

# ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

## MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

### FALL & SUMMER 2014

---



DR. ELIZABETH GUNN, ESL PROGRAM DIRECTOR, ACADEMIC OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT  
(443) 885-1980 • [ELIZABETH.GUNN@MORGAN.EDU](mailto:ELIZABETH.GUNN@MORGAN.EDU)

# ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

*“Learning a language is much more than a set of rules – it is a dynamic, vibrant experience interdependent upon the culture and people who speak it.” - Dr. Elizabeth Gunn, ESL Program Director*

---



# PROGRAM HISTORY & DESCRIPTION

The English as a Second Language (ESL) Program inaugurated its course offerings in the summer 2013. Since then, the Program has offered several courses to students from around the world. The ESL Programs is committed to providing intensive language instruction and rich local and regional cultural experiences that empower our students that are learning English as a second language to become successful students in the mainstream classroom and productive members of our community at home and beyond. Language learning certainly occurs in a traditional classroom setting, but is greatly enhanced by interpersonal and cultural experiences. This is why we take our students from the classroom to the community. The ESL Program works closely with the Morgan State University (MSU) iPal Program, a program that pairs international students with Morgan mentors for the purpose of friendship, camaraderie, academic guidance and social assimilation. The ESL Program is intensive in nature: our students spend five hours a day, five days a week in the classroom, one of which is in a multi media laboratory. This intensive learning environment, coupled with local and regional excursions, in conjunction with the iPal Program, ensures that our students become proficient not only in the English language, but also in cultural competency.

The ESL Program fosters an environment of dynamic learning through traditional coursework and laboratory sessions as well as through hands on and off campus activities.

The English as a Second Language Program offers seven levels of English language: ESL Beginning Literacy (Level 1), ESL Beginning Low (Level 2), ESL Beginning High (Level 3), ESL Intermediate Low (Level 4), ESL Intermediate High (Level 5), ESL Advanced Low (Level 6), ESL Advanced High (Level 7).

Courses offered by term/cohort:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Summer 2013:   | Summer 2014  |
| • ESL Intermediate High (Level 5): 6 participants                | • June-August: ESL Intermediate High (Level 5): 8 participants     |
| Fall 2013:   | • May-August: ESL Intermediate High (Level 5): 12 participants     |
| • ESL Intermediate Low (Level 4): 11 participants                | Fall 2014  |
| • ESL Intermediate High (Level 5): 15 participants               | • August-December: ESL Intermediate High (Level 5): 6 participants |
| • Individualized Advanced Reading and Composition: 1 participant |  |
| Spring 2014  |  |
| • March-August: ESL Intermediate Low (Level 4): 8 participants   |  |
| • January-May: ESL Intermediate High (Level 5): 11 participants  |  |



# PERSONNEL & PROGRAMMING

Our distinctive faculty members bring a variety of pedagogical experiences to the Program. Two have taught English overseas, one holds a master's degree from a prestigious university, two have credentials in English language acquisition and another holds a Ph.D.

Faculty in the Program in ESL with the courses and semesters in which they have taught include:

- Dr. Natanya Duncan: ESL Intermediate High (Level 5), summer 2013
- Mr. Alexander Lokey: ESL Intermediate High (Level 5) and Individualized Advanced Reading and Composition, fall 2013
- Ms. Qimmah Najeeullah: ESL Intermediate Low (Level 4), fall 2013
- Ms. Lauren Bostic: ESL Intermediate Low (Level 4), spring 2014

Additionally, since the Program's inception, we have hosted students from the following countries, and we expect the list to keep growing:

- o Equatorial Guinea = 1
- o Brazil = 47
- o Italy = 2
- o Saudi Arabia = 6
- Total = 54



*Left: Artscape*

*Above: American Visionary Art Museum*

# iPAL PROGRAM

The Program in English as a Second Language, in coordination with the iPal Program, has led students on several exciting, educational and conversation-starting excursions. Morgan students are paired with international students for the purpose of mentoring and friendship. The excursions are a favorite among the ESL students, and they provide an opportunity for our international cohort to learn about the history and culture of the city, state and region. iPal mentors committed to making contact with their “buddy” at least once a week for an hour throughout each semester. Group activities are planned for participants throughout the semester. Mentor participants in the iPal Program are responsible for the following:

- sharing cultural experiences and activities with their international buddy
- focusing on furthering their buddy’s language skills in English
- connecting to student life outside of the classroom
- creating cross cultural friendships

The iPal Program began with 5 international students and 4 iPal mentors in the summer of 2013. Since then, it has grown exponentially to 75 participants. The summer and fall semesters saw 44 active iPal Program participants:

- 26 international students
- 18 iPal mentors

The iPal mentors submit weekly reports to the ESL Program Director detailing their interactions with their international counterparts. Additionally, the international students submit weekly reports to their ESL instructor. Thus, there is accountability for each member of the iPal student team!

