## 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 Division of Extended Studies, 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:

**161T02 / EDUC42609   Boosting Comprehension for Struggling Readers using Science of Reading**

I am taking this course:

_____ for 3 1/3 semester units 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:

Do you have struggling readers who are unsuccessful in their efforts to comprehend text they read? Do you want to understand how to harness the principles of the science of reading to help those students improve their comprehension skills? This online course takes a deep dive into a variety of best practices based on the science of reading to help teachers in grades 3-6 guide their students to greater comprehension. The course begins with an in-depth overview of the science of reading — what it is and how to effectively put the principles into practice in the classroom. Teachers will explore some of the common factors that often contribute to reading struggles, and they will learn how to best assess them using data-driven instructional practices. From there, teachers take a deep dive into evidence-based strategies to address many of these issues across all the "Big 5" components of reading — phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. Teachers will explore how text structure and organization affect how a reader analyzes and interprets texts. They will also learn how to incorporate the 5W1H framework and Question/Answer Relationships (QARs) into their own teaching practices so that students become metacognitive, reflective thinkers. Along the way, teachers will learn how to incorporate these brain-based strategies into their explicit and systematic teaching so that students' comprehension soars and they become successful, active, metacognitive, lifelong readers. By the end of this course, teachers will feel more confident in their quest to use best science of reading practices to help guide their struggling readers to greater comprehension.

Seeking approval for:

_____ recertification/relicensure

_____ personal and/or professional growth

_____ district or state requirement

_____          _____
Signature                                                          Date