



2025/2026 Staff Introduction

We are very pleased to announce our management and teaching lineup for the 2024/2025 academic year.




IB Diploma Programme for 2025




We have a talented team leading us in the first year of our fully authorised Diploma Programme.

Group	Course	Teacher(s)
Group 1	Language A: English (SL/HL)	John-Charles Trowt Michael Wiid
	Language A: Thai (SL/HL)	Kevin Charles
Group 2	Language B: English (SL/HL)	Jason Coe
	Mandarin Ab Initio (SL)	Nopporn Changruksa
Group 3	Business Management (SL/HL)	Saqib Raza
	History (SL/HL)	John-Charles Trowt
Group 4	Biology (SL/HL)	Charles Cejka Vikrant Choursiya
	Chemistry (SL/HL)	Daphnie Nunez
	Physics (SL/HL)	Daphnie Nunez

Group 5	Mathematics Applications and Interpretations (A&I) (SL/HL)	J. Purushothaman
Group 6	Visual Arts (SL/HL)	Diana Afanador Jason Coe
DP Core	Theory of Knowledge (TOK)	Charles Cejka Jason Coe
	Extended Essay (EE) Coordinator	Charles Cejka
	Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) Coordinator	J. Purushothaman

Management and pedagogical leadership

	<p>Head of School - Dr. Lindsay Stuart Video introduction for learners</p> <p>Lindsay is an experienced school administrator with over 20 years experience working in education in Thailand. Lindsay hails from New Zealand, where he graduated from the University of Canterbury with Bachelor degrees in Arts and Science before completing a PhD in Information Systems. He also holds a Masters degree from Mahidol University in Thailand and a Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Administration from Massey University in New Zealand. Lindsay has an excellent understanding of educational administration, learning and technology and uses that knowledge to guide and shape exciting learning programmes for the students of UDIS.</p>
	<p>Senior School Principal - Charles Cejka Video introduction for learners</p> <p>Charles is an experienced pedagogical leader and teacher with Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from the University of Waterloo in Canada. He also holds a Bachelor of Education from Trent University in Canada. He has 18 years of international teaching experience from schools in Saudi Arabia, Germany, the United Arab Emirates and Thailand, and has served as a Head of Department, DP Coordinator and school leader in IB continuum schools for 14 years.</p> <p>Charles is a passionate advocate of the IB philosophy and has been an examiner in Biology for the IB since 2015 as well as a content developer of resources to be used by IB teachers. As a global citizen, he enjoys working in the international school setting and embraces innovative teaching approaches to develop inquiry skills in learners.</p>
	<p>Junior School Principal - Thomas Karisa Video introduction for our community</p> <p>Thomas is an experienced and fully qualified teacher from the UK with a Primary Education degree from Canterbury Christ Church University. He also holds the Certificate in School Management and Leadership from Harvard Graduate School of Education. With over 13 years of teaching and leadership experience, Thomas has worked in the UK, Kuwait, Thailand, Indonesia and Russia.</p> <p>Thomas' personal interests include performing arts, international cuisine and environmental science. Thomas is enthusiastic about language learning and specialised in second language acquisition of young learners. He also passionately believes in the PYP learning philosophy as it promotes</p>

