



This is a graded discussion: 4 points possible

due -

Week 1 Discussion (1st post due by Wednesday)

66

This discussion runs from Monday to Sunday

Your 1st post is always due by Wednesday. You have the entire week to respond to classmates. A minimum of 3 posts are required for full credit EACH week.

It is always fascinating to find out what we have in common and what makes us unique. Please take a few minutes to introduce yourself to your instructor and classmates.

- What are your professional objectives?
- Why are you taking this course?
- Have you taken the introduction course yet?
- Do you have any questions?
- Can you recall a teacher that you had in middle or high school? (a successful teacher). What do you remember about that teacher that made them effective?

Please complete your first post of the introduction on the discussion board by Wednesday. You have the rest of the week (until Sunday) to respond to 2 classmates.



← Reply



[Colleen Laurent \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146916\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146916)

Jan 16, 2021



Hi all,

Really looking forward to this class!

- **What are your professional objectives?**

- To teach English abroad for a few years
- To obtain a Masters in TESOL
- To teach adult ESL
- **Why are you taking this course?**
 - A TESOL certificate is the first step in working toward my professional goals. I hope to learn more about the specific methods used in teaching ESL.
- **Have you taken the introduction course yet?**
 - Yes, in the Fall.
- **Do you have any questions?**
 - Not at the moment.
- **Can you recall a teacher that you had in middle or high school? (a successful teacher). What do you remember about that teacher that made them effective?**
 - When I think about my favorite teachers, their common traits were (1) genuine care for their students and (2) a desire to make education interesting and fun. Both of these traits made them successful and effective teachers because their students felt safe, engaged, and understood.

Edited by [Colleen Laurent \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146916\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146916) on Jan 16 at 10:09am

← [Reply](#)



[Lisa Bradbury \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146949\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146949)

Jan 16, 2021

Hi Colleen!

It's great to meet you again for another course. Are you taking Linguistics as well? I think you will really enjoy teaching ESL abroad. Absorbing new cultures and learning from your students, as much as they learn from you, is an absolute joy. There is nothing like it.

I have to concur that an effective teacher definitely has the traits of care/concern and enthusiasm. With those two aspects, students do feel safe to open up, and learning takes place a lot faster. It is always those teachers that make learning fun and interesting that tend to be the favorites. No one wants a boring teacher. Ugh!

← [Reply](#)



[WING SHA CHAN \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835)

Jan 17, 2021

Hi Colleen

I have the same thought too. An effective or successful teacher should keep students, particularly insecure ones, engaged and focused. Do you think this is an innate quality or teachers can be nurtured?

Isa

Edited by [WING SHA CHAN \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835) on Jan 17 at 8:14pm

← [Reply](#)



[Kris Lambert \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438)

Jan 19, 2021

Hi, Colleen!

I really like the general traits of a great teacher. These are great to keep in mind or even create as goals. You will get a ton of ideas from this class.

← [Reply](#)



[Edris David \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/32108\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/32108)

Jan 19, 2021

Hi Colleen,

We have a lot in common. I also plan to teach abroad and have experience as an English teacher for grades 7-12th. Covid has me loving teaching online, and I'm finding many online ESL jobs located in China. I have family members who have taught in Dubai and Spain and enjoyed it immensely.

← [Reply](#)



[Christina Westrem \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970)

Jan 21, 2021

Hi Colleen,

In reading the responses from all the students about successful teachers, I began to think about what teachers want and hope to see in students. Found that your comment where "students felt safe, engaged, and understood" brought it back to how truly incumbent it is upon the teacher to create the space, environment, knowledge and flexibility for successful learning.

Have you thought about and can you share some of your ideas on strategies that we as instructors can incorporate in our practice that will help students feel safe, engaged and understood?

Thanks!

Edited by [Christina Westrem \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970) on Jan 22 at 10:59pm

[← Reply](#)



[Robin Kremen \(She/Her/Hers\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/8339\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/8339)

Jan 24, 2021

Dear Coleen,

I so agree that a good teacher genuinely cares about their students and is motivated to make learning engaging and fun. I believe that a teacher helps students by affirming and encouraging them, and helping them to understand how education can enrich and expand their lives. These qualities are foundational for successful teaching. Thank you so much for shining a light on these important attributes.

