

# ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of the English Language Institute

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## July 4th Holiday

Though there is class on Monday, July 3rd, the ELI will be closed on Tuesday, **July 4th** for the U.S. Independence Day, and there will be no classes.

## Summer Break

Summer Break is right around the corner and, even if you haven't yet made plans, there's plenty of fun to be had! Here are some ideas that don't involve a plane ticket (or sometimes even a car).

On campus, you can visit the **Harn Museum of Art** and the **Florida Museum of Natural History**. You can rent movies for free from the **UF libraries**, watch the bats emerge from the **UF Bat House** every night at dusk, or take a walk around **Lake Alice**.

If you enjoy nature and want to stay in Gainesville, check out the **Devil's Millhopper State Geological Site** and **Kanapaha Botanical Gardens**. Or you might like a bicycle ride on the **Gainesville-Hawthorne Rail Trail**—15 miles of paved cycling trail that winds through Payne's Prairie and beyond. Also, you can try the **Depot Avenue/Waldo Road** trail system.

For quiet beaches, **Anastasia State Park** (next to St. Augustine) is a great day trip, and **Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge** has miles of natural coastline. If you'd prefer a more developed oceanfront, **St. Augustine**, **Cedar Key**, **Daytona**, and **Cocoa Beach** are all nearby. And for the ultimate in seaside glamour, the beaches in **Miami** aren't that far if you're willing to plan a longer trip.

Of course, **Disney World** and **Universal Studios** are in Orlando, but **Tampa**, **Sarasota**, **Jacksonville**, **Atlanta**, **Savannah**, and many other interesting cities aren't far and are filled with fun things to do.

Finally, if you are staying close to home, you may want to spend the vacation exploring Gainesville. Perhaps you can find a new place to study—like the downtown **Alachua County Library**. You might get together with some friends to watch the **World Cup Soccer** games, or organize a potluck and sample food from all different countries. And don't forget that everyone is invited to the **ELI midterm picnic** on Saturday, July 1st.

Whatever you choose to do, we hope you have fun and stay safe!

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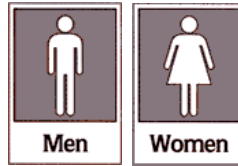
### Inside this issue:

Summer Break Ideas | July 4th Holiday | Midterm Picnic

## Manners and Culture

**Q: Which symbols represent male and female restrooms?**

A: The men's restroom is symbolized by an image similar to the one on the left, while women's, the one on the right. Unless the room is marked "unisex," male and female restrooms are separate.



**Q: Why do people in the U.S. use so many plastic grocery bags? Don't they think it will cause damage to the environment?**

A: This is a fairly recent development—most stores used to give customers the choice between paper and plastic bags. Now, because of the price and convenience of plastic bags, stores lean toward using only plastic. Most people reuse the plastic bags in their homes (as garbage bags, for example), and several grocery store chains have begun recycling old bags to make new ones. Still, the problem isn't widely recognized yet, and only a handful of shoppers usually bring their own cloth bags to the store.



*Thanks for your input! If you have a question about U.S. manners and culture, please email our ELI Weekly editor, Nora Spencer, at [noraspcencer@gmail.com](mailto:noraspcencer@gmail.com), or put questions in her mailbox (marked **Spencer** in the ELI Main Office).*

## Summer Break and I-20s

If you plan to leave the US *at all* during the break please remember to come to the office to have your I-20 signed so that you won't have trouble getting back into the country!

## Birthdays

Belated birthday wishes to:

June 17: Sandra Padilla

Happy upcoming birthday wishes to:

June 25: Eun Ae

June 27: Eissa Alsaleh

June 29: Wagdi Cattan

July 3: Seon A Yun

July 3: Sarah Garcia

July 4: Pedro Vivas

July 4: Luisana Serrapiglio



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