	<p>student agency, essential skills to nurture engaged lifelong learners and increased local and global community awareness.</p>
	<p>School Director - Sineenad Chamat Video introduction for learners Sineenard (Nard) comes from Khon Kaen and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Education from Rajabhat Institute of Suan Dusit in Bangkok. She also holds a Masters of Education from Khon Kaen University. She has over 18 years of experience teaching a range of subjects in Thai schools including Thai language, social studies, Thai history and computing. Nard is a patient, hard working teacher who is always willing to learn new things and pass those onto her students.</p>
	<p>Early Years Coordinator - Phibzia Siddiqui Video introduction for learners Phibzia holds a Master's Degree in Education (TEFL) from the National University of Laos. She has completed a Bachelor of Arts (B.A) and an Advanced diploma in "Early Childhood Development" from ECD-Affiliated Edith Cowan University (Australia). She has over 16 years of teaching experience around Asia and has training and experience in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP). She has over 16 years in education and 7 of those in the IB settings. She has taught in Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos and Thailand. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Administration.</p> <p>Phibzia has spent the last 10 years at UDIS, where she is a cherished member of our community. Her contagious enthusiasm for English language learning and teaching shines through as she fosters dynamic and engaging environments, especially for early learners. Phibzia truly embodies the school's spirit of excellence in education.</p>
	<p>Primary Years Programme Coordinator - Katharina Cejka Video introduction for the community Katharina was born in the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and was fortunate enough to experience and live in different political systems and countries. In her teaching career she has worked in the IB PYP in international schools in Germany and the United Arab Emirates, and now in Thailand, for the past 17 years. She has extensive experience working with students of various cultural and academic backgrounds in all grades of the PYP. Katharina is trilingual and has a love for languages, she is trying to learn Thai from her students!</p> <p>Katharina enjoys living in Udon Thani and discovering Thailand. She is especially passionate about horseback riding and horse racing, reading and spending time outdoors.</p>



Middle Years Programme Coordinator - Diana Afanador

[Video introduction for our learners](#)

Diana is a qualified educator and IB workshop leader with a Bachelor of Arts from the National University of Colombia, a Masters of Fine Arts from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in the U.K. and a Masters in Special Education and Inclusion from Monter University in Mexico. She has more than 16 years of experience as an educator, with 10 of those in international schools in Colombia and has served as the Positive Behaviour Coordinator and Wellbeing Coordinator in middle and highschool levels. Diana is passionate about fostering and sponsoring student leadership initiatives such as Student Prefects, Peer to Peer mentors, and student competitions. Diana is a passionate IB educator, who believes that the aim of education should be to help guide young people in order to build a “better and more peaceful world”.

Diana is joined by her husband Andrés, who is a Sound Engineer and daughter Isabella. Outside of the classroom she loves the outdoors, camping, exploring nature and was a scout leader for over 20 years. She also loves to learn about new cultures, their artistic representations, museums and heritage sites.




Diploma Programme Coordinator (DPCO) - John-Charles Trowt

J.C. is a qualified educator from the United States, specialising in English and history with extensive experience in the International Baccalaureate (IB). He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and English Literature with a Concentration in Writing from the University of Michigan and a graduate degree in Secondary Education with endorsements in English and History. Additionally, he completed the Teaching English as a Foreign Language certificate through Columbia University and earned a Master's in International Education from King's College London.

Passionate about fostering inclusive learning environments and committed to inquiry-based teaching, J.C. integrates innovative strategies to enhance student engagement and critical thinking. He is eager to contribute to the school community and engage with the richness of Thai culture. Outside of school, J.C. enjoys family life with his wife, Molly, and their ten-year-old daughter, Ivy. He loves travelling, hiking, and exploring the outdoors.

Student Services

	<p>Head of Student Services - Alfie Cucuzella Video introduction for our community</p> <p>Alfie Cucuzella hails from Pennsylvania, USA. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in History with a minor in International Studies from Millersville University, driven by a lifelong passion for travel and cultural exploration. This passion led him to go overseas, where he discovered his true calling in teaching while working as an EAL instructor in Seoul. There, he inspired students of all ages, from preschoolers to adults, to foster a love for learning beyond the classroom.</p> <p>In recognition of his dedication, Alfie was honoured as Teacher of the Year in the Nambu District of Seoul in 2010. Committed to furthering his education, he returned to school to obtain his professional qualifications in Elementary Education and received his elementary teaching license in Florida. Currently, he is pursuing his Master's in Curriculum and Instruction to further enhance his teaching skills.</p> <p>With 18 years of experience, Alfie has worked globally in Mexico, South Korea, China, and Thailand, contributing to the International Baccalaureate framework and achieving PYP certification. For the past decade, he has served as both an EAL teacher and the Director of an international school in China, where he has cultivated a dynamic and inclusive learning environment. With his diverse background and unwavering passion for education, Alfie is excited to bring his expertise and enthusiasm to our school community.</p>
	<p>Learning Support Teacher - Premrudee (Patty) Pratadthong</p> <p>Patty has worked at UDIS since 2018 rising through our ranks from Nanny through to our Learning Support Teacher in 2024. Patty has a Bachelors of Science and is a fully qualified teacher in Thailand having completed the Graduate Diploma Programme for Teachers at Udon Thani Rajabhat university. Patty has been an asset within our learning support programme with experience working with all levels of learners. She is caring and open-minded, loves learning new things and helping others. In her spare time she likes spending time with family and travelling.</p>