For the Summer and Fall 2014 terms, there were 18 iPal mentors connected with 26 international students. iPal mentors submit a report every Sunday with a detailed explanation of the location, activity and content of their connection with their international buddy. Some activities included shopping at the local mall, bowling, movies, dining out, studying, among others.





# CULTURAL IMMERSION

The Summer and Fall 2014 English as a Second Language Program excursions are an integral part of the ESL learning experience and include the following:

- Friday, June 27th: Washington, D.C.
- Wednesday, July 9th: Visionary Art Museum
- Friday, July 18th: Artscape
- Friday, August 1st: Spirit Cruise Inner Harbor Historic Tour
- Tuesday, September 23rd: Ft. McHenry
- Friday, October 3rd: Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA)
- Thursday, October 9th: Walters Art Museum
- Tuesday, October 14th: Washington, D.C.
- Thursday, October 30th: Autumn Experience at Rodgers Farms



# INTERNATIONAL TEST OF ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (iTEP)

The ESL Program tests students' level of English prior to beginning the program and upon program completion. We use the iTEP (International Test of English Proficiency) instrument, a computer based assessment tool that allows us to track our students' improvement. The iTEP is the testing software of choice of about 65 English language institutes and institutions of higher education, such as Cal Poly and Rice University, throughout the United States and Canada.

We've tracked the fall 2013 cohort's overall scores and scores on reading, listening and grammar from their August and December test dates according to iTEP Proficiency Levels:

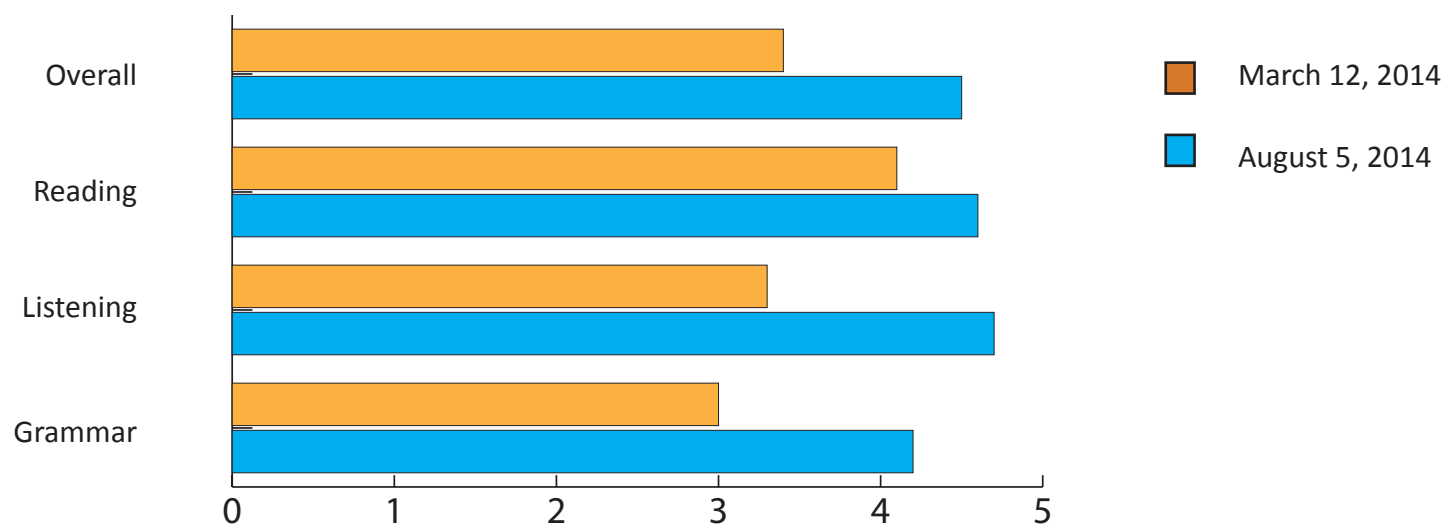
Level 0 Beginning; Level 1 Elementary; Level 2 Low Intermediate; Level 3 Intermediate; Level 4 High Intermediate; Level 5 Low Advanced; Level 6 Advanced.

