Graduate Institute of Foreign Languages and Literatures
2018 Ph.D. Program Admissions Examination
Subject: English Literature (60%)

*Read the statement and answer the question below in a well-written and well-supported essay. Make sure you use specific examples from different periods to show your knowledge of and insight into English literature.

Statement:

English has continued its transformation into global English or English global. China, according to some surveys, now produces more English majors than the U.S. and U.K. combined, and there has been talk in Taiwan to make English one of its official languages. On the other hand, many scholars have pointed out that the purported global and transnational literary studies are invested with Anglo-centric concerns and assumptions.

Question:

If what “English” means has become increasingly variegated and contested, are scholars in Taiwan/Asia supposed to make sense of English literature on the basis of their cultural tradition and geographical context and engage English literary studies in ways different from those of the Anglo-American center? Will the worlding trend also lead to provincializing English literature?