**Learning Support Teacher - Nopporn Changruksa**




Nopporn (Pang) is a qualified teacher in Thailand with a Bachelor of Arts in Chinese from Khon Kaen University, Thailand and a postgraduate teaching qualification from St John's University, Thailand. She has prior experience teaching Chinese and is now a valued member of our Learning Support team. Since joining, Pang has been actively developing her skills in supporting students across our programmes.

**Learning Support Teacher - Apinya Supho (Am)**



Apinya (Am) is a qualified teacher in Thailand with a Graduate Diploma Programme for Teachers from Santapol College (2020). She also holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Mahamakut Buddhist University in 2017. Am joined UDIS in 2018 and has worked in various teaching assistant roles across the school between 2018 and 2024. For 2024/2025, she has been promoted to Learning Support Teacher to closely support learners within our programs.

Am enjoys expressing her creativity outside the classroom through drawing, painting, and handcraft activities. She also has a passion for travel and loves exploring new places and cultures whenever she has the opportunity.

Early years teachers

	<p>Preschool/K1 - Chananchida Sriwong</p> <p>Chananchida (Dae) is our wonderful Preschool teacher. Dae has been with UDIS for over 8 years and joined us originally as a Teaching Assistant working with some of the best Early Years teachers we had at the school. Dae has both Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Humanities (English) and is a qualified teacher in Thailand having completed her Graduate of Teaching Diploma. Dae has a tremendous love for her learners and in Preschool works to settle them into school life and give them the skills they need to progress to K1.</p>
	<p>Preschool/K1 - Phibzia Siddiqui</p> <p>Video introduction for learners</p> <p>Phibzia holds a Master's Degree in Education (TEFL) from the National University of Laos. She has completed a Bachelor of Arts (B.A) and an Advanced diploma in "Early Childhood Development" from ECD-Affiliated Edith Cowan University (Australia). She has over 16 years of teaching experience around Asia and has training and experience in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP). She has over 16 years in education and 7 of those in the IB settings. She has taught in Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos and Thailand. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Administration.</p> <p>Phibzia has spent the last 10 years at UDIS, where she is a cherished member of our community. Her contagious enthusiasm for English language learning and teaching shines through as she fosters dynamic and engaging environments, especially for early learners. Phibzia truly embodies the school's spirit of excellence in education.</p>
	<p>K2 - Natasha Grove</p> <p>Video introduction for learners</p> <p>Natasha is our new K2 teacher from Cape Town, South Africa. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Education and has over ten years of teaching experience in Thailand, South Africa, and the UAE. Natasha dedicates herself to fostering the overall growth of her students. Her focus lies in establishing meaningful bonds with them and nurturing their passion for education. Natasha aims to inspire learners to maintain a continuous curiosity about life and to cultivate self-reliance in their pursuit of knowledge.</p> <p>Natasha loves travelling, meeting new people, and immersing herself into new and diverse cultures. Despite her previous teaching experience in Thailand, she has yet to visit Udon Thani, and she's eager to begin exploring.</p>