Robin

[← Reply](#)



[Lisa Bradbury \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146949\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146949)

Jan 16, 2021

Salaam Alakaam! Bonjour! Shalom! My name is Lisa and I have been an elementary teacher for over twenty years and also an ESL teacher overseas in Egypt, Kwajalein and Doha, Qatar. I have a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a Master's degree in Linguistics/TESOL. I have not taught in a classroom for over eight years now because I homeschooled my own children. My professional objective is to teach ESL to college age students. I am taking these courses to obtain certification and refresh the concepts of ESL teaching I learned so long ago. I have taken the introduction course and two other classes. This semester, I am taking two more before I take the portfolio class in the spring. I do not have any questions at this point.

An effective teacher that I can recall from high school was my Art teacher. I will never forget her encouragement, her care and her love for art and her students. She was so passionate about art, that it wore off on me and I still remember all the great things she said about my artwork. When I won the art contest, she had my art displayed in the hallway the

entire year and years after I had left. The projects we worked on were fun and she always made every class exciting. An effective teacher is passionate, caring, fun and encouraging.

← [Reply](#)



WING SHA CHAN (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835>)

Jan 17, 2021

Hi Lisa

You are very experienced! I absolutely agree with the thought that effective teachers are passionate, caring, and encouraging. I guess being approachable is another pivotal quality of a successful teacher; students are more willing to learn when they are not intimidated.

Have you encountered any difficulties when homeschooling your children?

Isa

Edited by [WING SHA CHAN \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835) on Jan 17 at 8:30pm

← [Reply](#)



Kris Lambert (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438>)

Jan 19, 2021

Hi Lisa,

2 classes at the same time? Wow! You are certainly ambitious. Please reach out if you need anything.

← [Reply](#)



Edris David (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/32108>)

Jan 19, 2021

Hi Lisa,

Wow! You have taught in a variety of countries. I'm planning to teach outside of the U.S., and I can't wait to apply what I'm learning in this education field. I'm sure you will find that the new technology changes only enhance your previous and new ESL teaching skills

← [Reply](#)



[Karl Leitz \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147612\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147612)

Jan 23, 2021

Hi Lisa,

Hajimemashite! I am very impressed by your travels. I have also lived in the middle east. When I was in high school, my family and I lived for three years in Saudi Arabia. It was an amazing experience. I am also looking to moving to Japan, and I'm glad you have such warm memories from your time there. It's great that your art teacher was so passionate about her craft, and that she could share that passion with you. I hope that I will be able to create that kind of bond with my students.

← [Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480)

Jan 24, 2021

Hi Lisa,

I'm very glad to see you in the same class as me again. I look forward to seeing more of your posts. During COVID and online-only courses, it's nice to see consistency and someone familiar as we go for our certificate. I'm also very happy to be reminded of your experience as a teacher. This inspires me to always strive for learning, even as a veteran teacher.

← [Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480)

Jan 17, 2021

Hi Everyone!

My name is Russell and I'm from San Francisco, CA. I currently reside in Los Angeles, where I'm working from home as a post production assistant on a Warner Bros television show. While I wait for this pandemic to be over, I thought I'd look into pursuing a career in teaching English. I would like to teach at a high school, college, abroad, or an English language center in the future.

I'm taking this course because a) I need to learn practical methods to teach English, rather than go in blindly b) It will help me work towards getting the TESOL certificate, and c) I'm in a learning mood and want to broaden my skills.

Some of you might already know me from the introduction course and the other TESOL classes in the fall. Nice to see you again!

Questions:

1) The current situation with the pandemic seems to have gotten worse (Los Angeles has the most COVID cases) or better (vaccine distribution has rolled out) and how will this affect the Classroom Observation requirement? We have to have 4 done in order to get the TESOL certificate. So far this program allowed us to have one extra online class to fulfill the requirement.

2) I ordered the book from Amazon and it's expected to arrive this Thursday. Will this be required to complete any assignments this week?

