

The ELI Weekly

Hoggetown Medieval Faire



Come experience the Middle Ages and join the ELI at the 31st annual Hoggetowne Medieval Faire on Saturday, February 4th! There will be medieval shows, rides, games, and other fun activities! Come see performers re-enact the Medieval Ages, eat themed food, shop, ride camels, shoot a bow and arrow, and watch jousting!

When: Saturday,
February 4th

Where: Meet at 10 a.m.

at Norman Garage. We will be returning around 1:00-2:00 p.m. You must sign-up on the Activities Board by 4 p.m. on Thursday to attend.

Cost: \$17 for adults (18+) or \$7 for ages 5-17. (Bring an ID that shows your birthday to get the discount.)

What to Bring: Wear comfortable clothes and tennis shoes. Bring cash for food and shopping.



A Special Message from the ELI

Dear Students,

Many of you have been following the news of the *Executive Order* to temporarily stop citizens from seven countries from coming to the United States. Already there have been many protests across the country by people who think the order is wrong, and many Attorneys General are saying this order is *unconstitutional* and illegal. We hope that the order will end soon. Unfortunately, we cannot know if that will happen.

What we DO know is that at the ELI, the University of Florida, and in Gainesville, the majority of people WANT students and immigrants from these countries, and all countries, to be able to travel to the US. Many people are asking how to help international students at this upsetting time. We are happy that so many people we speak to ask how they can help you.

We also know that this time can be very difficult for you. We know that even people from countries not included in the *Executive Order* might be very worried about traveling outside of the US, or living in the US

right now. We want to do everything we can to help and support you. If you have any questions about your visa, your status in the US, or travelling outside of the US, please come talk to Daryl Bish. If anyone ever makes you feel uncomfortable or unwelcome because of your nationality, religious beliefs, culture, or any other reason, please come talk to Megan Forbes so the University of Florida can stand up for you.

Most importantly, we want YOU to know that you are important to us. We are fortunate to have some of the top students, researchers, scholars, and professionals in the world studying at the ELI and UF. We believe the US, and the world, benefit as much from your presence in the US as you do from being here. We will do everything we can to make sure all students have the opportunity to study here safely and happily. Please let us know if there is ever anything else we can do to help you.

Peace always,

Megan
ELI Director

Grammar

Q: How do you know which preposition to use?

A: You have to memorize the rules. As you become a more proficient speaker of English, you'll start to develop a "feel" for it.

*Q: When speaking English, do we usually say **on** Feb 2, 2016, or **in** Feb 2, 2016? Is it right to say **in** February or **on** February?*

A: The rule for prepositions of time for dates is the following:

Use **in** + month, year, century, or season.

- I was born in March, in the twentieth century, in spring.

Use **on** + date, weekday, weekday morning, afternoon, evening.

- I was born on March 17.
- I was born on Wednesday morning.

Use **at** + noon, night, clock time, present.

- I was born at 7:35.
- I was not born at night.

*Q: What is the difference between **at** and **in** for locations?*

A: Generally, **in** is used when you are inside of a place whereas **at** is used when you're somewhere near or around the place. **In** also emphasizes that you're inside the building and **at** is more of the idea of the location.

- I am in Matherly Hall. [Inside the building]
- I am at Matherly Hall [Usually outside]

Manners & Culture

Q: Why do students in the US call teachers by their first names? In my country, this is impolite.

A: Most of us don't. It really depends on the teacher's preference. In a regular university class, it is common to use "Doctor" or "Professor" plus the person's last name. Or, if they don't have a Ph.D. degree, we might use "Mr." or "Ms." At the ELI we are a little less formal – on purpose. We try to create a less formal and more conversational environment in order to help students feel comfortable and get them talking more.

The Next Activity

Next weekend the ELI will be going to see the UF gymnastics team compete on Friday! More details will be posted on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Notes from the Office

Class: First and foremost, go to class. This is the absolute best way to improve your English. Be on time! Second, speak English. Third, do the work. The teachers choose it purposely to help you.

Immunizations & Insurance: If you received a note from the office about this, take care of it as soon as possible! You will not be allowed to attend class until you do. If you have a question, you should ask in the ELI Main Office, Matherly 223. Remember, if you're absent because you're taking care of this, your teacher **MUST** count it.

Tuition and Financial Guarantees: If you have not paid tuition or provided your financial guarantee you need to see Christine Kunkel in the main office immediately! You will not be allowed to attend class until you do. If you miss class because of this, your teacher **MUST** count you absent.

Trash: The UF campus has trash and recycling bins everywhere. All of our classrooms and hallways also have trashcans and recycling bins. Please use them to dispose of your garbage properly and keep our campus and classrooms beautiful.

Birthdays!

Students:

January 30: Eissa Abbas
January 30: Mohammed Saleh
January 30: Abdalla Ibrahim
January 30: Albina Hartner
January 31: Abdoul Karimou Hamidou Karimou

Staff

February 3: Maya Shastri



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