

Front End Development

Specialized Certificate

About the Front End Development Program

Master Front-End Development: Build Stunning, Interactive Websites and Applications

Web development has rapidly evolved, leading to highly interactive and complex applications that require specialized skills. To manage this complexity, development work is typically divided into front-end and back-end functions. As a front-end developer, you serve as the bridge between designers and back-end developers, translating designs into functional, user-friendly web interfaces.

Our Front-End Development Program equips you with essential skills to create dynamic websites and applications. Through this program, you will gain hands-on experience in HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, and industry-leading frameworks like React. Whether you are a beginner looking to build strong foundation in front-end development or a developer aiming to build interactive applications, this program is designed for you. To help you specialize in your area of interest, the program offers two distinct tracks: Front-End Engineer, focusing on coding and interactivity, and Front-End Designer, emphasizing UI/UX principles and visual design.

Learning Outcomes

- Develop responsive websites and applications using HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, and jQuery.
- Master front-end frameworks and libraries such as React to build dynamic user interfaces.
- Understand and apply principles of user interface (UI) design and user experience (UX) to create intuitive web applications.
- Implement best coding practices for performance optimization, including sprites, caching, and modern development tools.
- Build a high-quality portfolio to showcase your technical skills to potential employers.

Program Benefits

- **Hands-on Training:** Comprehensive, practical learning experiences designed to immerse you in front-end development.
- **Industry-Driven Curriculum:** Courses developed and taught by experienced professionals to ensure relevance to today's job market.
- **Career Advancement:** Acquire immediately applicable skills to launch or advance your career in web development.
- **Portfolio Development:** Gain real-world experience and create a professional portfolio to impress potential employers.
- **Career Resources Hub:** You will have access to dedicated Career Resources Hub with career information, job postings, events and tutorials.

Program Details

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites required to enroll in the certificate program.

Requirements

Students must complete 3 required courses and 2 elective courses to complete the Specialized Certificate in Front End Web Development.

Electives

Students need to complete 2 of the elective courses from either track below. Electives need to be from one track only – either Front End Engineer or Front-End Designer.

Length

Most students complete the program in one year and a quarter by taking one course per quarter for 5 consecutive quarters or in one year by taking one course per quarter for four consecutive quarters plus one additional class in one of the quarters. You have up to five years to complete all requirements for the certificate.

Cost

The estimated program cost is approximately \$3,670 including the certificate fee, required and elective courses fees. This estimate may vary based on a variety of factors. The cost of attendance does not include required textbooks, parking, or personal expenses. All estimated costs are subject to change; current fees and textbooks are listed on our website. Program fees are paid on a per-course basis when you enroll in a course.

Required Courses					
TITLE & COURSE NUMBER	UNITS	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
<u>Introduction to Front End Technologies</u> CSE-41318	3.0	Online	Online	Online	Online
<u>Introduction to HTML and CSS</u> CSE-41207	3.0	Online	Online	Online	Online
<u>Introduction to JavaScript</u> CSE-41208	3.0	Online	Online	Online	Online
Electives 6 units required. Choose 2 courses from one track (either two courses from Front End Engineering OR two courses from Front End Designer)					
Front End Engineer					
TITLE & COURSE NUMBER	UNITS	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
<u>Advanced HTML and CSS</u> CSE-41319	3.0	Online		Online	
<u>Front end Development with REACT</u> CSE-40591	3.0		Online		Online
Front End Designer					
TITLE & COURSE NUMBER	UNITS	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
<u>User Interface Design</u> ART-40535	3.0	Online	Online	Online	Online
<u>Principles of User Experience (UX)</u> ART-40638	3.0	Online	Online	Online	Online
Other Courses of Interest Not required to earn this certificate					
TITLE & COURSE NUMBER	UNITS	FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
<u>User Experience (UX) Metrics</u> CSE-41260	3.0	Online	Online	Online	Online
<u>Introduction to Full Stack Programming Concepts</u> CSE-41391	3.0	Online		Online	

Frequently Asked Questions

About the Certificate

How do I apply to the certificate Program?

STEP 1: If you have a My Extension account, skip to Step 2. If you do not have a My Extension account, go to myextension.ucsd.edu, click "Create an account" on the right side of the page, and follow the instructions to create an account. Once you have a My Extension account, continue to Step 2.

STEP 2: Click on the "Apply Now" button on the [certificate page](#). Complete the required fields on the application. Then click Save Your Work button. Once you have saved the application, the "Submit" button will appear. Click the "Submit" button to submit your application for review and consideration. Once submitted, your application cannot be changed. You can track the progress of your application at [My Extension](#).

Is there an application fee for the certificate program?

Current application or certificate fees, if any, are listed under the "Apply Now" button on the [certificate page](#) on our website.

Can I register for the certificate program at any time?