## Morgan State University English as a Second Language iTEP Results by Cohort

### March - August 2014

Date	Overall	Reading	Listening	Grammar
March 12, 2014	3.4	4.1	3.3	3.0
August 5, 2014	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.2
Improvement	31%	14%	43%	41%

Rates of Improvement by Skill between March and August 2014



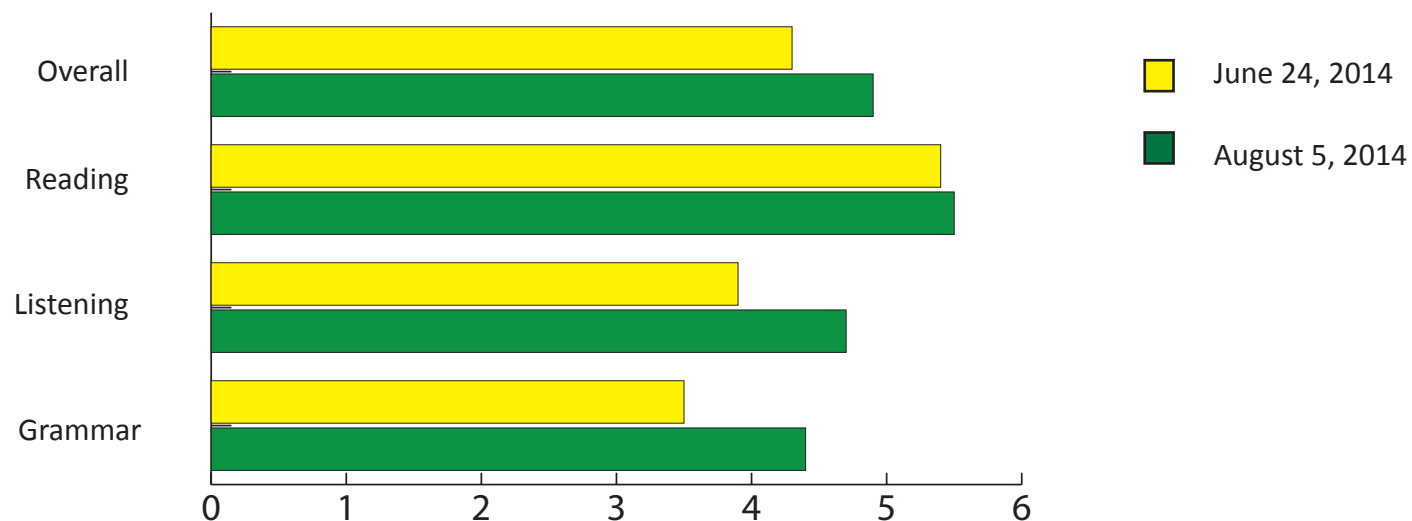
# INTERNATIONAL TEST OF ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (iTEP)

## Morgan State University English as a Second Language iTEP Results by Cohort

June - August 2014

Date	Overall	Reading	Listening	Grammar
June 24, 2014	4.3	5.4	3.9	3.5
August 5, 2014	4.9	5.5	4.7	4.4
Improvement	14%	2%	21%	26%

