



ACCELERATED CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

UCI Division of Continuing Education hosts a broad range of learners with diverse educational and professional backgrounds, including those with bachelors, masters, and doctorate degrees. Our post-graduate, professional-level certificate programs provide students with practical and relevant education that can be applied immediately on the job.

The Accelerated Certificate Programs (ACPs) are cohort-based certificate programs comprised of professional credit courses that balance theory and practice with an emphasis on real-world experience. The format of the ACPs is parallel to many graduate programs in the U.S. and can further strengthen your graduate school applications setting you apart from other applicants.

Our admission requirements include evidence of a university degree and/or substantial academic or professional experience. All certificate programs at UCI Division of Continuing Education require professional-level English language proficiency in listening and note-taking, reading comprehension and vocabulary, written expression, and oral presentation. Visit <https://ce.uci.edu/programs/international/acp/> for a list of accepted tests. The selection process is detailed and competitive as we strive to admit only the top applicants to our programs.

To earn a certificate, students must complete all required courses with a grade of “C” or better.

Brief Overview of ACP Learner Experience

Students enrolling in the University of California, Irvine (UCI) Division of Continuing Education accelerated certificate programs can expect a comprehensive and expedient educational experience designed to enhance their skills in a specialized area of study. These programs are structured for working professionals, international students, or individuals looking to quickly gain practical knowledge and credentials. Here is an overview of what students can expect.

Focused Curriculum

The accelerated certificate programs concentrate on industry-specific skills and knowledge. The curriculum is designed in collaboration with industry experts and academic advisors to ensure relevance and applicability to current market trends.

Experienced Instructors

Courses are typically taught by seasoned professionals with real-world experience. This allows students to learn from instructors who can provide practical insights and examples based on their professional backgrounds.



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Short Duration

A hallmark of the accelerated certificate programs is their condensed completion timeline, making them more intensive than traditional programs as students must work through their coursework and assignments more rapidly. Classes are typically scheduled for weekday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., or afternoons from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.; however, there may be exceptions with some courses convening outside these common time blocks. In addition to structured class time, students must also dedicate time to independent study, individual projects, and collaborative group work, including presentations. To enrich the learning experience, select courses feature guest speakers from various industries. Active participation and consistent attendance are essential requirements for all courses in these programs.

Networking Opportunities

Students will have the chance to meet and network with peers, faculty, and industry professionals. This networking can lead to potential job opportunities and collaborations.

Cultural Experience

DCE's accelerated certificate programs provide students with the opportunity to immerse themselves in diverse cultures through interaction with peers from across the globe.

Support Services

UCI provides a range of support services to help students succeed, such as academic advising, student wellness advising, & immigration advising for international students.

Access to UCI Resources

Participants in the accelerated certificate programs have access to many UCI resources including the UCI Libraries, Digital Photo ID, UCInetID, UCI's mobile network, Google Workspace, Microsoft 365, and Anteater Recreation Center. (Additional fees may apply for some services.)