Re: effective teacher, I remember Ms. Meade (RIP!) from my World History class. I learned about Communism through a class experiment where she distributed two \$1 bills to each student. Everyone got up and played paper-rock-scissors with each other. The winner takes the dollar from the other player. When a player loses both dollars, he/she has to sit down. We played until it was just two players left standing. I was one of them. Then Ms. Meade took both players' winnings and redistributed them to the class. She asked the class if they liked what she did. They said yes, because they got their money back. Then she asked the two winners if they liked what she did. We said no! She asked why. We said it seemed unfair to us, who earned the money. That was how she introduced the unit on Russian history. With that context and experience, we were able absorb the texts better because we had an emotional experience to it.

[← Reply](#)



[Lisa Bradbury \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146949\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146949)

Jan 18, 2021

Hi Russell,

Nice to see you again! I love the way your teacher introduced Communism/Socialism. Concrete examples are always more effective. In regard to the book, you won't need it this week, so don't worry. The other question about the pandemic and observations, I believe, we are to do at least one online class observation for each class to total four. We can do more if we would like. I suppose once vaccines are distributed and Covid is over, they will go back to classroom observation. This quarter is online observation, however. Have a great quarter!

← [Reply](#)



Kris Lambert (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438>)

Jan 19, 2021

Hi Russell,

Because of COVID you can observe more than 1 online class. I know!! When will things get better? For this class you will see a list to pick from. (week 5 modules) You can keep observing online until everything opens up again.

You will fine without the book until next week :)

I am happy to have you in another class!

← [Reply](#)



Edris David (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/32108>)

Jan 19, 2021

← [Reply](#)



Colleen Laurent (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146916>)

Jan 21, 2021

Hi Russell,

I like what you said about gaining practical skills in ESL before teaching the subject. My initial searches for English jobs turned up numerous companies that will hire teachers without experience or education, and I didn't feel entirely comfortable with that.

It's a "learning mood" kind of year for many of us!

- Colleen (a fellow Bay Area native)

← [Reply](#)



Russell Fung (He/Him/His) (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480>)

Jan 24, 2021

Hi Colleen!

It's very cool to meet you! Thank you for your comment. I'm looking forward to seeing your posts as we grow and learn in our teaching skills. What part of the Bay Area are you from? My girlfriend wants me to move back there with her and teach. But I love LA!

← [Reply](#)



[Karl Leitz \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147612\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147612)

Jan 22, 2021

Hi Russell,

It's great to have you in another class.

I liked your story about Ms. Meade. It's great that she made an activity that created an emotional connection to her lesson about Russian History. That makes the lesson so much more real and personal. I just wonder if she may have helped create two young capitalists, and a dozen young communists.

← [Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480)

Jan 24, 2021

Hi Karl! It's great to have you in class with me! Haha, regarding creating capitalists and communists, I'm not sure anymore. This country is getting more socialist, so it's hard to tell. Kidding, not kidding.

← [Reply](#)



[WING SHA CHAN \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835)

Jan 17, 2021

Hi everyone. My name is Isa. I have just taken the introduction course right before this module. I have been teaching English at a college for more than ten years, and my professional objective is to be an influential English lecturer delivering lively lectures not only by connecting theoretical paradigms with practicality but also giving inspirations to students. Since I obtained a MA in Linguistics in 2011, the main reason I am taking this course is to reach contemporary pedagogies for English Language Teaching (ELT). Will we learn any theories of applied linguistics pertinent to ELT?

I was inspired by a fabulous teacher, named Mr. Newman, in high school. His lessons were never tedious as he successfully caught our attention by taking an interactive approach and by interweaving theories and examples in ubiquitous contexts.

Edited by [WING SHA CHAN \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/160835) on Jan 18 at 5:29am

← [Reply](#)



[Kris Lambert \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438)

Jan 19, 2021

Hello, Isa!

Mr. Newman sounds inspirational! Interactive teaching is a must. Thanks for sharing.

← [Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480)

Jan 24, 2021

Hi Isa!

It's very cool to meet you and have you in class with me. What college did you teach English at for ten years? I gotta pick your brain, because I'm interested in teaching at a college some day.

← [Reply](#)



[Christina Westrem \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970)

Jan 18, 2021

Hello Professor and Fellow Students,

Looking forward to collaborating during this course.

- What are your professional objectives?
- To expand my knowledge and resource base of effective and motivational teaching strategies.
- To obtain my TESOL certificate.

