ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) PROGRAM SPECIALIST AND LEADERSHIP POSTBACCALAUREATE CREDIT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Person-in-Charge: Karin Sprow Forté
Program Code: CLESL
Campus(es): Abington

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.

Effective Semester: Summer 2017
Expiration Semester: Spring 2022