Rates of Improvement by Skill between June and August 2014





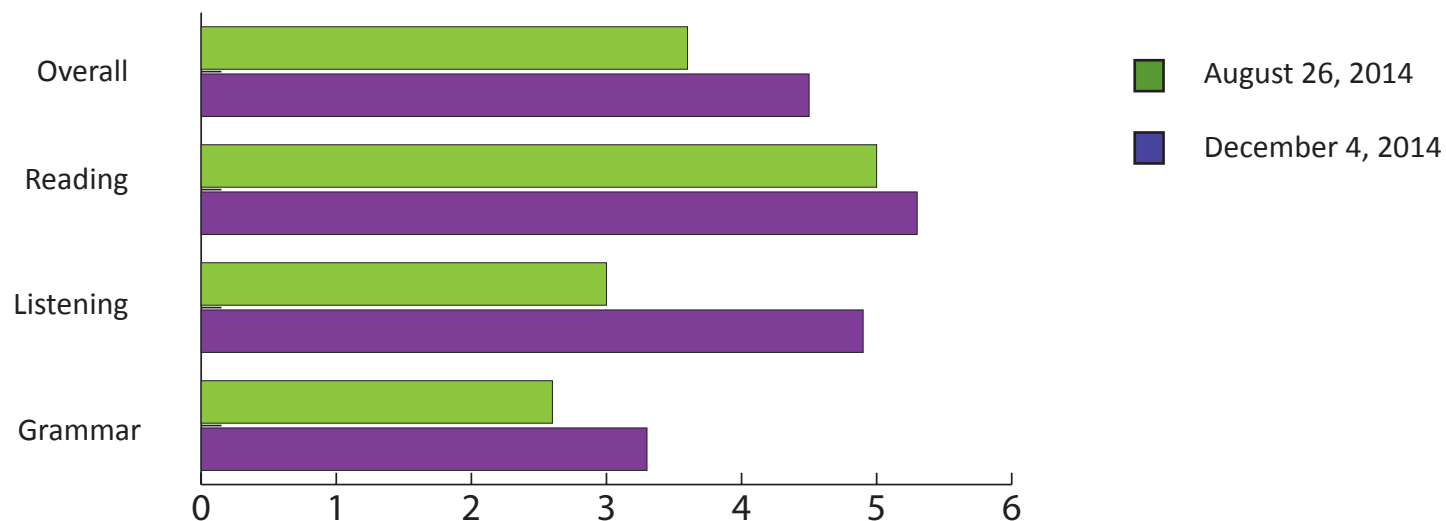
# INTERNATIONAL TEST OF ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (iTEP)

## Morgan State University English as a Second Language iTEP Results by Cohort

August - December 2014

Date	Overall	Reading	Listening	Grammar
August 26, 2014	3.6	5.0	3.0	2.6
December 4, 2014	4.5	5.3	4.9	3.3
Improvement	25%	6%	63%	27%

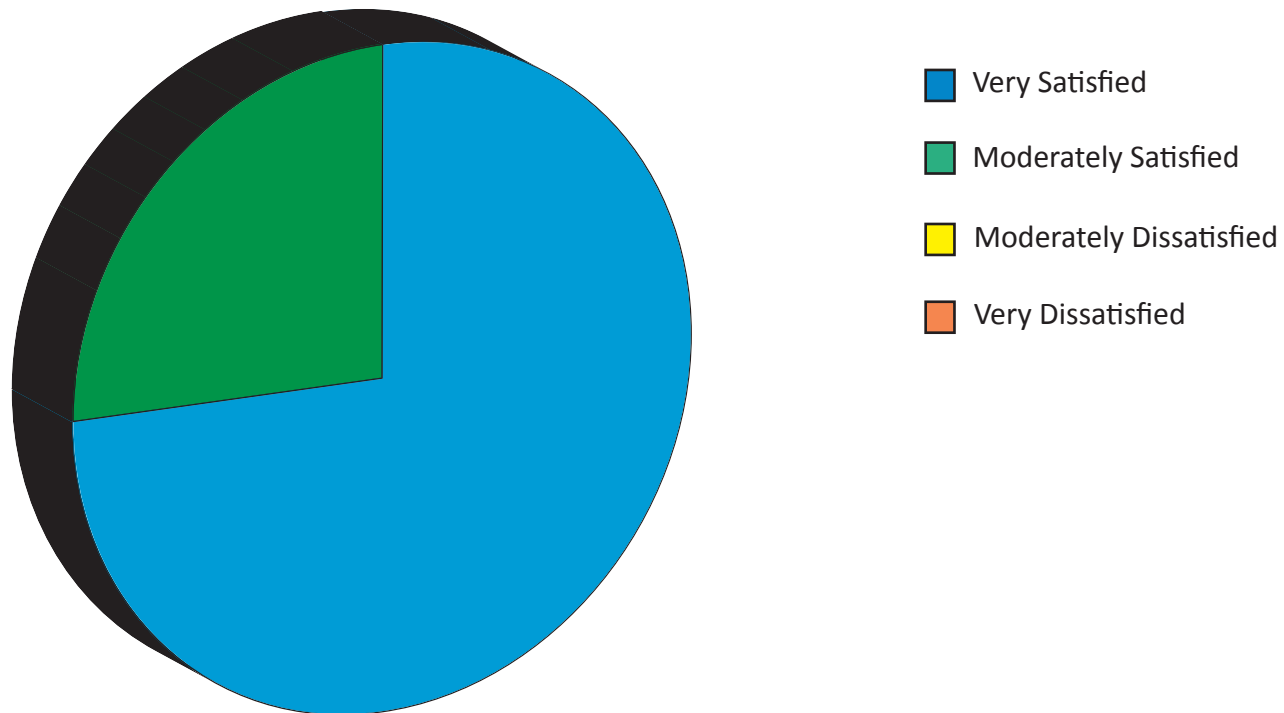
Rates of Improvement by Skill between August and December 2014