- Why are you taking this course?

-Currently, I am working with a non-profit to assist elementary school students in Mexico to improve their reading fluency, reading comprehension and math skills. We were approached by the local officials and students who expressed an interest in adding an English as a foreign language component to our curriculum. While I have assisted in teaching English to students of other languages in various volunteer settings, I feel that it is necessary to gain additional knowledge and skills to organize a start-up program.

- Have you taken the introduction course yet?

-No, but I do plan on taking it when offered at the beginning of next quarter.

- Do you have any questions?

-Not at this time. Thank you.

- Can you recall a teacher that you had in middle or high school? (a successful teacher). What do you remember about that teacher that made them effective?

-Yes, my 10th grade English teacher. He was very passionate about the power of language to deeply move and effect our emotional self. I still remember clearly his reading of "Dulce et Decorum est", a poem about a soldier following a cart in which his fallen comrades were placed. As my teacher read the poem out loud, he had tears running down his face. It was interesting to watch how differently students responded to his display of emotion. Several years later, I bought a copy of the book in order to re-read many of the poems we had studied at that time.

May all stay well and safe during this very trying time!

← Reply



Kris Lambert (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438>)

Jan 19, 2021

Hello Christina!

I am happy to have you in this class. Have you taken other fully online classes? How do you like this platform?

Your nonprofit sounds amazing!

← Reply



Christina Westrem (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970>)

Jan 21, 2021

Hello!

Thank you. I am happy to be in the class. It is the first time for me taking a fully online course. To be perfectly honest, it is a bit intimidating. Find myself jumping back and forth and through all the tabs a lot - afraid to miss something that I'm to read or listen to and missing a deadline. This too shall pass!

[← Reply](#)**Edris David** (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/32108>)

Jan 19, 2021

Christina,

I enjoyed reading that you are working with a non-profit and have decided to increase your skills by acquiring the TESOL certification to gain additional knowledge and skills to organize a start-up program. I'm sure you will find the courses extremely helpful, providing an abundance of techniques to apply in your program.

[← Reply](#)**Russell Fung (He/Him/His)** (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480>)

Jan 24, 2021

Hi Christina,

It's good to meet you in this class. I remember reading "Dulce et Decorum est" in high school, now that you mentioned it. I would've loved to see your English teacher perform with emotion. That's something I think I might utilize when I become a teacher. Thank you for sharing that!

[← Reply](#)**Xin He (She/Her/Hers)** (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162484>)

Jan 18, 2021

Hello, everyone!

My name is Xin He and I come from China.I am now a freshman in Qufu Normal University.As is known to all,Qufu is the hometown of Confucius. I am sorry because I just get home from college so I might finish my homework a little late.It is my pleasure to participate in this course.

What are your professional objectives? I want to be a person who is professional in English as well as teaching.

Why are you taking this course? I am interested in teaching and I desire to improve myself in my winter holiday.

Have you taken the introduction course yet? I haven't take any introduction course before.

Do you have any questions? I wonder who is the main audience for this course?Because I have just find it a little difficult for me to finish the weekly tasks.I'm afraid my English level is not enough to reach the standard.Because when I was browsing the page,I found that your requirement for English proficiency is to use the level of graduate students to write articles.

I still remember my junior high school teacher Mr Yu.He is a patient teacher who also does an excellent job of teaching.I still once the power suddenly went out in our classroom.Our whole class cheered because it means we can go home.I talked with one of my classmates when our teacher was very angry because our class was marked down for poor discipline.Just a few minutes later,our class light work again,I happen to be seen talking by the teacher.At that time,he did not punish me but the classmate who talked with me.He knew I was in a rebellious phase and wanted to do something to get attention.He knew that I was a very sensitive girl who could not take criticism.He also knew the girl talk to me was careless and was easy to criticize.Confucius has a famous teaching method called teaching students in accordance with their aptitude.Mr Yu does actually studied the personality of each of us with his heart,and develop a teaching program suitable for each of us.So he is always patient with me no matter what I do.So to be honest,in my opinion,what makes students effective is teacher's passion for what he is doing and the teacher's action for what he should do.What is more important than grades is to guide students to be a positive person.I'm now still very grate to him because I think he made me a better person.

