

TEFL Student Testimonials

“The instructors were professional, resourceful, and helpful, and their hands-on courses were very beneficial for me to improve my teaching skills.” - Kumi Obayashi-Ward, Japan (taught English in ELI’s short-term program and is now working as the Japanese Studies Program Coordinator on UC San Diego’s main campus)

“After I finished the TEFL program, I started an ESL teaching job right away. I was able to apply the methods and tools that I had learned at UCSD directly to my real life classroom.” - Lucy Moiseenko, USA (currently teaching at UC San Diego Extension’s ELI)

“I received funding to complete my certificate through the Workforce Partnership Act, which funded my entire certificate program while I was out of work. I was able to find work soon after I graduated. I have been at my current job for three years, teaching reading, writing, and grammar to international students. The TEFL certificate gave me training that I could apply starting the first day of class.” - Gwen Fish, USA (currently teaching at UC San Diego Extension’s ELI)

“Taking classes at the UCSD Extension has provided me with a personalized learning setting where I have been able to seek individual career mentoring from the TEFL program directors and staff. The staff is wonderful and a great resource. In addition to a helpful and knowledgeable staff, I have benefited a lot from taking language courses with international students. They have brought a new perspective to the classroom.” - Irene Trevino, USA (Special Education teacher in Spain)

“The program is well planned and very interesting not only for new teachers but also for more experienced teachers like me. It offers a variety of options, and it improves English in a classroom atmosphere.” – Kerstin Nobel, Germany (English Teacher in Germany)

“The teachers helped me a lot to understand how to teach English effectively and why TEFL is important for teachers and students.” – Shingo Matsui, Japan (English Teacher in Japan)

“The teachers were definitely my favorite part of my experience at UC San Diego Extension’s ELI. I was motivated by their commitment and passion for teaching.” – Bernardita Benavides, Chile (4th and 5th grade English teacher in Chile)

“Getting a professional certificate at UCSD has been by far, one of the most rewarding and meaningful experiences in my life. After graduating from the TEFL Certificate Program, I definitely feel more confident and prepared to teach in different contexts, whether it be in Chile or abroad.” – Juan Oyarzo Alvarado, Chile (elementary school teacher in Chile)

“Simply put, the UCSD TEFL Certificate Program is outstanding; the classes are rigorous, the teachers are dedicated, and the breadth and depth of the program are impressive.” – Christopher Fraser, USA (small business owner)