## STUDENT SATISFACTION

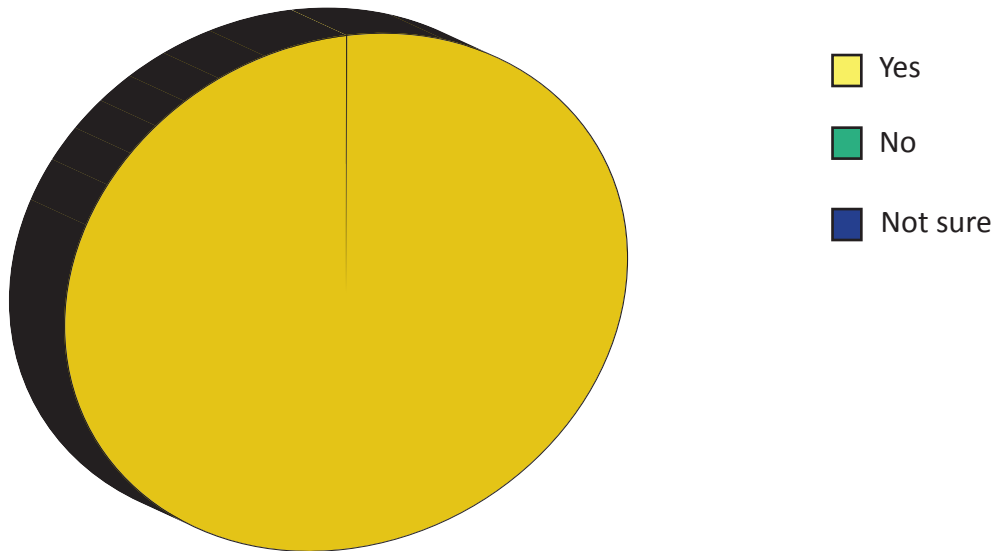
The Program in English as a Second Language administered a satisfaction survey for the Fall 2014 term. The survey yielded the following results.

