

Highlights

- St. Augustine
- Summer 2014 Deadlines
- Manners & Cultures
- Reminders from the Office
- Letters of Recommendation
- Grammar

The ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of
the English Language Institute
Volume 123, Issue 12
March 31, 2014



St. Augustine

Visit the Nation's Oldest City!

On Saturday, April 5th we will be going to St. Augustine which is the oldest European city in the US! St. Augustine was founded in September 1565. It was named St. Augustine after the Saint with the same name.

First, we will visit the Old City, where everyone can visit the Fort and walk through the streets during a special art show event. After that, we will visit the beach (depending on the weather) and the lighthouse. Families are welcome!

When: Saturday, April 5th. We will be meeting at Norman Garage at 9:00am. We will leave St. Augustine around 6:30pm and arrive in Gainesville around 8:00pm.

Cost: You'll need to purchase a bus pass from Nate in Norman 318 between 9:00am and 12:30pm before Friday, April 4th. Please bring \$20 cash, exact change, and a picture ID (like a Gator 1 ID card or a passport). Bus passes are non-refundable and first come, first serve.

What to bring: Your yellow bus passes and Gator 1 IDs to get on the bus. You should bring about \$40 for museums and food. Bring a swim suit, towel and sunscreen for the beach! Don't forget to bring a camera!

The Next Trip

Saturday, April 12th we will not have a weekend activity, so you can study for finals. Tuesday, April 15th, we will be holding our **ELI Talent Show**. Details about the activity will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Reminders from the Office

ELI Talent Show Rehearsals: Remember that rehearsals are mandatory for ALL acts. If any act is NOT in attendance, you risk losing your spot in the show.

When: Tuesday, April 1st - 5:30pm-7:30pm
Where: Carleton Auditorium

Student Voices: *Student Voices* submissions are due by Friday, April 4th. You can submit your entries for the *Voices* to me at mpjimenez@ufl.edu. Include your name, class, and a title for your piece!

Graduate Admissions Workshop: A representative from the UF graduate school will present and answer questions on April 9th from 5:15 to 6:30 in Norman 288. More details will be in next week's *Weekly*.

Library Fines and Infirmary Fees: Remember that if you have any outstanding fees or fines, you'll need to clear those up soon. There is a handout on Emily's door

(Norman 316) that shows you how to pay those fines. If there are any outstanding balances owed, we won't be able to release any of your academic information or certificates to you. The end of the semester will be here before you know it!

Summer C 2014 Deadlines

If you are returning for the Summer semester, please be aware of the following deadlines.

Check in online, by phone, fax, email or in person:

Summer C students: Between May 9 - May 13

If you are going home, and want to return to the United States, before you leave, you must get your I-20 signed. When you return, you must report to the Student Health Care Center for a PPD evaluation.

If you are taking a vacation semester, you must let us know before May 21.

If you cannot study in Summer C but want to return for Summer B or Fall C, please speak with Daryl.

If you do not check in on time, there will be a \$100 fee and you may not be permitted to enroll. No students will be accepted after May 23.

Letters of Recommendation

If you need a letter of recommendation, please ask your instructor first to see if she or he can write a letter for you. Please note that instructors' letters have to be an accurate description of your work and student skills so if you have a lot of absences or do not do the classwork, it will be very difficult to write a letter that will be helpful for you.

If your instructor agrees to write a letter for you, you will then have to go to the ELI main office and fill out a document request form. We will send the request to your instructor. Without this form, your instructor is not able to write a letter.

For all other requested documents, please talk to our receptionist. Documents can take from 3 days to two weeks.

When possible, please plan ahead if you need a document or letter from the main office or your instructor.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of March 31 to April 6:

Students:

March 31: Othman Alanquri
April 1: Seyedehniloofar Moosavi
April 1: Andres Ospina Martinez
April 4: Fouad Abduhalala
April 6: Nívea Oliveira Martins

April 6: Ana Beatriz Basto Alves

Staff:
None this week!

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

Q: What is April Fools'? What do people usually do this day?

A: We play practical jokes on people. A common one is to put sugar in someone's salt shaker. I'm not recommending that you do this; it's just an example!

Q: Why do teachers expect students to work in pairs or groups?

A: At universities, teachers expect students to work together on projects. Group work is also an important part of most of our work culture so your teachers are preparing you for an aspect of 'real world' in the US.

Grammar

Q: Can you end a sentence with a preposition?

A: There is a rule that says you shouldn't end sentences with a preposition. However, this rule came from Latin so it doesn't really work in English and can make sentences sound awkward. In everyday speaking, there's definitely no problem with putting them there.

Appropriate: I told you who you can talk to.

Awkward: I told you to whom you can talk.

Q: When do you use an apostrophe and when do you use 'of the' for possessive?

A: The apostrophe is generally used for animate possessors (the cat's paw) while "of" is used for inanimate possessors (the leg of the chair). Don't confuse these with noun adjuncts, which are when a noun modifies another noun (flower garden vs. rock garden).

Apostrophe: Rachel's car is getting fixed.

Wrong: The car of Rachel is getting fixed.

"Of": There is a big scratch on the side of the car.

Wrong: There is a big scratch on the car's side.

Noun adjunct: The car stereo is broken.

Wrong: The car's stereo is broken.

Wrong: The stereo of the car is broken.

Quote of the Week

This curious world we inhabit is more wonderful than convenient; more beautiful than it is useful; it is more to be admired and enjoyed than used.

Henry David Thoreau



English Language Institute
PO Box 117051
315 Norman Hall
Gainesville, FL 32611-7051, USA
Phone: (352) 392-2070
Fax: (352) 392-3744
StudyEnglish@eli.ufl.edu
www.eli.ufl.edu
www.facebook.com/UFLELI