Yes, you may enroll in the program at any time. However, it is recommended that you enroll as soon as possible. The program curriculum may be updated at any time; if certificate requirements change, you must adhere to the curriculum at the time of your enrollment into the certificate. Enrolling in the certificate also gives you access to quarterly, personalized enrollment reminders from the program manager.

Can this certificate program be completed entirely online?

Yes! This program is designed for you to take it online at the convenience of your own home or office. All assignments, tests, and quizzes can be completed online and submitted through our Learning Management System. Our online course are asynchronous, you can login and complete your work 24/7. Typically, each instructor has weekly lectures (audio recorded and posted on the website along with a PowerPoint presentation), readings, projects, assignments and discussion board topics that need to be completed by certain due dates.

How long do I have to complete the certificate?

You officially have five years from when you begin taking courses in the program to complete all requirements for the certificate.

If I already have the skills taught in one of the courses, can I skip that course?

If you have taken a course from an accredited university covering the learning objectives of a program course, you may be able to transfer your previous coursework to Division of Extended Studies. If you have not taken a course elsewhere, but already have the skills covered in a course, you may be able to substitute an alternate Division of Extended Studies course in its place. Please contact the program representative at unexengr@ucsd.edu or 858-534-9351 for more information.

Is this certificate program open to non-California residents?

Yes, the program is open to non-California residents, including non-US residents. The tuition is the same for all students. If you have questions about how enrolling in courses may or may not affect your visa status, please contact our International Department at info@ucsd.edu or (858) 534-6784.

If I work full-time, will I still be able to complete this program?

Yes. Our programs are designed to be working-student friendly and most of our students are working professionals. The courses are typically three units, which amount to approximately 27-30 hours of class time.

Is the program accredited?

UC San Diego is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies — like all other UC San Diego schools, colleges, and departments — is accredited by WASC through the University. All courses and certificate programs offered by UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies have been developed and are administered in accordance with Division of Extended Studies policy and the regulations of the Academic Senate of the University of California.

Will this program prepare me for a certification exam?

This program is not aligned with any one certification exam. Our programs are designed to provide students with knowledge that will make them valuable in the workforce.

How do I get my certificate once I have completed the requirements?

When you have paid your certificate fee and successfully completed all program requirements, you will need to request an audit by Student Services. To request an audit:

- In your My Extension account, click on "My Courses."
- On the right side of the page under "My Certificates," click on the name of the certificate.
- On the right side of the page under "Tools," click on "Request Certificate Audit."
- Complete and submit the form that appears.

Once you have formally submitted your audit request, your certificate will be mailed to the address we have on file for you within ten business days.

Do you provide a job or internship placement?

No, we do not currently offer job placement assistance, internships, or career services assistance.

Is financial aid available?

- UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies offers continuing education loans through UC Approved Lenders. Each institution offers low competitive interest rates and flexible payment options. You are also encouraged to contact your personal financial institution about possible lending solutions. Direct links to UC Approved Lenders can be found on our website's [Financial Resources](#) page. The Employment Development Department (EDD) provides a comprehensive range of employment and training services in partnership with state and local agencies/organizations. More information is available on their website at edd.ca.gov.
- Career Centers Located throughout San Diego County offer their communities comprehensive employment and training services benefiting both business and job seekers. More information is available on their website at workforce.org.
- Please click [here](#) for information about Veteran's Benefits.
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) funds are limited to degree programs only and cannot be used for courses or certificate fees at UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies.

About the Courses

When does course enrollment open for each quarter?

Our classes post to our website and become open for enrollment approximately two months prior to the start of the new quarter. If you would like to receive an email reminder, you can sign up for our newsletter(s) in [My Extension](#), under the "Preferences" tab.

When should I enroll in a course?

We recommend enrolling as soon as possible, as occasionally classes will reach capacity.

Once I have enrolled in a course, when will I get online access to it?

If you have enrolled at least three days before the course begins, you will have access starting on the first day of class. You should receive an email from Student Services with instructions for how to login to the course. If you have enrolled on or after the start date of the course, you will have access to the course within one business day.

When does enrollment for a course close?

Enrollment on a course may be closed for one or more of the following reasons:

- The course is at capacity. If the course is at capacity, you will only be able to join the waitlist. If space becomes available on the course, students on the waitlist are contacted in order they joined the waitlist.
- The course has progressed to a point where students will no longer be able to make up the missed work and be successful in the course.
- The course is cancelled due to low enrollments.

For all three of these reasons, we recommend students enroll early on their courses of interest.

When is the refund deadline for courses?

The refund deadline for courses in this program is typically one week after the start of the course. This allows you to enroll in a course and participate in the course for approximately one week to determine if the course is a good fit. Then, if needed, you may either transfer your enrollment to a different course or submit a drop request. The exact refund deadline for each section is listed in the section notes.