← [Reply](#)



[Kris Lambert \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438)

Jan 19, 2021



Hello, Xin, Please reach out to me. You do need to meet the English requirement. It is also a very good idea to start with the introduction class. You will then know all of the requirements. You will have to do a lot of writing in these classes. Email me directly and we can figure out what works best for you. :)

LambertUCLA.edu@gmail.com

← [Reply](#)



[Xin He \(She/Her/Hers\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162484) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162484)

Jan 23, 2021

I'm so sorry that I didn't reply to your message in time. I am sorry to say the gmail can't be used in my phone. And I also can't use watch all the video I need to watch, I can't open them. I use my phone to call the number 310-2066-219, but they showed me an empty number. The other contact email also can't be used in my phone. All the email I try to use show me "network error" so I can't open them. I tried many times but it didn't work. I have no idea about it. I am sorry to trouble you with this problem. Thanks for your reply.

← [Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480)

Jan 24, 2021

Hi Xin He, it's very cool to meet you in this class. Your story about your junior high school teacher was so much fun to read. You're a good storyteller. I look forward to reading more of your posts in this class.

← [Reply](#)



[Yoon-Jung Cho](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/151222) (https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/151222)

Jan 18, 2021

Hi all, I'm Yoon-Jung Cho. Nice to meet you guys.

- What are your professional objectives?

My goal is to get TESOL certificate and be an ESL teacher in Korea.

- Why are you taking this course?

I would like to learn English for teaching such as reading, writing, listening and speaking methods through this course.

- Have you taken the introduction course yet?

I have taken the introduction class in the Fall.

- Do you have any questions?

If I have questions, I'll ask you.

- Can you recall a teacher that you had in middle or high school? (a successful teacher). What do you remember about that teacher that made them effective?

I remember my literature teacher in high school. Thanks to her, I realized the beauty of literature and it made me study English literature in undergraduate and grad school. I could feel her love for literature and her passion for teaching. Especially her clear explanation made her effective, and I still memorize some poems and tricky grammar rules thanks to her.

Edited by [Yoon-Jung Cho \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/151222\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/151222) on Jan 18 at 8:03pm

← [Reply](#)



[Kris Lambert \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438)

Jan 19, 2021

Hello, Yoon-Jung, I am happy to have you in another class. I bet you will use poems when you teach :)

← [Reply](#)



[Russell Fung \(He/Him/His\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147480)

Jan 24, 2021

Hi Yoon-Jung! It's good to see you in another class. I'm looking forward to reading your posts.

← [Reply](#)



[Robin Kremen \(She/Her/Hers\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/8339\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/8339)

Jan 24, 2021

Dear Yoon-Jung,

I so agree that a teacher's passion for the subject of study can arouse and empower her students while they are studying with her, and beyond, into their futures. It is truly a gift to have a teacher like this, and it is a goal for all of us to pursue as aspiring ESL instructors.. Thank you so much for sharing this memory with us.

Robin

← Reply



<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/135934>

Jan 19, 2021

- What are your professional objectives?
 - To become a more effective teacher of English
- Why are you taking this course?
 - I want to learn the best strategies and develop my skills as an instructor
 - I want to get a certificate so I can work in the field English Language Acquisition
- Have you taken the introduction course yet?
 - Yes
- Do you have any questions?
 - Not at the moment
- Can you recall a teacher that you had in middle or high school? (a successful teacher). What do you remember about that teacher that made them effective?
 - My high school history teacher made the subject matter feel real and relevant by making history about the people and digging into the culture and trends of the time period by bringing in living documents such as music and art to help explain the world that produced the big events we were learning about. They also introduced me to learning strategies particular to history so it was easier to remember and follow the course of events and see how they connected.

← Reply



<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438>

Jan 19, 2021

Hi Caitlin, Welcome! Reach out to me if you end up having questions.

← Reply



[Edris David \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/32108\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/32108)

Jan 19, 2021

Hello,

My name is Edris David, and my professional objective is to teach English abroad. I am taking this course to teach adult ESL students and improve my teaching skills and strategies. I have taken the introductory course and have no additional questions. A successful, memorable teacher I had in high school English class was Ms. Barksdale. I considered Ms. Barksdale an outstanding teacher because she was thorough, disciplined, no-nonsense, and structured, with an attractive Barbadian accent.

