

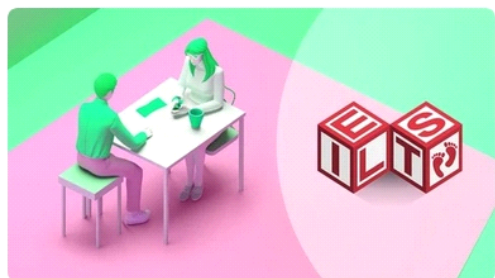
Note from GLEN CLIFFORD:

Unlike the IELTS 'teacher training' I have since completed with Cambridge, IDP, International House, Hong Kong TESOL, Bridge Education, and Premier TEFL, this specific University of California-Irvine (UCI) IELTS course (produced in early 2021) was aimed at Asian students preparing for IELTS, rather than teachers/instructors teaching IELTS.

I was particularly interested in taking this preparation course (albeit, as a pretend IELTS student) because of its production by a woman from Kyrgyzstan, who has passed IELTS, attended U.S universities, taught IELTS to Asian students in the U.S (at their academic support center), and progressed to a full-time faculty position at UCI.

It was of special interest to me, having lived in Asia, to examine how this instructor (again, originating herself from Kyrgyzstan, and now acculturated to Western education approaches) would produce an IELTS preparation course, aimed primarily at Asian students planning to live - or already living - in English speaking countries.

In 2024, I subscribed to the 'even more budget-friendly' Udemy platform (<https://www.udemy.com/courses/search/?src=ukw&q=ielts>), downloading at least 35 IELTS preparation courses, with a concentration on Speaking and Writing. Very similar to the UCI example, the many cheap IELTS offerings from Udemy were an excellent way to examine how various teachers / instructors / trainers around the world had imagined and created a multitude of IELTS preparation courses. Watching many hours of video, was like 'sitting-in' on the class trainings of dozens of 'IELTS experts', without having to travel around the world and visit dozens of campuses (although I do love to visit campuses!)



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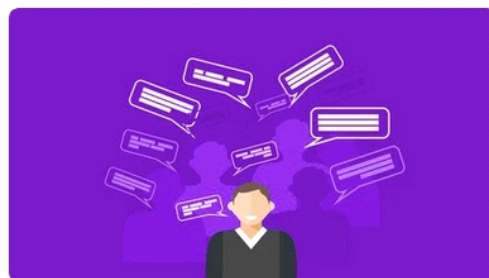
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