What are the grading options for courses?

You can take courses for one of three options: Letter Grade, Pass/No Pass, or Not for Credit. If you are taking a course towards a certificate, you must complete your courses for credit (i.e., Pass/No Pass or Letter Grade) and receive a C-/Pass or higher grade. Grades below a C-, No Pass, and Not for Credit will not count towards certificate requirements.

What kind of credit do I earn?

The courses in this program are post-baccalaureate, professional-level, credit bearing courses. Credit earned in these courses may lead to the award of a formal certificate by UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies or may be applied toward an academic degree or professional credential, *subject to the approval of the receiving institution*.

If you wish to transfer credit, it is your responsibility to confer with the receiving institution before enrolling, as each individual academic institution decides whether to accept Division of Extended Studies credits.

Are courses transferable?

UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies is not a degree granting institution; however, many UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies courses can be transferred to other colleges or universities. The transferability of credit is determined solely by the receiving institution. You should discuss how your individual courses will transfer with the Office of the Registrar at the receiving institution *prior to enrolling*.

Can I take a course without registering for the certificate?

Yes, you may take any course in this program without registering for the certificate, provided you have fulfilled any and all prerequisites for the course.

How long is each course?

Three-unit courses run for approximately 8-10 weeks. For exact course dates of upcoming sections, visit the webpage of the course you are interested in taking on [our website](#).

When is each course offered?

Please visit the course page on [our website](#) to see when courses are typically offered. You can also see a full program schedule by clicking on the "View Schedule" button under the "Courses" section on the [certificate page](#).

How many hours can I expect to spend studying outside of class time?

Each student has their own learning style so this can vary greatly. As a rule of thumb, expect to spend an average of two hours studying for every hour you spend in-class. For online courses, students should plan to spend approximately 8-10 hours per week viewing lectures and completing coursework.

How are online courses formatted?

Online courses are asynchronous with prerecorded lectures, corresponding PowerPoints, and subsequent materials as provided by the instructor. They have a start and end date, but all the lessons are uploaded to our Learning Management System, so that you can learn at your own pace. However, please be aware that you may have weekly assignments, quizzes and/or tests that are due on specific dates.

What are the instructors' credentials?

The program courses are taught by seasoned professionals and overseen by an advisory board of leaders in the field. You can view the advisor list under the "Advisors" section on the [certificate page](#). You can find information about a course instructor, including a biography and credentials, on the course page.

How do I communicate with a course instructor if I have a question during the course?

Each instructor has his/her own preferred method of communication and response policy, which will be detailed on the course syllabus. However, most instructors utilize email or the discussion board and will respond within 24-48 hours.

Will I get any hands-on experience in the program?

Most courses combine theory with hands-on exercises. For more information about practical experience in any course, visit the course page on our website.

How do I access my online course?

To access your online course, first login to your [My Extension](#) account, next select "My Courses" from the menu. From your list of courses, select the course you would like to access, and click the link that appears in the "Location" section. You will then be redirected to the Learning Management System (LMS) where your course is located.

We are currently using Canvas as our (LMS) for all our online courses. While students do not get access to their respective courses until the first day of the course, we encourage students who are new to Canvas to click on the following link to Canvas and: [Take the free tour of Canvas](#).

Once I have enrolled in a course, when will I get online access to it?

If you have enrolled at least three days before the course begins, you will have access starting on the first day of class. You should receive an email from Student Services with instructions for how to login to the course. If you have enrolled on or after the start date of the course, you will have access to the course within one business day.

What are the required textbooks for a course?

Instructors will post the current textbooks requirements and recommendations on the course page on our website. Please note the textbooks requirements are subject to change every quarter and different instructor may require different books, even if they are teaching the same course in the same quarter, so be sure to check the textbook requirements for the section in which you are enrolling.

Will I be able to order the required textbooks before the class begins?

Yes, you can order the book(s) any time after enrolling in the course. You may order books through the campus bookstore or online retailers, such as Amazon.com.

How will I receive my final grade?

Once the course is completed, the instructor has 10 working days to submit your grades. After the grades have been posted, you can view and print them via [My Extension](#), your online education management portal. Please contact Student Services at 858-534-3400 or unex-reg@ucsd.edu if you experience any issues with logging in.

How can I get more information on the specific courses?

Please email unexengr@ucsd.edu to request specific course syllabi.

What if I am having trouble with my Learning Management System or My Extension?

Please contact Student Services at (858) 534-3400 or unex-reg@ucsd.edu if you experience any issues logging in to any of our systems.

For More Information

For program specific questions, please visit the [certificate page](#) on our website or contact a program representative at unexengr@ucsd.edu or (858) 534-9152. For administrative questions, please contact our Student Services Department at unex-reg@ucsd.edu or (858) 534-34.