The primary goal of the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)-approved ESL Specialist and Leadership Certificate Program, a U.S. Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA), National Professional Development grant-funded program, is to prepare mainstream PreK-12 teachers to work effectively with English learners (ELs), their families, and communities. The curriculum includes:

1. Legal, historical, and socio-cultural background and history of ELs in the U.S.;
2. English language structure and linguistics;
3. Second language acquisition;
4. ESL curricular, instructional, and assessment strategies and best practices; and
5. ESL instructional leadership, action research, and advocacy with EL populations.

The curriculum focuses on helping PreK-12 teachers do the following:

1. become ESL instructional leaders by learning, understanding, and incorporating curricular, instructional, and assessment strategies specifically tailored for ELs;
2. learn to develop and implement ESL action research projects within their own classrooms; and
3. develop cultural competence, engage in active outreach, and become advocates for ELs.

**Certificate Requirements**

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in Graduate Council policy GCAC-212 Postbaccalaureate Credit Certificate Programs (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-212-postbaccalaureate-credit-certificate-programs).

Students are required to take all five courses (15 credits) in sequence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 466</td>
<td>Foundations of Teaching English as a Second Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 467</td>
<td>English Language Structure for English as a Second Language Teachers</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 468</td>
<td>Language Acquisition for English as a Second Language Teachers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 469</td>
<td>Teaching Methods and Assessment of English as a Second Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 475</td>
<td>ESL Leadership, Research and Advocacy</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits**: 15

**Courses**

Graduate courses carry numbers from 500 to 699 and 800 to 899. Advanced undergraduate courses numbered between 400 and 499 may be used to meet some graduate degree requirements when taken by graduate students. Courses below the 400 level may not. A graduate student may register for or audit these courses in order to make up deficiencies or to fill in gaps in previous education but not to meet requirements for an advanced degree.

**Contact**

- **Campus**: Abington
- **Graduate Program Head**: Joy K Fraunfelter
- **Program Contact**: Robin Melinda Burgess, 115 HHD Bldg University Park PA 16802 mb33@psu.edu (215) 881-7401
- **Program Website**: View (http://www.abington.psu.edu/continuing-education/esl-specialist-certificate)
Campus                      Harrisburg
Graduate Program Head       Karin Sprow Forte
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                              300 Rackley Building
                              University Park PA 16802
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                              (717) 948-6295

Program Website             View (https://harrisburg.psu.edu/
                              behavioral-sciences-and-education/
                              teacher-education/certificate-
                              program-esl-program-specialist-and-
                              leadership)