Primary years teachers and specialists

	<p>Year 1 - Henry Charlton Video introduction for learners</p> <p>Henry is a qualified teacher from Newcastle in the UK and has been teaching in primary schools since he graduated from Manchester Metropolitan University back in 2006. He has taught in a variety of countries including Thailand, Saudi Arabia and the UK. Henry has also gained his DELTA, CELTA and CELTA young learner extension which makes him extremely well qualified for the second language learners we have.</p> <p>In his spare time, Henry enjoys listening to music, playing guitar (badly), cooking and reading. He loves sports although these days it's more watching them than actually playing them. His favourites are cricket, rugby, boxing and Muay Thai and his goal in the near future is to learn how to sail.</p>
	<p>Year 2 - John Kelly Video introduction for learners</p> <p>John was born in Glasgow, Scotland, before immigrating to Australia with his family. He was awarded a Bachelor of Education from Curtin University in Western Australia. Over the course of three decades, John has taught in Australia, England, Turkey, Thailand, Qatar, and Kuwait. He considers himself an open, creative, and approachable teacher, with a strong commitment to fostering a sense of community within the school. John believes that students should be engaged, challenged, and provided with opportunities to reflect both independently and collaboratively on their learning.</p> <p>John has been a member of the UDIS team for eight years, where he serves as the Health and Safety Coordinator, as well as the Child Safeguarding Coordinator. Outside of school, John is an active participant in the Udon Thani community, playing football and basketball locally.</p>



Year 3 - Jessee Perry

Jessee is a fully qualified teacher from Chicago, USA. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education, earned in 2019, and a Master's Degree in the same field, completed in 2024—both from Indiana Wesleyan University. With eight years of teaching experience across both the United States and Thailand, Jessee brings a dynamic blend of educational expertise, creativity, and enthusiasm to his classroom. He is passionate about creating engaging, student-centred learning environments where young learners feel supported, curious, and confident.

Outside the classroom, Jessee has a keen interest in coding, educational technology, and caring for exotic pets. He collects and raises various species of tarantulas and pythons, and enjoys spending time outdoors. Jessee lives in Udon Thani with his wife, their 3-year-old son Raian, and 1-year-old daughter Nami. His strong ties to the region—through his wife's family roots in Nong Khai and Nong Bua Lamphu—make him proud to call Northeast Thailand home



Year 4 - Katharina Cejka

[Video introduction for the community](#)

Katharina was born in the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and was fortunate enough to experience and live in different political systems and countries. In her teaching career she has worked in the IB PYP in international schools in Germany and the United Arab Emirates, and now in Thailand, for the past 17 years. She has extensive experience working with students of various cultural and academic backgrounds in all grades of the PYP. Katharina is trilingual and has a love for languages, she is trying to learn Thai from her students!

Katharina enjoys living in Udon Thani and discovering Thailand. She is especially passionate about horseback riding and horse racing, reading and spending time outdoors.





Year 5 - Bernie Robinson

[Video introduction for the community](#)

Bernie is our new Year 5 teacher from New Zealand. He holds a Bachelor of Education (Teaching) degree and has over 25 years teaching experience in both the Primary and Secondary sectors in New Zealand. Bernie also has experience in multi-level teaching. Bernie fosters respectful and supportive learning environments through individual recognition and positive praise and he is passionate about seeing all students improve in their learning. Bernie is looking forward to meeting his new group of students in his first overseas teaching position.

In his spare time, Bernie enjoys listening to music, walking, fishing and looking at retro/collectable markets. He has played many sports such as

	<p>tennis, badminton, football, cricket and golf. Some of these sports he has played at Provincial representative level. Spending time with family is important to Bernie, he has a son, daughter-in-law and new grandson who will soon be 14 months old.</p>
	<p>Year 6 - Lauren McElwain Video introduction for the community</p> <p>Lauren is a qualified teacher from the USA with a Bachelors of Elementary Education from Central Connecticut University. She has been teaching in the USA for the past 5 years teaching Grade 5 (Year 6). She has also completed her Master of Arts in TESOL.</p> <p>Lauren loves to read mystery and thriller novels, sightseeing, and being outdoors. She is looking forward to this upcoming school year and learning alongside a new group of students in her second year teaching here at UDIS.</p>
	<p>English as an Additional Language (EAL) Teacher - Alfie Cucuzella Video introduction for our community</p> <p>Alfie Cucuzella hails from Pennsylvania, USA. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in History with a minor in International Studies from Millersville University, driven by a lifelong passion for travel and cultural exploration. This passion led him to go overseas, where he discovered his true calling in teaching while working as an EAL instructor in Seoul. There, he inspired students of all ages, from preschoolers to adults, to foster a love for learning beyond the classroom.</p> <p>In recognition of his dedication, Alfie was honoured as Teacher of the Year in the Nambu District of Seoul in 2010. Committed to furthering his education, he returned to school to obtain his professional qualifications in Elementary Education and received his elementary teaching license in Florida. Currently, he is pursuing his Master's in Curriculum and Instruction to further enhance his teaching skills.</p> <p>With 18 years of experience, Alfie has worked globally in Mexico, South Korea, China, and Thailand, contributing to the International Baccalaureate framework and achieving PYP certification. For the past decade, he has served as both an EAL teacher and the Director of an international school in China, where he has cultivated a dynamic and inclusive learning environment. With his diverse background and unwavering passion for education, Alfie is excited to bring his expertise and enthusiasm to our school community.</p>

