

Partnership with the Petey Greene Program

SOCL B420: Praxis Fieldwork Seminar: Social Justice

Mary Pastore '25

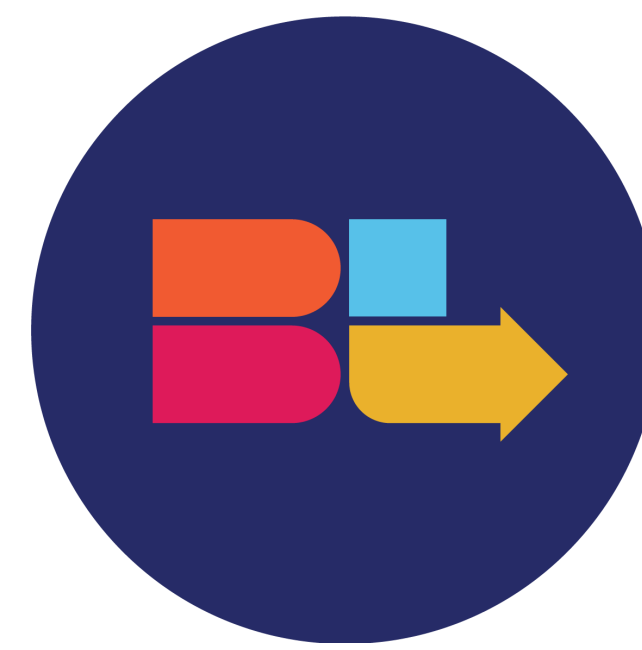
Faculty Advisor: David Karen

Field Supervisor: Chiara Benetollo

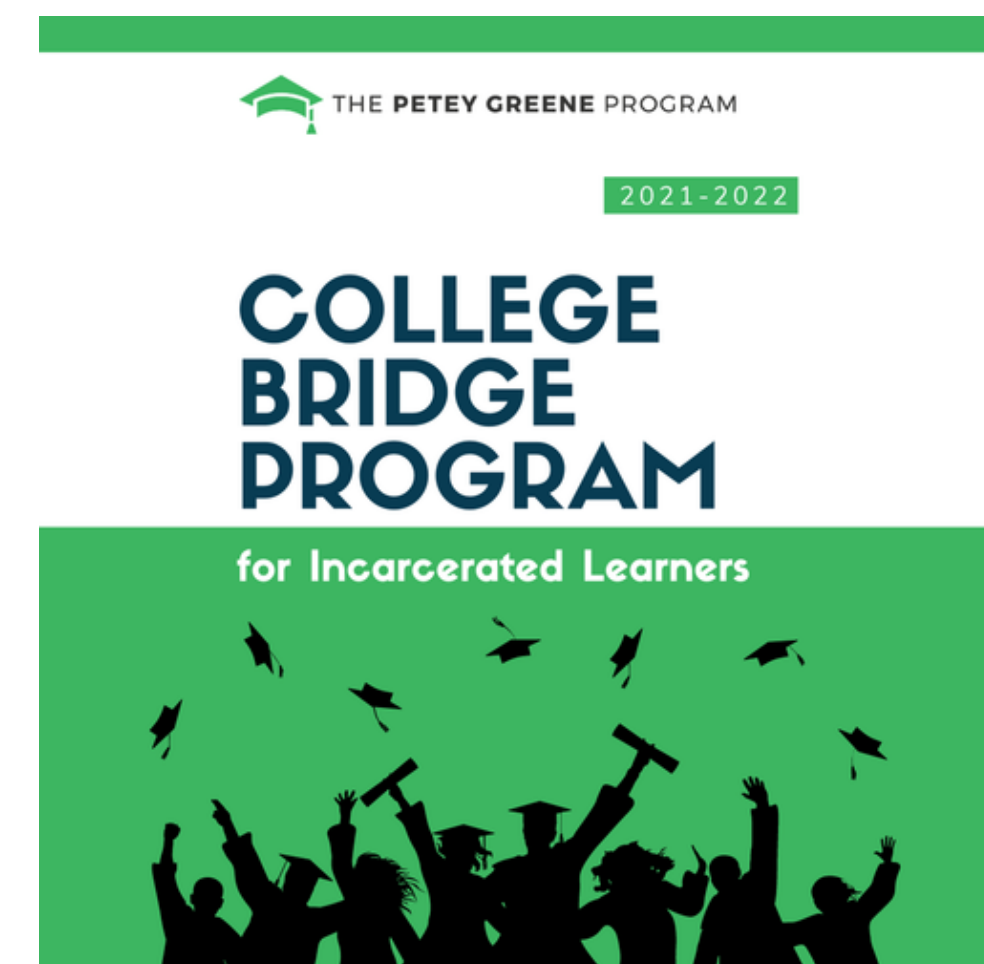


1. What does the Petey Greene Program do?

- Support incarcerated and formerly incarcerated students by providing high-quality tutoring services
- Train tutors to work comfortably in carceral spaces through interactive seminars
- Partner with Beyond Literacy, a Philadelphia-based organization dedicated to adult education, to tutor for the GED
- Start a College Bridge class at SCI Phoenix to prepare students for college applications and college-level classes



Beyond Literacy



Question 1

The following are excerpts from the US Constitution:

Article 1, Section 8 - "The Congress shall have Power To... raise and support Armies... To provide and maintain a Navy... to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia."

Article 2, Section 2 - "The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States."

Which fundamental principle of US democracy do these excerpts reflect?

2. What did I do as a volunteer?

- Guide students through RLA (Reasoning Through Language Arts) and Social Studies GED problems once a week at Beyond Literacy
- Help boost my student's scores enough for him to pass the Social Studies and RLA practice tests and prepare for the official tests
- Keep up with class readings for College Bridge and meet weekly with Chiara to discuss the work
- Provide feedback on College Bridge students' essays to help them gain confidence and writing skills

3. What were your most important takeaways from this experience?

What I Gained from my Time with PGP

I met many new people (Fiona, Chiara, Dan, Donavon, Professor Karen, Tiffany) and reconnected with others (Colleen, Lucy)!

Working with carceral facilities can be difficult and inconsistent, but it teaches patience and flexibility.

I worked hard to be more confident working with people I'd never met and going new places - I know my way around Philadelphia better now!

I became better at explaining my logic, making myself understood, and thinking on my feet, skills that all helped me be a more helpful tutor.

PGP has many tutor placements and great staff; I hope to keep my relationship strong and volunteer more!

It was so fulfilling for me to help students break out of the oppressive stereotypes bound to incarceration and help them prepare for bright futures.