**Question 1: How satisfied are you with the organization/structure of the program?**

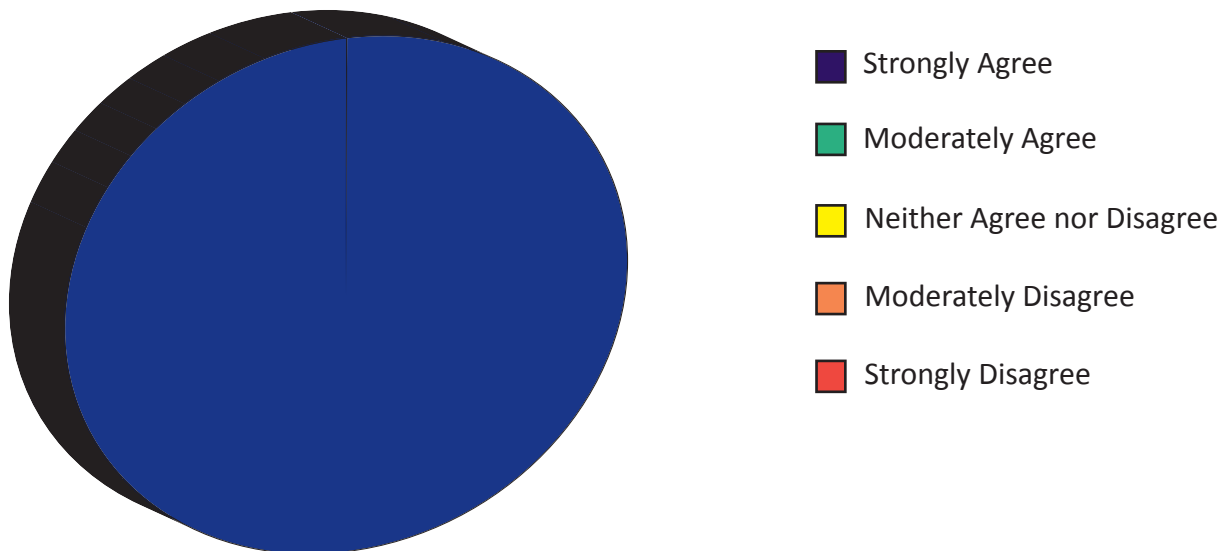


## STUDENT SATISFACTION

**Question 2: Have you utilized resources on campus (e.g., printing, library, gym, and other facilities)?**



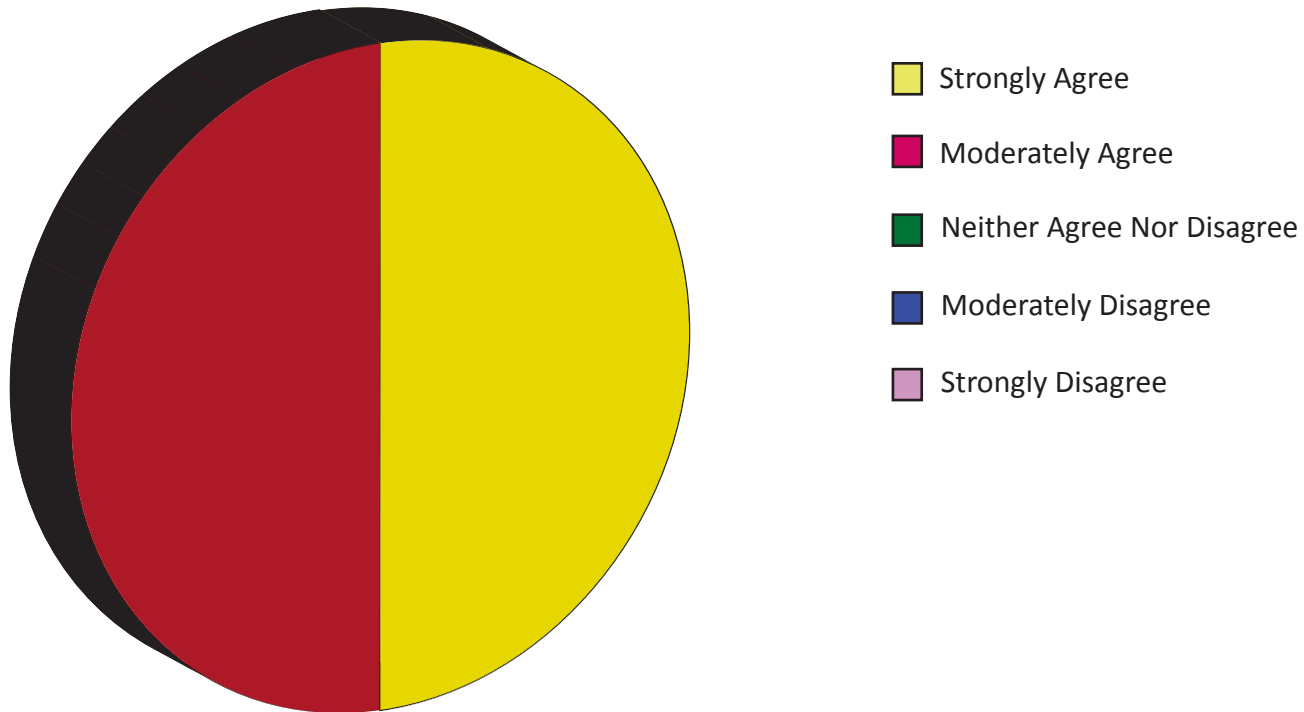
**Question 3: Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: I feel supported through the ESL Program.**





## STUDENT SATISFACTION

**Question 4: Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement:**  
*The ESL Program has offered opportunities to speak English outside of the classroom.*



## MEDIA

The Program in English as a Second Language has compiled media through several outlets: a website, photographs, an ESL Facebook page, an iPal Program website, an iPal Program Facebook page, an ESL Tumblr, an ESL Blog and an ESL video.