**Library and EY/PY Arts - Taiyabba Sayeed**

[Video introduction for the community](#)

Taiyabba is a qualified educator and librarian from Delhi, India, holding a Bachelor's degree in Education and a Master's in Library and information Science. She brings a wealth of experience from working in top-tier IB schools across India, and is known for her dedication, enthusiasm, and deep understanding of libraries and learning environments within the IB framework, continuously working on making reading more interesting for students.

A passionate advocate for literacy, Taiyabba is actively working to make reading engaging and enjoyable for children, while fostering a culture of curiosity and a love for books throughout the school community. She also has a strong background in the arts, with notable achievements in music, visual arts, and co-curricular leadership. Her commitment to creative, student-centered learning enables her to build meaningful relationships with students, staff, and stakeholders, creating inclusive and inspiring educational spaces.

**PSPE (EY and PY) - Gabriel Avelino de Sousa**



[Video introduction for the community](#)

Gabriel is a Brazilian educator with over 12 years of experience in Physical Education, including five years in international schools. He holds a Bachelor's and Postgraduate degree in Physical Education from Centro Universitário de Brasília and is a certified swimming instructor. His career includes a teaching exchange in the United States, which enriched his global perspective and instructional approach. Gabriel is fluent in Portuguese, English, and Spanish, has conversational proficiency in Japanese and French, and is currently learning Thai.

Passionate about inclusive and dynamic education, Gabriel has led several successful initiatives, including founding a school's first football team, which went on to win a regional tournament. He is currently implementing a similar program at UDIS. Gabriel also has strong experience working with students with special educational needs, having designed and led intervention programs that supported their academic and social development. He believes deeply in the transformative power of sport to foster well-being, teamwork, and resilience.

Outside the classroom, Gabriel is an avid traveller and photographer, having explored nearly 40 countries with his wife Danna. He enjoys capturing moments through photography and drone videography and spends his free time playing football, studying languages, and learning about global financial markets. His multicultural background and diverse interests enhance his ability to connect with students and contribute meaningfully to the school community.

Senior School teachers

	<p>DP English Language and Literature, DP History - John-Charles Trowt</p> <p>J.C. is a qualified educator from the United States, specialising in English and history with extensive experience in the International Baccalaureate (IB). He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and English Literature with a Concentration in Writing from the University of Michigan and a graduate degree in Secondary Education with endorsements in English and History. Additionally, he completed the Teaching English as a Foreign Language certificate through Columbia University and earned a Master's in International Education from King's College London.</p> <p>With extensive experience across diverse educational settings, J.C. spent eight years teaching in the Flint School District in Michigan before moving to China, where he has been teaching for 11 years. His last position was Head of the English Department for Nord Anglia Schools in Chengdu and Foshan, where he taught MYP Individuals & Societies, IB DP Literature A, Language and Literature, English B, and IGCSE Language and Literature classes.</p> <p>Passionate about fostering inclusive learning environments and committed to inquiry-based teaching, J.C. integrates innovative strategies to enhance student engagement and critical thinking. He is eager to contribute to the school community and engage with the richness of Thai culture. Outside of school, J.C. enjoys family life with his wife, Molly, and their ten-year-old daughter, Ivy. He loves travelling, hiking, and exploring the outdoors.</p>
	<p>MY English Language and Literature, DP English Language and Literature - Michael Wiid</p> <p>Video introduction for learners</p> <p>Michael Wiid is an experienced educator with over 14 years of teaching across various subjects. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Education and a qualification in psychology from the University of South Africa, combining his passion for human behavior with his dedication to teaching and learning. A lifelong learner, he is currently pursuing an Honours Degree in Psychology.</p> <p>Michael values "unity in diversity" and encourages students to embrace different perspectives, fostering an inclusive classroom environment. He believes in interactive learning, making lessons engaging and meaningful.</p> <p>Outside of teaching, he enjoys watching documentaries, gaming, and spending time with his son. Don't be misled by his focused demeanour—he is a kind, light-hearted teacher who loves to joke and play as much as he loves teaching and learning.</p>