[← Reply](#)



[Kris Lambert \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438)

Jan 19, 2021

Hello, Edris,

Funny you mentioned no-nonsense. I tend to like those teachers too! You at least know what to expect and they have clear rules. Thanks for sharing!

[← Reply](#)



[Christina Westrem \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970)

Jan 21, 2021

Welcome Edris,

When you listed the characteristics of your memorable teacher, Ms. Barksdale, I thought about two of my daughter's teachers in elementary school. One was as you describe Ms. Barksdale, minus the attractive Barbadian accent. The other was thorough and caring, but she was what I would describe as scattered. This showed up in her teaching style as well as her organization of the classroom. Both teachers were good teachers, they just had very different teaching styles. My daughter responded better to her Ms. Barksdale's style. I had the good fortune of volunteering in the classroom throughout my daughter's elementary school days and was able to observe how different students responded better to one style versus another style. It requires a lot of work, commitment, self-awareness and adaptability on the part of the teachers to adjust to the ever evolving dynamics.

In a setting of working one-on-one with an ELL that doesn't seem impossible. However, in a classroom setting of 20 to 30 students or more it seems quite daunting. While we have

to teach to the various learning styles, it seems that can lead to some students becoming distracted and disengaged. Any thoughts?

Thanks.

Edited by [Christina Westrem \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/162970) on Jan 22 at 11:18pm

← [Reply](#)



[Colleen Laurent \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146916\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146916)

Jan 21, 2021

Hi Edris,

A round of applause for the structured and no-nonsense teachers!! Although I had some fantastic teachers who were "absentminded professor" types, I always felt more secure and confident as a student when there was structure and clarity in the classroom.

Nice to meet you!

- Colleen

← [Reply](#)



[Melinda Cavalletto \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/150435\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/150435)

Jan 24, 2021

Hello Again Edris!

We had the introduction class together. I ended up researching the places you recommended that are safe for women to teach abroad. They are now added to my professional bucket list :-)

← [Reply](#)



[Robin Kremen \(She/Her/Hers\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/8339\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/8339)

Jan 19, 2021

1) What are your professional objectives?

To acquire a ESL Certificate to teach abroad and in the US. I plan to teach adults English as a Second Language.

2) Why are you taking this course?

In order to obtain the UCLA Extension ESL Certificate.

3) Have you taken the introduction course yet?

Yes. I took this course in the Fall.

4) Do you have any questions?

I'm worried about the late arrival of my book. I will not receive the book until February 5. May I please obtain PDF copies of reading assignments until then in order to complete class assignments?

5) Can you recall a teacher that you had in middle or high school? (a successful teacher). What do you remember about that teacher that made them effective?

I had two English teachers in high school, Stephen Bellon and Michael Kazan, who inspired me with their passion for literature and the English language, their strong communication skills, and their interest in and compassion for their students.

[← Reply](#)



[Kris Lambert \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438)

Jan 19, 2021

Hi Robin,

I am happy to have you in another class. Did you try googling the book? Another student told me they found an online PDF of it! I am not able to copy my book. BUT... I bet a fast google search will help you. Or, feel free to reach out to me directly.

[← Reply](#)



[Valerie Smith \(She/Her/Hers\) \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/150889\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/150889)

Jan 20, 2021

Hi, I'm Valerie. I am taking this certificate course as part of my professional development. I have many ESL students within my classes, and in graduate school, I took some TESOL courses and loved them! I have taken three courses in this certificate program, including the Intro course. I am taking two classes this winter and then the final class.

I thought my High School Junior English teacher was effective because he gave us so much freedom that I could enjoy the subject for the first time. I value freedom in education and meeting the learner where they are.

← Reply



Kris Lambert (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438>)

Jan 20, 2021

Hi Valerie!

Great idea for professional development. Will you also move up on the pay scale?

← Reply



Pablo Gonzalez (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/21380>)

Jan 24, 2021

Hello Valerie. Congratulations on your progress to your TESOL certificate. As this is my first class in the certificate program, I think you will provide a valuable perspective to those of us that are just starting out. I wish you continued success in the program!

