Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) Certificate Program

UCI Division of Continuing Education’s TEFL Certificate Program will give you the qualifications and skills to teach in an international English language classroom and the opportunity to find the best teaching jobs abroad. This 11-week intensive program features University of California-approved curriculum taught by highly qualified teacher-trainers who have extensive experience living and teaching abroad. As part of a cohort program, you will experience an opportunity for personal growth and professional development as you learn side-by-side and get to know your colleagues—colleagues whom you can rely upon while you’re in the program, as well as call upon when you embark on your experience abroad.

By completing a TEFL Certificate program, those with limited or no teaching experience will gain the practical teaching skills and knowledge to lead an international English language classroom with confidence.

Teaching abroad will give you the opportunity to learn about different cultures, the chance to make money while traveling, and the reward of helping others learn English as a worldwide tool for business communication. Program grads also tell us how much they enjoy establishing great friendships with international people. The experience of teaching English abroad will also enhance your communication skills, self-confidence, and international knowledge. There is no better time to teach English abroad!

Why Teach English Abroad

Increase your professional abilities and earning potential and expand your world view.

• See the world – travel to the sights and places you’ve always dreamed of
• Immerse yourself in a new culture
• Build your resume through international experience
• Find many job opportunities and begin a rewarding career path in teaching English as a foreign language
• Make lifelong friendships and contacts
• Make a difference by helping others

“I gained the skills and confidence I needed to secure the job I have now and succeed in my teaching career at an English conversation school in Japan. I thoroughly enjoy my work, love the life I have here in Japan, and will always be grateful to the staff and experts in this program.”

Wesley Christenson, TEFL Certificate Program Graduate

The mission of the TEFL Certificate Program is to train and equip American teacher-trainees with practical teaching skills and cultural awareness to be able to successfully teach English abroad.

Accredited by CEA
Why Enroll in this Program

• Benefit from a UC-quality curriculum in an 11-Week program – over 180 hours of specialized training
• Taught by highly qualified teacher-trainers who have lived and taught abroad
• Study alongside international teachers who teach English in their home countries
• Receive access to ESL/EFL teachers for career and job counseling during and after program
• Includes a 20-hour course specifically designed to foster effective country and job research
• University of California certificate is recognized worldwide

Start Your International Experience Here

• Work together with international TEFL students
• Observe and gain insight from our highly trained English language teachers in ESL classroom settings
• Interact with international ESL students through social activities and tutoring opportunities

TEFL Program Information

• Offered quarterly in Spring, Summer and Fall for year-round convenience
• Visit ce.uci.edu/areas/education/tea for current dates
• Classes are held Monday-Friday, approximately 18 daytime hours per week

Where: UC Irvine campus
Fee: $5,500
Other Fees: Application, candidacy, student services: $250. Textbooks not included.
Optional: Housing accommodations available. Live in fully-furnished, 2-bedroom apartments with international students. What a great way to begin cultural exchange and kick-start your international experience!

Visit ip.ce.uci.edu/arrival-housing for more information

Entrance Requirements

• Completed application
• Official university transcript(s)

Program Services for Graduates

Job referral assistance:
• Individualized guidance
• Contacts within network of public and private institutions around the world seeking teachers of English as a foreign language
• Personal assistance throughout the process of finding a job

Post-program staff support:
• Continuous job counseling and referral assistance
• Lifelong network of teachers and advisors
• Academic assistance

Learn More

Attend free information sessions offered throughout the year. Check our website regularly for event dates and registration at extension.uci.edu/events.

Curriculum

Theories of Language Learning Survey
The Grammar of English
Methods of TEFL
Teaching Practice
Language Diagnostics and Assessment
Teaching the Skills
Teaching English Abroad
TEFL Workshop Seminar

“Who knew that my one-year plan to live abroad would turn into over 3 years! I am still in Munich and teaching kindergarten. This year I have also picked up some private tutoring that I do on the side. I have made so many great friends in Germany and have gotten to see so much of Europe. I am still ever so thankful to UC Irvine Extension for teaching and preparing me so well.”

Liz Donnelly,
TEFL Certificate Program Graduate
“Learning from experienced veteran teachers, as well as getting actual classroom experience, helped prepare me for my first time living abroad. The best part is that my experience at UCI TEFL never ends! Whenever I have a question or concern, the staff is more than willing to help me.”

Kiumars Vafai, 
TEFL Certificate Program Graduate

“The TEFL program prepared me to be a professional teacher, to make lessons fun, and always push myself to be better. Without it, I wouldn’t have had the opportunity to teach in Vietnam for two and a half years and to discover that I really love teaching. Now I know it is what I want to do with my life.”

Thuy-Vy “Cecilia” Tran, 
TEFL Certificate Program Graduate

Teaching English as a Foreign Language Certificate Program

Want to Go?

For more information, please contact:
Kaissel Bermudo
Program Coordinator
International Programs
kbermudo@uci.edu

UCI Division of Continuing Education
ce.uci.edu/areas/education/tea