



Course Approval Request Form

Use this customized approval request form to print and share with your district or state teaching licensure authority when seeking approval for a Professional Development Institute course.

About PDI

The Professional Development Institute (PDI) has been offering quality online courses to K-12 educators for decades and providing training to teachers across the globe. Every PDI course is approved for graduate-level credit through the prestigious University of California San Diego (UCSD) Extension, ranked in the top ten universities in the United States.

UC San Diego is part of the University of California system and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC).

Every PDI course is instructor-led and includes practical strategies for immediate implementation into the classroom, opportunities to interact with the instructor and other participants, rich content, and valuable assignments. Every PDI course is approved as 3 1/3 semester units (or 5 quarter units) of graduate-level credit, equivalent to 50 training hours. Teachers must spend a minimum of three weeks in each course (consecutively, when taking multiple courses) before a final grade is released.

Teacher Information

Last Name:	First Name:	ID #:
School Name:	Address:	
Email Address:	Grade Level:	Daytime Phone:

Course Number and Title:

137T02/ EDUC42337 Reading Fluency: The Bridge between Phonics and Comprehension

I am taking this course:

_____ for 3 1/3 semester unit of graduate level credit. Upon completion, I will receive a transcript from UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies.

_____ as an in-service course. I may request a PDI Grade Report to document my completion.

**This course is approved as 50 training hours, whether taken for graduate credit or in-service.*

Course Description:

Have you ever listened to a student struggle to read out loud, often sound-by-sound? Perhaps you listened as another student read something beautifully, only to realize afterwards that he/she had absolutely no understanding of what was just read? All readers must be able to decode the words on the page, but to read fluently, they must also learn how to simultaneously comprehend those words as they are read. This online course provides K-5 teachers with a variety of strategies to help students build their fluency, as a way to “bridge” phonics and comprehension. The course begins by talking about the role that fluency plays in literacy and how it fits into the “Big Five” of foundational literacy skills. As they progress through the course, teachers are exposed to a variety of strategies to improve students’ fluency. The role of assessment as it relates to fluency is also explored in detail. Teachers will take a deep dive into the effects that phonics has on fluency as well as how fluency affects comprehension. Accuracy, automaticity, and prosody are explored in detail, and teachers will learn how various types of instruction (small group, whole group, and centers) can be used to increase students’ fluency skills. By the end of this course, teachers will feel more confident and successful in their quest to embed best fluency practices into their own teaching as they work to highlight fluency as a way to bridge the distance between phonics and comprehension.

Seeking approval for:

- _____ recertification/relicensure
- _____ personal and/or professional growth
- _____ district or state requirement

Signature

Date