← Reply



Karl Leitz (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/147612>)

Jan 20, 2021

Hello. My name is Karl, and I look forward to working with this group. I currently work in a commercial photo studio in New York City where we specialize in still life photography, shooting things such as cosmetics, liquor bottles and jewelry. I graduated from New England College in New Hampshire, with a Bachelors degree in art with a concentration in photography. My wife is Japanese and it is our plan to retire in Japan. It is my hope to make my retirement job/hobby teaching English to adults. I do not have any experience in teaching and I am hoping that TESOL certification will help me to achieve that goal. I am also trying to learn Japanese from scratch, so I have my work cut out for me.

So far I have taken the Introduction and the Instructional Technologies classes.

I do not have any questions at the moment.

One of my favorite teachers was Dr. Gary McGrath, my biology teacher. On the first day he told us that anything he said in class could be on the final test, and we should take notes. The exception was anything he prefaced by saying "This is to enrich your life". When he said "enrich your life" we could put our pencils down, and he would tell a story or anecdote that put our biology lesson into context. One of his "enrich your life" moments was a discussion of his vegetarianism. He wouldn't eat anything that involved killing a central nervous system. Mammals, birds and fish all have central nervous systems, so they were out. Vegetables, milk and eggs don't have a central nervous system, so they were ok to eat.

← [Reply](#)



[Lisa Bradbury \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146949\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/146949)

Jan 20, 2021

Hi Karl,

Konichiwa! Nice to meet you! I loved your story about your biology teacher and his "enrich your life" lessons. I think he was a wise man. I am a vegan and don't consume any animal products for the same reasons Dr. McGrath stated. It has not only saved animals but also has contributed to a healthier me.

I lived and worked in Okinawa, Japan for a summer at Okinawa Christian School. I love the Japanese people and have fond memories of my time there. I learned the Hiragana and Katakana in an easy to learn workbook that was fabulous. I know you will love living in Japan. Great people, great environment and terrific food.

← [Reply](#)



[Kris Lambert \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438)

Jan 21, 2021

Hi Karl!

AHHH Dr. McGrath! I love the story telling!! Great story and memory.

← [Reply](#)



[Yoon-Jung Cho \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/151222\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/151222)

Jan 23, 2021

Hi Karl, I am Yoon-Jung, nice to meet you. :) I love the story about your biology teacher. As a teacher candidate, I sometimes prepare some "enrich your life" stories like your

teacher. In my case, I want to give courage to my students and share how to protect your mind from others. I learned how to grow up from failing while studying literature in grad school. I want to share my experience with my students and help them. I hope someday we all have a good influence on students like your teacher did.

Edited by [Yoon-Jung Cho \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/151222\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/151222) on Jan 23 at 4:31am

← [Reply](#)



[Melinda Cavalletto \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/150435\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/150435)

Jan 24, 2021

Hi Karl,

I do not have traditional classroom teaching experience either but, I am sure we will do just fine with this program! Mr. McGrath sounds like a kind man :-) Your current line of work seems interesting. We did a project in the class called, Cultural Perspectives where we created a type of photo voice. Your photography experience will suit you well for this project. I feel that photos have their own language.

← [Reply](#)



[Melinda Cavalletto \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/150435\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/150435)

Jan 20, 2021

1. What are your professional objectives?

After receiving my TESOL certificate, I would like to first volunteer for a nonprofit program. After a year of volunteering I hope to teach online for one year and then teach abroad.

2. Why are you taking this course?

I am taking this course to sharpen my teaching skills and learn practical techniques to use for my students in the classroom and online.

3. Have you taken the introduction course yet?

Yes, I took the introduction class in the fall.

4. Do you have any questions?

Not at this time, but I am sure I will moving forward

5. Can you recall a teacher that you had in middle or high school? (a successful teacher).
What do you remember about that teacher that made them effective?

I had the most amazing professor for my first class at a community college. I had horrible grades in highschool hence the reason I was in community college. I carried a lot of self doubt that I would be able to finish a college degree. The first day of class the professor, Dr. Hawkeye handed out a copy of his highschool report card filled with C's and D's. He said, "If I can do it, you can do it!" I graduated with my MFA in 1999.