**DP Business, MY I&S, MY Maths - Saqib Raza**

[Video introduction for our community](#)

Saqib joins us with over 17 years of experience in international education. Originally from Pakistan, he has taught students from diverse cultural and academic backgrounds across the globe and has served in several prominent leadership roles, including Head of Department for Individuals and Societies, Extended Essay Coordinator, and Academic Head for the IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) and Career-related Programme (CP).

He holds a Bachelor's of Education and a Master's degree in Business Management and brings with him a deep passion for the International Baccalaureate philosophy. Saqib is dedicated to fostering inquiry-based learning and developing globally minded, reflective, and principled students. His outstanding contribution to IB education has been recognised nationally—he was honoured with the prestigious award for Best IBDP Business Management Teacher in Pakistan.

**PSPE and MY English Language Acquisition - Lee Morris**

[Video introduction for our community](#)

Lee comes from Manchester, England and graduated with a BSc (Hons) Degree in Health and Sports Studies, followed by a Postgraduate Certificate in International Education from the University of Nottingham where he also recently completed his Master's in Education. He has been teaching in Thailand for the past 9 years. Lee values holistic education and believes in the idea that a personalised/ student-centred approach to teaching can bring out the best in his students.

Lee has competed in *Muay Thai* in both England and Thailand and has held extracurricular muay Thai clubs at previous schools. He has an interest in many other sports such as badminton, jump rope and basketball. He is also a certified swimming coach. Outside of sports and physical activities, he enjoys spending time with his family, reading, practising Thai language, cryptocurrencies and Buddhist philosophy.



MY Design, MY Performing Arts, MY English Language & Literature, MY I&S - George Lindstrom

George has a Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Arkansas in the United States. He has been honing his classroom skills in public and private schools in the United States, China, and Thailand with over 10 years of teaching experience. He is passionate about taking a leadership role in the classroom and being a mentor that works hard and hopes his students learn from the example he sets through work ethic, light-hearted humour, and pushing to achieve their best.

George has a varied teaching background having taught a range of subjects from maths, science and business through to his more specialist areas of art, design, literature and the humanities. This eclectic experience gives him a fun and unique approach to teaching. Outside of school, George loves running and swimming and creative pursuits like visual arts, photography, writing, gaming, and travel. He has circumnavigated the globe several times and his most cherished memories are of adventures in nature throughout the 13 countries (and counting) he has explored.



DP visual arts, DP English B, DP TOK - Jason Coe

[Video introduction for our learners](#)

Jason Coe is a creative professional with over 20 years of experience in education and the cultural sector. Holding a Master's in Education and postgraduate certification in School Operations and Management, he combines academic expertise with a hands-on approach to leadership and program development. Jason has designed and led art programs, managed cross-functional teams, and produced content that supports learning, engagement, and community outreach.

His work spans classroom teaching, project coordination, and wellness-based education, always with a focus on clarity, inclusion, and student well-being. He believes in helping learners turn challenges into strengths and encourages creative expression through mindful, student-centered environments.

Jason has facilitated workshops for all ages, created curricula tailored to diverse needs, and supported initiatives that bridge education with culture and storytelling. His adaptable, collaborative style has made him an asset in both schools and creative institutions.

At UDIS, Jason looks forward to contributing to a dynamic learning community—where creativity, care, and purpose drive meaningful growth.



