

Highlights

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The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
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End-of-Semester Barbecue

Come join the fun!

This coming weekend, Saturday, April 14th, there is no scheduled ELI trip. We have this break from trips because many ELI classes will be having Final Exams next week, and we want to give you plenty of time to study.

The following Saturday, April 21st, we are holding our **End of Semester Barbecue at Ginnie Springs!** This is a chance to celebrate the end of the semester with your classmates, language assistants, teachers, family, and friends at Ginnie Springs. Enjoy barbecue chicken and sides from Sonny's Barbecue restaurant which will be served around 12:30pm. After eating, have fun tubing or canoeing, playing soccer, volleyball, and other games. This is the last weekend activity this semester, so don't miss it!

Who: All ELI students, staff, family, and friends are invited. Just sign up on the Activities Board before 4pm on Thursday, April 19th, so we know how much food to order.

When: Saturday, April 21st. We will meet at Norman Garage at 10:30am. You can come back to Gainesville whenever your car chooses to return, probably around 4pm.

Cost: Entrance into the park is \$10.00 plus tax and the barbecue is FREE and delicious! Tube rental is \$6 plus tax and we can share tubes. Canoes can also be rented.

Transportation: This is a carpool trip. Ginnie Springs is about a 45-minute drive

from Gainesville. You **MUST SIGN UP** on the Activities Board by 4pm Thursday, April 12th. *If you are driving your own car- you must sign up on the activities board so we can order food for you!! Also, sign up any friends and family members that you are bringing with you!*

What to Bring: Wear your bathing suit and bring a towel!!! Also bring sunscreen. If you want to rent a tube or canoe you will also need an ID and credit card. Most importantly, bring an appetite for good food and fun!

What Not to Bring: No Pets. Also please remember that there is NO alcohol at ELI events.

Scholarship Winners

Please join me in congratulating the winners of the Scholarships for the Spring 2012 semester.

The Jayne C. Harder Memorial Scholarship: Mairelsy Motta Yopez

The J.C. Casagrande Peace Scholarship: Carmen Castro de Salazar

Congratulations as well to the other nominees:

Abdulrahman Alkhalaf
Mariela Castaneda Fuenmayor
Kennyomar Garcia Machado
Ricardo Saez Graterol
Dilenny Urbina Hurtado

Jose Vasquez Rodriguez

It is very difficult to be nominated for a scholarship. This means the nominees all worked extra hard this semester and achieved the following criteria.

- Full-time semester student at the ELI.
- Academic Excellence: The student should have a 4.0 GPA and demonstrate a high level of proficiency in at least three of the four skill areas.
- Outstanding Progress: The student should display outstanding progress in language skills as evidenced by improvements in coursework.
- Excellent Attendance: The student should miss no more than ten hours of class in the semester.
- Speak English: The student should make every effort to speak English at all times while at the ELI and at ELI-sponsored activities.
- Successful Work Strategies: The student should demonstrate personal initiative in and out of the classroom, making an effort to get involved in the ambient culture through outside activities such as regular participation in Cultural Immersion activities.

Students, if you want to win the scholarship next semester, make sure to follow the same criteria and talk to the nominees and winners to learn how else to become an excellent student.

Comics Conference

The English Department at UF is hosting the Ninth Annual Conference on Comics and Graphic Novels, "Monsters in the Margins," on April 13-15, 2012.

You can meet the panelists, UF professors, students, and the general public at the meet-and-greet on Friday the 13th at 5:00pm in the Arredondo Café at the Reitz Union; there will be free pizza!

Panels and presentations for the conference will be held in Room 284 of the Reitz Union from 9:00am to 7:30pm on Saturday, April 14th and from 9:00am to 3:00pm on Sunday, April 15th.

This event is free and open to the public and it's a fun way to practice your listening skills!

http://www.english.ufl.edu/comics/2012_Conference/home.html

Reminders from the Office

Are you a Spring B student? Don't forget to go to Tigert Hall on Tuesday, April 10th, at 1:55pm with your LS class for the Spring B 2012 class picture.

What to apply to study as an undergraduate or graduate student in the US? Don't forget to attend the University Admissions Workshop on Tuesday, April 10 from 5:15 to 7:30. It will be in Norman 250. Please sign up on the ELI Announcement Board.

Submitting a video for the competition? Don't forget that it is due to the CIP office in Norman 218 by April 20th.

Returning for Summer C? Check in online between May 10 - May 15. The check-in link will be available on May 10 on the ELI homepage. You can also check in by phone, fax, email or in person. Please only check in once!

If you do not check in on time, there will be a \$100 fee and you may not be permitted to enroll.

Going home and want to return to the US? You must have your I-20 signed in the ELI Main Office (Room 315) in order to be allowed back into the country!

Taking a vacation semester? You must speak with Daryl before May 21, 2012.

Transferring to another school? You'll need to show Daryl that you have been accepted to the new school before May 15 and he can release your I-20 to that program.

Returning for Summer B? You must see Daryl before you leave the country.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the period April 9 to April 12:

Students:
April 9: Abdullah Alsaad
April 10: Gihye Kim
April 11: Hyunwoo Kim
April 11: Leonardo Nunez Trybiec
April 12: Meznah Albaqami
April 12: Khaled Alseud
April 14: Mohammad Aljabhan
April 14: Nawaf Almuhareb
April 15: Mohammed Alahmadi

Staff:

April 12: Thomas Dolce
April 12: James Tatum

Manners and Culture

Q: Why are teachers so strict about due dates and deadlines?

For the same reason that we expect punctuality. It's part of the culture, especially the university culture. Professors have very strict deadlines and most will not grant extensions unless you have a very good reason. Asking professors to turn something in late is basically telling the professors that your time is more important than their time. If you have an emergency and need to ask for an extension, it is very important to ask as soon as possible before the deadline. Remember, the professor can still say no and many will, but communication is key!

Grammar

Q: *Can I omit the auxiliary verb (do, does, did) in a wh- question?*

A: No. If there is no form of "to be" or some other auxiliary or modal, you need it. There are varieties of American English that do sometimes omit it, but in the standard use, it's necessary.

Standard English: Where are you at?
Non-standard variety: Where you at?

Quote of the Week

Live as if you were to die tomorrow.
Learn as if you were to live forever.

Mahatma Gahdhi

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