

## Highlights

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# The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of  
the English Language Institute  
Volume 105, Issue 9  
March 7, 2008*



## Spring Break

*Relax! Enjoy!*

Just in case you aren't already aware of it, our Spring Break is next week. Since we have no scheduled trip this week and there is no major news, we thought that this week we might let you know that there are quite a few things that you can do if you don't already have plans. Even if you're staying here in town, there is a good bit that you can find right here in Gainesville.

If you do not yet have any plans for Spring Break, we have some suggestions for you! Within an easy day's drive from Gainesville, you will find Atlanta at one end and Miami at the other, with Savannah, Jacksonville, Cedar Key, Orlando, Tampa/St. Petersburg, and many other interesting places in between. There are a number of good Internet resources to help you locate last-minute hotel and flight reservations, notably Travelocity, Expedia, and Orbitz, found at [www.travelocity.com](http://www.travelocity.com), [www.expedia.com](http://www.expedia.com), and [www.orbitz.com](http://www.orbitz.com). And, if you really want good bargains and are feeling adventurous, then you can try out Priceline bidding at [www.priceline.com](http://www.priceline.com) or blind purchasing on Hotwire at [www.hotwire.com](http://www.hotwire.com). If you're planning on renting a car, then be sure to call all of the companies in town to check on the available rates.

If you are among those staying in Gainesville, there are lots of things to do, too! If you like museums, there are the Harn Museum of Art and the Florida Museum of Natural History, both located on the southwest side of campus. Each of these provides an afternoon of cultural enjoyment. If you like nature, check out the Devil's Millhopper State Geological Site and Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. And if you like bicycling, there is the Gainesville-Hawthorne Rail Trail—15 miles of paved cycling trail that winds through Paynes Prairie and beyond. Also, you can try the Depot Avenue/Waldo Road trail system. Also, Paynes Prairie itself has some really nice walking paths worth checking out.

If you're traveling, do please remember that missing any classes on the Friday before Spring Break or the Monday after do count toward total absences.

Check out some of the web links below for some information about traveling or things to do here in Gainesville.

[www.visitgainesville.com](http://www.visitgainesville.com)  
[www.springbreak.com](http://www.springbreak.com)  
[www.springbreaktravel.com](http://www.springbreaktravel.com)  
[www.daytonabeach.com](http://www.daytonabeach.com)  
[www.visitflorida.com](http://www.visitflorida.com)

## The Next Trip



Next week, on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, our next trip will be **The Midterm Picnic at Yulee Pit**. This will be a fun day in the sun to welcome the new B-Term ELI students. All ELI students, staff, and friends are invited to join us. There will be sports, games, and lot of fun. There will also be lots of great food!

The picnic will be at 11:30am. If it is raining, call 392-3354, x230 after 10am to see if the picnic has been moved. **C-Term students, please sign up early (before break) on the Activities Board by 4pm on Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, so we know how much food to order.**

Wear tennis shoes and sunblock.

Everyone is welcome!

## Notes from the Office

- **Time Change:** Remember to set your clocks 1 hour FORWARD on Saturday night, March 8<sup>th</sup>. The time changes officially at 2am on Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> for Daylight Savings Time
- **Spring Break:** There will be no ELI classes during the week of March 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>. Regular classes will resume on March 17<sup>th</sup>. ***Please remember that Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> and Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup> are regular class days.***
- **Appointments:** Students, when you receive a note from the office asking you to make an appointment to see one of our administrators, or if you have a need to see someone, please go to our receptionist, Scott, in the main office to make the appointment rather than going directly to the administrator. This allows for time to prepare and have an adequate amount of time to discuss whatever issues may be needed.
- **Lost and Found:** If you should lose something in the classrooms or elsewhere at the ELI, do come and check to see if it has been turned in in the Main Office, Room 315. Also, if you find something in the classrooms that got left behind, this is the place to bring it!

## Birthdays

The following are ELI birthdays from March 7-20:

Students:

March 7: Loai Alkhatabi  
March 7: Gabriela Barboza  
March 8: Elif Topsakal  
March 13: Khalid Almojel  
March 14: Musa Arslan  
March 14: Jetzabel Gross  
March 16: Germain Mavah  
March 17: Byoungyoul Kim

Staff:

March 17: Melina Jimenez

Happy Birthday, one and all!

## Manners and Culture

*Q: Why do many girls and guys in the US wear a lot of earrings?*

A: Fashion.

*Q: Why doesn't the ELI increase the number of classrooms?*

A: You might as well ask that of every single unit on campus. This is one of the problems of most every university in the country...where do we put everybody? The ELI is just one unit in a very large system in a very large university; we have 7 rooms assigned to us that we control directly (actually, this is more than some units that are larger than we are!), and we have to depend on the College of Education and the university administration to find us rooms when we need more.

*Q: Why is the American accent different between black and white people?*

A: First, we have to say that the following is a huge generalization. Just as in any society, there are all kinds of differences, and our African-American community is no exception. Not everyone uses the language the same way, of course. Nevertheless, it's true—there are some differences sometimes. There are a lot of historical forces that shape language in general. It's a gross oversimplification to sum up history in a paragraph, but that's what we have to work with here. In the case of the US, we had a system of slavery for the first 250 years or so of our 400 year existence. Even after slavery ended, we had an enormously difficult time integrating our society. With that much separation between people in almost any situation, language differences are pretty natural. Family and social separation still does continue, and there is a very distinct tendency to work to preserve minority culture, so some language differences will most likely continue.

## Quote of the Week

Don't reserve your best behavior for special occasions. You can't have two sets of manners, two social codes - one for those you admire and want to impress, another for those whom you consider unimportant. You must be the same to all people.

*Lillian Eichler Watson*



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