← [Reply](#)



[Kris Lambert \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438)

Jan 21, 2021

Hello, Melinda!

I am happy to have you in another class!

← [Reply](#)



[Yoon-Jung Cho \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/151222\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/151222)

Jan 23, 2021

Hi Melinda, nice to see you again. What a great story! I think you've met a really wonderful professor. I believe we all can be good teachers who give motivation to students like your professor. Thank you for sharing your story!

← [Reply](#)



[Caitlin Flynn \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/135934\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/135934)

Jan 23, 2021

hi Melinda, it's nice to meet you. Your college teacher sounds very inspirational.

← [Reply](#)



[Pablo Gonzalez \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/21380\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/21380)

Jan 24, 2021

Hello Melinda. Like you, I also want to volunteer for a nonprofit program once I complete my TESOL certificate. I also find it very interesting that your most effective teacher was in community college. Do you feel like that contributed to your less than stellar high school academic career? I would imagine if you had that type of type of inspiration in high school, you may have been more successful.

← [Reply](#)



[https://](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/21380)

[Pablo Gonzalez \(https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/21380\)](https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/21380)

Jan 20, 2021



Hello everyone. My name is Pablo González and I'm really glad to be here.

What are your professional objectives?

I would like to complete my Multiple Subject Teaching Credential (which I am currently pursuing) in addition to the TESOL certificate. I would like to complete my Designated Subjects Adult Education (DSAE) Teaching Credential in English as a Second Language so that I can teach ESL at a local LAUSD adult school.

Why are you taking this course?

I am taking this course so that I have a foundational knowledge of TESOL and learn practical skills that I can use in a volunteer capacity for a community-based non-profit organization.

Have you taken the introduction course yet?

I completed the introduction course just prior to the start of this course.

Do you have any questions?

What is the measure of a good TESOL/TEFL/TESL/CELTA/DELTA program? I've read a variety of opinions online about the value placed on programs. How does the UCLA Extension TESOL program compare to other programs which have a requirement of over 100 practicum hours?

Can you recall a teacher that you had in middle or high school? (a successful teacher). What do you remember about that teacher that made them effective?

I remember my high school English teacher, Mr. Nastasi, very fondly. He was a very compassionate teacher. He was empathetic with his student while always holding them accountable. He was friendly and personable but always have a mean streak that would come out when he needed it.

← Reply



Kris Lambert (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/438>)

Jan 21, 2021

Hello, Pablo!

I am happy to have you in another class. UCLA is accredited and has a great reputation. For me, the measurement of a good program is the instructors, the curriculum and the real-world experience. You get all of those from UCLA extension. There are certainly a bunch of programs out there. Many are not accredited. There has to be a certain number of hours to be accredited. I think there is flexibility in those areas. Some are observations, some are classwork and some are teaching. We do video lessons at extension. I hope this helps!

← Reply



Pablo Gonzalez (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/21380>)

Jan 24, 2021

Hello Professor Lambert. Thank you very much for your response; I really appreciate it. I have been researching a variety of TESOL programs for well over 5 years while I completed other academic requirements but I am glad that I finally enrolled in the TESOL certificate program at UCLA Extension.

← Reply



Caitlin Flynn (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/135934>)

Jan 23, 2021

hi Pablo, it's nice to meet you.

← Reply



Pablo Gonzalez (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/21380>)

Jan 24, 2021

Hello Caitlin. It's very nice to meet you too. I loved what you said about your high school history teacher making "subject matter feel real and relevant." I think that's a

very important skill to have as a teacher.

← [Reply](#)



Robin Kremen (She/Her/Hers) (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/8339>)

Jan 24, 2021

Dear Pablo,

Your description of your model teacher was very informative. His combination of empathy and accountability sounds perfect. These two contrasting but complimentary attributes are a winning combination in a teacher. Thank you for sharing this portrait of your high school English teacher.

Robin

← [Reply](#)



Pablo Gonzalez (<https://my.uclaextension.edu/courses/32520/users/21380>)

Jan 24, 2021

Hello Robin. Thank you for responding to my post. The description of your high school English teachers could also be applied to mine. It's amazing how you can be inspired by someone else's passion for their field.

← [Reply](#)