

# The ELI Weekly



## Universal Islands of Adventure

Universal Islands of Adventure is a theme park in Orlando. It has roller coasters, 3D rides, and lots to see!

If you're a Harry Potter fan, you can walk through Hogsmeade Village, visit Hogwarts Castle, drink butterbeer (nonalcoholic), and even buy a wand!



You can also visit Jurassic Park, King Kong, cool off on water rides, and go on the newly remodeled Hulk rollercoaster in Marvel's Superhero Island! This is one of the most popular and exciting trips of the semester so don't miss it!

**When:** Saturday, June 3rd. Meet at the Norman Garage at 9:00am. Please don't be late! We will return to Gainesville around 9:30pm.

**Transportation:** This is a bus trip so you must purchase a pass from the CIP office in MAT 10 for \$20 cash (exact change). We still have a lot of passes left! Come by any morning this week to get yours!

**Park Tickets:** Buy your ticket online at [universalorlando.com](http://universalorlando.com). A one-day ticket costs \$132 total.

**What to Bring:** Your bus pass, Gator 1 ID card, your park ticket, extra money for meals and shopping (at least \$20), comfortable shoes and clothes, sunscreen, and be ready to have fun!

## Notes From the Office

**Daryl Out:** Daryl will be out of the office this week. If you have a question, make an appointment to see him when he returns.

**Tuition, Immunizations, & Insurance:** Remember to take care of this as soon as possible. You will not be allowed to attend class until you do.

**Trash:** UF has trash and recycling bins in hallways and all over campus. You should always take the time to throw your trash away in the correct bin!

Remember to pick up your trash when you have snacks or meals outside, you are leaving classrooms, or are at CIP activities and other events!

**Conversation Partners:** Get a Conversation Partner to improve your English speaking skills and make a new friend here in Gainesville! To sign up, talk to Catherine in the CIP office, MAT 10, between 9am-12pm THIS week. If you have any questions, email [conversationpartners@eli.ufl.edu](mailto:conversationpartners@eli.ufl.edu).

## Upcoming Activities

**Thursday Afternoon:** This Thursday, we will meet downtown at Depot Park from 6-8:30. You can also meet at Norman Garage at 5:45 if you have a bicycle! Find more info outside MAT 10.

**Next Weekend:** On Saturday, June 10th, the ELI will visit **Lake Wauburg**. More details will be on the activities board by MAT 10 and in next week's *Weekly*.

## Birthdays!

Students:

May 30: Ricardo Dimas Acosta  
June 1: Ali Khormi

## A Message About ELI Religious Holiday Policy



The ELI recognizes the importance of you having the opportunity to observe the holy days of your faith. If you have a religious observance that will conflict with class attendance, with tests or examinations, or with other class activities prior to the class or occurrence of that test or activity, you must tell your teacher prior to the holiday.

Unfortunately, the ELI is not able to schedule activities that do not conflict with the holy days of all religious groups because our students represent a great variety of cultures and faiths. For this reason, individual students should make their need for absence known in advance of the scheduled activities.

If you have a religious holy day, and you miss class:

- You must **tell your teacher beforehand** when you have a religious holy day. If you do not, you might not be able to make up the work in your class.

- **You will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities** covered in your absence. Your teacher may give you a deadline that you must meet.
- **Your grade will not be harmed** due to your absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances, **but it needs to be tracked for immigration reasons.**
- **Your absences still count** towards the permitted 15%.

If a lot of students will be absent from class because of a religious observance, the faculty member will reschedule a major exam or other academic event at that time.

Students are not required to provide documentation for the absence.

Students who feel that they have been unreasonably denied an education benefit due to religious beliefs or practices may seek action through the student grievance procedure.

## My Life as an Undergrad: Part 2

"Assignment 1" by Melina Jimenez

For our first big writing assignment, we had to read a short story and write a 1,200 word literary analysis. I was nervous because literary analysis is one of my weaknesses, and it was even more difficult because we didn't look at outlines or useful phrases. The only examples we read were 20-page papers by experts that were much higher level than undergraduates. It was like reading the *New York Times* to write a description paragraph in RW20. I asked an ELI teacher who was more comfortable with literary analysis to look at my paper and she gave me great feedback.

Our instructor said, "If you screw up the thesis statement, you screwed up the whole paper" so I knew that I had to work hard to write a strong argumentative thesis statement and make sure that my body paragraphs supported my thesis. Hearing her say that confirmed my belief that the skills we teach at the ELI are really valid and important for future writing classes. I also learned that having a friend read my work was really helpful. If you want to read my paper with my teacher's comments, I am happy to show it to you.

## 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.

## Grammar

*Q: What is the difference between the word lose and loose? When do I use lose or loose?*

A: *Lose* is a verb and it means *to misplace* or *to not win*. *Loose* is an adjective which means *not tight*. You'll need to memorize the spelling and the pronunciation. Look at the sentences below to see the difference:

1. I always *lose* my cellphone at school. (can't find)
2. The players *lose* the game every time they play in the rain. (don't win)
3. My pants are *loose* so I need to use a belt. (not tight)



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