



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 credit through the American College of Education and the prestigious University of California San Diego Division of Extended Studies.

American College of Education is approved by the Higher Learning Commission. UC San Diego is part of the University of California system and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

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. 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:

142T02 / ACE: LE5392 / UCSD: EDUC42445 / Building Empathy and Community in Middle and High School

I am taking this course:

- for 3 semester units of graduate-level, degree-eligible credit through American College of Education.
- for 3 1/3 semester units of post-baccalaureate credit through UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies.
- as an in-service course. I may request a PDI Grade Report to document my completion.

Course Description:

Are you looking for practical strategies to build and foster empathy and community within your middle or high school classroom and/or school? As a teacher, you likely already know that the two values of empathy and community feed into each other and often promote even stronger, more connected school systems. Yet, at the same time, you also know the challenges that many students, teachers, and administrators face when trying to implement these best practices. This online course is designed to provide teachers in grades 6-12 with the necessary tools to build and maintain an environment in which all participants feel respected, celebrated, and valued. Here, teachers will learn how to create a safe, empathetic space to meet the holistic needs of their diverse learners using best social-emotional learning practices, including such things as check-ins and restorative circles. Teachers will also learn how to help their students identify and regulate their emotions so that student choice, agency, and curiosity are cultivated and nourished in a safe classroom environment. Teachers will also learn how to institute common goals using a solid mission/vision statement so that empathetic connections can be promoted within and among school teams as well as the larger community. By the end of this course, teachers will feel more confident and successful in their quest to transform their classrooms and schools into an empathetic community filled with grace and compassion.

Seeking approval for:

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

Signature

Date