MY Arts and Design, DP Visual Arts - Diana Afanador

[Video introduction for our learners](#)

Diana is an educator with a Bachelor of Arts from the National University of Colombia, a Masters of Fine Arts from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in the U.K. and a Masters in Special Education and Inclusion from Monter University in Mexico. She has more than 16 years of experience as an educator, with 10 of those in international schools in Colombia and has served as the Positive Behaviour Coordinator and Wellbeing Coordinator in middle and highschool levels. Diana is passionate about fostering and sponsoring student leadership initiatives such as Student Prefects, Peer to Peer mentors, and student competitions. Diana is a passionate IB educator, who believes that the aim of education should be to help guide young people in order to build a “better and more peaceful world”.

Diana is joined by her husband Andrés, who is a Sound Engineer and daughter Isabella. Outside of the classroom she loves the outdoors, camping, exploring nature and was a scout leader for over 20 years. She also loves to learn about new cultures, their artistic representations, museums and heritage sites.



MY Mathematics, DP Mathematics - J. Purushothaman

Purushothaman J (JP) is a mathematics mastermind, a walking arsenal of knowledge with a Master’s degree, a Bachelor of Education, and a Master of Education under his belt. He has also sharpened his skills at prestigious institutions like Loyola college, Harvard graduate school of Education and University College of London. JP has over 15 years of experience in top IB schools in India and Indonesia and he has donned many hats – Deputy Head of Department, ATL Coordinator, Extended Essay supervisor, CAS Advisor, Lead Educator of TOK and even an IB DP Math AA HL Examiner for a whopping 10 years!

JP is joined by his wife and two daughters and looks forward to building educational excellence, brick by brick at UDIS. He doesn’t just teach math, he ignites a passion for exploration and problem-solving. In his classroom, it’s not just about mastering numbers; it’s about shaping the future. Brace yourselves, future mathematicians – you’re in for an incredible learning experience!



DP Biology - Charles Cejka

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Charles is an experienced pedagogical leader and teacher with Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from the University of Waterloo in Canada. He also holds a Bachelor of Education from Trent University in Canada. He has over 15 years of international teaching experience from schools in Saudi Arabia, Germany and the United Arab Emirates, and has served as a Head of Department, DP Coordinator and school leader in IB continuum schools for over 12 years.

Charles is a passionate advocate of the IB philosophy and has been an examiner in Biology for the IB since 2015 as well as a content developer of resources to be used by IB teachers. As a global citizen, he enjoys working in the international school setting and embraces innovative teaching approaches to develop inquiry skills in learners.





MY Mathematics, DP Chemistry, DP Physics - Daphnie Nunez


[Video introduction for learners](#)

Daphnie is an experienced Science teacher from Orlando, Florida where she taught Middle School Science. She earned her Bachelor's Degree of Secondary Education (Chemistry) from Mindanao State University and is completing her Master's Degree in Science Education. She has earned the Energy and Thermodynamics - University Chemistry MicroBachelors program in Harvard University. With over 8 years of teaching experience, she has worked with multicultural communities in the USA and the Philippines. She has also worked as a virtual Science and Math teacher for several states in the US.

As a science teacher, Daphnie loves to incorporate lifelong learning, critical thinking and modelling the process of cognitive conflict to her students. Daphnie considers herself a creative and a passionate teacher that loves performing arts and loves dancing. She loves culture and the arts and loves to help students discover and explore their creative sides and become more well-rounded individuals.

