

# The ELI Weekly

## Busch Gardens Trip

Busch Gardens is a theme park in Tampa. It is famous for its roller coasters and its wild animals. Among the roller coasters is "Sheikra", which has two 90-degree angle drops making it the first coaster of its kind in the Americas and only the third in the world. This is one of the most popular trips of the semester; don't forget to buy your bus pass early!

For more information visit their website at [www.buschgardens.com](http://www.buschgardens.com)



**When:** Saturday, February 17th from 9:00a.m. until about 9:30 p.m. We will go rain or shine.

**Where:** Meet at the Norman Hall garage – bring your ID and bus pass

**Transportation:** This is a bus trip so you must purchase a pass from Nate in the CIP office. To buy the pass, bring \$20 and your Gator 1 card to MAT 211 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The last day to buy bus passes is Thursday, February 15th. This is non-refundable.

**Cost:** The bus passes do not include the price of admission to Busch Gardens. Busch Gardens admission tickets are \$90 plus taxes and fees if you buy it online before the trip. You can also buy a Florida resident Fun Card for \$105 plus tax and use it for admission to Busch Gardens and Adventure Island as many times as you want until December 31, 2018. Bring your Gator 1 card or Florida driver's license to prove that you are a Florida resident. Also, bring money for food and souvenirs.



## Email

Students, you should check your email EVERYDAY. Check both your regular email and your UF email.

You should look for messages from the ELI about immunizations and insurance, tuition, and any fees from the university, like infirmery bills or library fines. It is important to stay aware of the information that the university sends to you!

To check your UF email, go to [outlook.com/ufl.edu](http://outlook.com/ufl.edu) and login using your Gatorlink user ID and password. Your email address will be your Gatorlink ID "@ufl.edu" If you have questions or need help, come to the ELI Main Office, Matherly 223.

## Upcoming Activities

This Thursday, February 15th, we will go to the Reitz Union Arts and Crafts Center from 6:30-8:30 pm! You can paint a cup or bowl and hang out with your ELI friends. Please bring \$5-10 to buy the materials.

For the next two weekends, we will not have activities since you will need to study for midterm exams and then it is the beginning of Spring Break.

Our next activity will be the Midterm Picnic to welcome the Spring B students on Saturday, March 10th. Details will be on the Activities Board and in a future issue of the *Weekly*.

## IRS Tax Forms

All international students who studied in the US in 2017 are required to file a tax form in the United States. **You are required to file this form even if you have no taxable income.** The deadline to file your taxes is Tuesday, April 17. This is especially important if you have income from any source other than bank interest (like an on-campus job).

You can find the form you need at:

<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040nr.pdf>

If you do not have any dependents, you can fill out the simple version of this form:

<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040nre.pdf>

You can also find many answers to your questions on the UF International Center tax page:

<http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/iss/Taxes.html?menuId=1&smId=5>

The links above are also on the ELI Facebook page.

Completing these forms is a requirement, so if you do not understand how to complete them, please ask for help! You can make an appointment to speak with Victoria or Daryl if you have questions.

## Manners & Culture

*Q: What do Americans do for Valentine's Day?*

A: Many people, especially couples, go out to dinner for Valentine's Day. However, the restaurants will be very busy and some have special menus that are more expensive. Some people go to the movies or have a special dinner at home. Groups of friends might get together to go out so everyone feels included. Children exchange cards and candy at school.

## Grammar

*Q: What are the correct uses for a semicolon?*

A: Semicolons are used to connect two related independent clauses in the same place where a period could go. You should not use it to separate an independent and dependent clause. Here are some examples:

- I usually wear a coat in the winter; I've only worn a coat once this year.
- I thought it would be very cold in January; however, it wasn't cold.
- Incorrect: If the weather gets cold; I will have to wear a coat.

## Birthdays!

Students:

February 11: Anai Valverde Ruiz

February 14: Ayman Alghamdi

February 14: Luciana Brandao Paim  
Marques

February 17: Maria Alvarado Lopez

Staff:

None this week

## Notes from the Office

**Immunizations & Insurance:** If you got a note from the office about this, take care of it immediately! You won't be allowed in class until you do. Every day that you wait is another day of absences.

**Tuition:** If you were given an extension to pay your tuition or owe a late fee, be sure to pay by the deadline! If you have questions, talk to Jennifer V. in the Main Office.

**Spring Break:** From March 5th through March 9th, UF and ELI will be closed for Spring Break. If you plan to travel out of the US during that time, double check to be sure that page 2 of your I-20 is signed. If not, talk to Daryl before you leave!

**Library:** Don't forget, you can borrow books from the ELI Library in the Main Office anytime! Just ask Tiffany.

## Quote of the Week

Love the life you live.  
Live the life you love.

- Bob Marley



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