- Program in ESL website: [www.morgan.edu/esl](http://www.morgan.edu/esl)
- ESL Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/msuesl](https://www.facebook.com/msuesl) (photo albums of each excursion)
- iPal Program: [www.morgan.edu/ipalprogram](http://www.morgan.edu/ipalprogram)
- iPal Program Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/556579661078429/>
- ESL Blog: <http://blogs.morgan.edu/esl/>
- ESL Video: TBA
- ESL and iPal Photographs: Please see Appendix

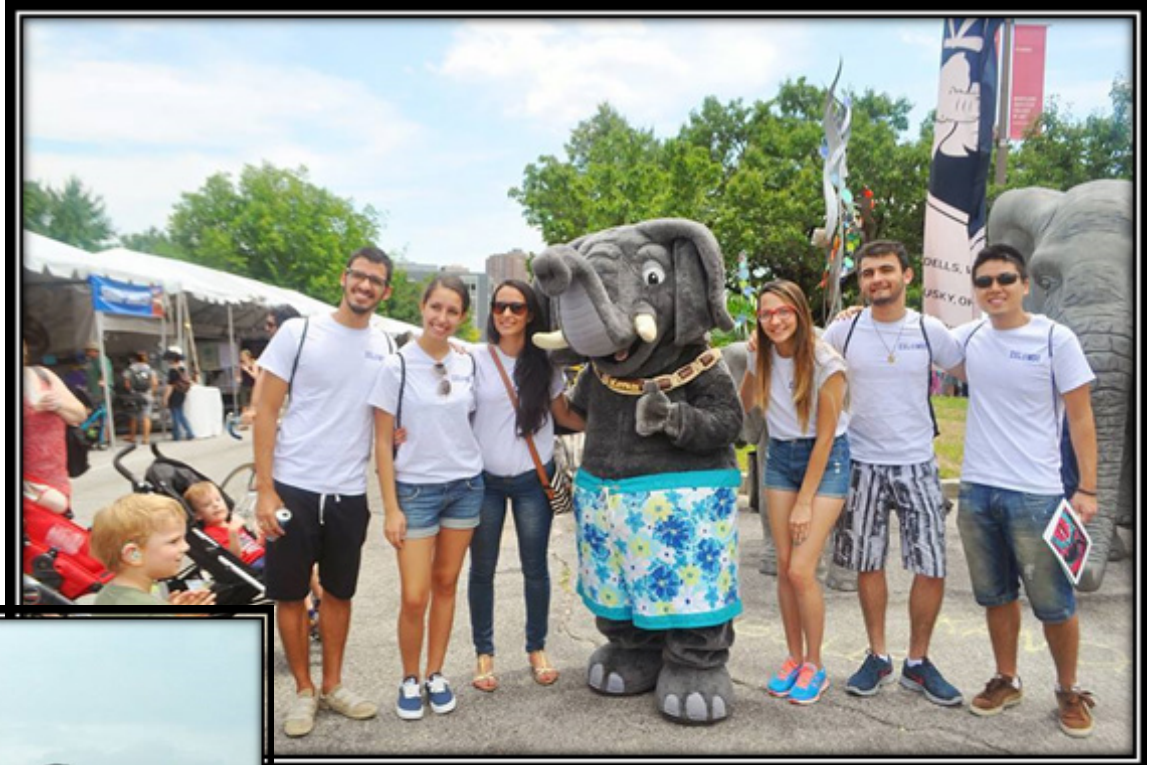
## SUMMARY

The ESL Program at Morgan State University consists of three interrelated components: language instruction, cultural immersion and educational field experiences. The program's foundational aim is to increase students' oral and written proficiency in standard American English. This is accomplished through classroom and laboratory based education in spaces designated for ESL instruction. However, our programs extend beyond the conventional classroom. We immerse our students in the English language through intensive course work with outstanding faculty, through the iPal mentoring Program and through cultural excursions. The Summer and Fall 2014 ESL Program has been deeply meaningful and successful. Students have improved upon their language and culture skills and have reported overwhelming satisfaction with the program and campus resources. We continue to lay foundation for a vibrant and dynamic program for future students from around the world!



*Ft. McHenry*

# APPENDIX



Friday, July 18th: Artscape



Friday, August 1st: Spirit Cruise Inner Harbor Historic Tour



Thursday, October 30th: Autumn Experience at Rodgers Farms







Friday, June 27th: Washington, D.C.



Summer & Fall certificate ceremonies

