

National Conference HEP Pre-Conference Description

Sunday, November 5th

9:00am-4:00pm

*Note: These sessions will be conducted in Spanish with English materials available



Lizelena Iglesias is the ABE and HSE Specialist at the Literacy Assistance Center. She joined the LAC in 2015 with over eight years of experience designing and teaching HSE courses, and leading professional development for HSE teachers in a community-based organization. Currently, Lizelena provides training and sustained coaching for adult and youth educators in best practices in literacy and science instruction, and in the integration of science, social studies and literacy instruction with occupational content and skills. Additionally, Lizelena developed and leads the science module of the LAC Academy High School Equivalency course; has developed science curricula for the Queens Public Library TASC Transition Curriculum project and has conducted numerous trainings on the Spanish HSE and the Spanish TABE tests.

Session #1: Supporting Students in Reading Complex Texts

Description: The ability to justify and defend a position is a critical necessity, as it pervades all aspects of life. It is also one of the skills high school equivalency students need to master, as many of them struggle with being able to postulate, articulate and advocate a point based on evidence. During this session, we will immerse ourselves in a close analysis of the food industry, specifically exploring the controversy surrounding antibiotics, growth hormones and feed additives. We will study various aspects of the reading process using complex primary and secondary texts. We will use effective tools to draw evidence from informational texts, as well as vocabulary to identify essential terms needed to understand these complex texts. Effective instructional strategies linking reading with an argumentative writing task will be presented. You will leave this session with a repertoire of ideas and effective instructional strategies to implement in your classroom.

Session #2: Using Case Studies to Explore the Scientific Method

Description: Case studies are a powerful way to develop critical thinking skills and to familiarize students with scientific information. This instructional method brings up discussion and understanding of the Scientific Method. During this session participants will be comparing news articles on a given research topic and then analyzing a research study on that topic. Through this experience, we will identify the elements of a scientific study and assess the validity of various sources. This session will give ample opportunity to examine the disparities which often exist between information presented in scientific journals and that presented in the media. We will finish up by applying principles of scientific inquiry while interpreting and evaluating scientific information.