	<p>MY Science and DP Biology - Vikrant Choursiya Video introduction for learners</p> <p>Vikrant is a passionate and inquiry-driven science educator with over eight years of experience teaching IBDP, AP, A-Level, and IGCSE Biology and Environmental Systems and Societies (ESS). With a Master's in Zoology (Animal Physiology) and a Bachelors of Education in Science and Environmental Studies from Mumbai University, Vikrant brings academic rigour blended with hands-on learning approaches. He has successfully mentored students through Internal Assessments and Extended Essays. He is an IBDP and CAIE Biology examiner and a researcher at heart.</p> <p>Outside the classroom, you'll often find Vikrant trekking through wildlife habitats, capturing moments through his lens. His love for nature seeps into his teaching, where he encourages students to observe, inquire, and appreciate the living world deeply.</p>
	<p>Mandarin Ab Initio (DP) - Nopporn Changruksa</p> <p>Nopporn is a qualified teacher in Thailand with a Bachelor of Arts in Chinese from Khon Kaen University, Thailand and a postgraduate teaching qualification from St John's University, Thailand. She has been teaching Chinese since 2019 and joined UDIS in 2023 as a learning support and Chinese teacher.</p> <p>Nopporn is especially passionate about the Chinese language, particularly the meaning behind each of the different strokes that form the characters. She believes in making Chinese learning fun and engaging by incorporating varied activities and embedding cultural learning into her lessons. She also believes that "if we have passion for something, we will do it well."</p>

Thai language department

	<p>Thai Language Teacher & School Director - Sineenad Chamat Video introduction for learners</p> <p>Sineenad (Nard) comes from Khon Kaen and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Education from Rajabhat Institute of Suan Dusit in Bangkok. She also holds a Masters of Education from Khon Kaen University. She has over 18 years of experience teaching a range of subjects in Thai schools including Thai language, social studies, Thai history and computing. Nard is a patient, hard working teacher who is always willing to learn new things and pass those onto her students.</p>
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Thai Language Teacher & Senior School Thai Language Coordinator - Kevin Charles

Kevin Charles holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Udon Thani Rajabhat University and a Graduate Diploma in Teaching from Santapol College. He has completed formal training in the IB Primary Years, Middle Years, and Diploma Programmes, and brings with him a deep commitment to inquiry-based, student-centred learning.

Now in his eighth year at UDIS, Kevin continues to serve as the Senior School Thai Language Coordinator and specialist teacher of Thai Language and Literature for both the MYP and DP programmes. Over the past academic year, he has gained valuable experience teaching DP students and has taken on additional responsibilities as a supervisor for both the MYP Personal Project and the DP Extended Essay.

Kevin is passionate about fostering cultural awareness and critical thinking through the study of Thai and world literature. He is particularly interested in guiding students to make meaningful connections between language, identity, and global perspectives. Beyond the classroom, he enjoys reading and listening to podcasts on literature and mythology—interests that often enrich his teaching practice.



Thai Language Teacher - Hattaya (Toum) Sirito

Hattaya (Toum) holds a Bachelor of Art in English from Udon Thani Rajabhat University and a Graduate Diploma in Teaching and she also holds a Master degree of Educational Administration from Santapol College. Toum is a Thai specialist teacher teaching Thai culture and language primarily to Early Years and Thai as an Additional Language (TAL) to Primary and Middle Years. She is familiar with a range of teaching strategies to differentiate her teaching to meet the Thai language needs of learners. Toum also brings a range of skills to the school and particularly enjoys drawing, Thai dance and handicrafts.



Thai Language Teacher - Sirikan Lock

Sirikarn (Oil) is from Non Daeng in Nakhon Ratchasima. She completed her Bachelor of Arts (English) at Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University and has completed the Graduate Diploma Programme for Teachers at Santapol College in UdonThani. She has also completed a 120 hours TEFL certificate. In addition to her native Thai, she also speaks English and Swedish. Oil has been a Teaching Assistant at UDIS for the last 4 years and draws from that experience in her role as a Thai language teacher.

Oil is enthusiastic and passionate about teaching and has helped primary years students in her home village. She has a love for cooking both Thai and International food. She enjoys watching international movies and loves her garden full of exotic plants. Oil is also a keen traveller and has lived in Europe and the Middle East.

**Thai Language Teacher - Tippawan Thamraksa**

Tippawan (Trip) is a licensed teacher in Thailand with a Bachelor of Arts in English from Srinakharinwirot University (2019). She is a native of Udon Thani and has been working in various schools across the city since 2019. Trip's past experience has included teaching English, Science and Thai language from kindergarten through to adults. She is a passionate and well planned teacher and we are looking forward to her joining UDIS and teaching Thai within our Junior School.