

# The ELI Weekly

## Welcome!



*Our Director,  
Megan Forbes,  
has a message for  
you:*

Dear students,

Welcome to the University of Florida ELI Summer C 2021 Semester. We

are excited to both welcome back returning students and to welcome new students to the University of Florida!

All of you know that the ELI is the Intensive English Program at the

University of Florida. This means you are going to be spending a lot of time in your classes, with your teachers, with your Language Assistants, doing homework, and participating in activities. We hope all of this can help you achieve your goal of learning more English.

In addition to the teachers and Language Assistants, we have many people at the ELI who are here to help you achieve your goal, and also to make your adjustment to new classes, Canvas, and Gainesville as easy as possible. If you need any help with anything, please ask. You can stop by the office in 223 Matherly Hall or talk to us via phone, email, and Zoom. You are not alone!

I know as we continue our adventure together into the world of teaching and learning during a pandemic, we do not know exactly what to expect. As more and more members of our UF and Gainesville community have the opportunity to be vaccinated against COVID, we may see changes to policies or activities in the coming months. We are excited that these changes could bring even more opportunities to learn and practice English together, but if you ever have any questions or concerns about these changes or our policies, please let me know right away! I want to hear from you, so don't wait until the end of the semester.

On behalf of everyone at the ELI, welcome again, to the Summer C, 2021 semester. We are glad you are here!

## Notes from the Office

We want all of you to feel as comfortable as possible while you are studying with us here at the ELI. If you have any questions, your teachers, your Language Assistants, our staff members or administrators are here to help you! For specific questions about I-20s and other immigration matters, or university or community college admissions, please email or call **Daryl Bish** ([dbish@eli.ufl.edu](mailto:dbish@eli.ufl.edu)), our Assistant Director. For personal problems, questions about insurance and immunization, or apartment concerns, email or call **Victoria Dolce** ([vcshelly@ufl.edu](mailto:vcshelly@ufl.edu)), the Student Life Coordinator.

**May 19th:** As a student, you have many important documents to submit by Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.

- **Drop/Add Deadline, 4:30 p.m.** This is the last day to drop a class and get a refund. It is also the last day to add a class.
- **Tuition Deadline, 1:30 p.m.** Money orders, cashier's checks, or travelers' are acceptable. Credit or debit cards must be used online. No personal checks. No cash.
- **Proof of health insurance**
- **Proof of immunizations**

If you miss any of these deadlines, email **Jennifer Vann** ([jvann@eli.ufl.edu](mailto:jvann@eli.ufl.edu)) or **Victoria Dolce** ([vcshelly@ufl.edu](mailto:vcshelly@ufl.edu)) **right away**, or you could be removed from classes or charged a late fee! Also, students who drop a class or withdraw from the ELI after the drop/add deadline on W, will not be able to receive a refund or credit for their courses and their transcript will have a grade of W (withdraw).

## Attendance Policy

Class attendance is a requirement of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for students on the F-1 visa. It is also required by the ELI because you cannot learn English if you do not come to class regularly. For these reasons, the ELI has the following attendance policy:

- If you miss more than 25% of class, you can no longer attend ELI classes and your I-20 will be terminated.
- If you miss more than 15% of classes, or fail any of your classes, you will not receive a semester certificate and you will be allowed to return to the English Language Institute the next semester ONLY on a probationary basis.

If you miss five days in a row in all of your classes without informing the English Language Institute prior to or immediately after the five days, you can be expelled from the ELI.

## CIP Activities

Participate in evening and weekend activities to meet friends, practice English, and have fun! Each week, you will find the schedule in this section of the *Weekly*. This week, we have special activities on Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> – Campus Tour (In-Person) –1:30 pm

Meet at the Reitz Union Chamber – See UF's beautiful campus and all the important buildings you need to know! Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4BA9A823A02-campus2>

You must wear a mask and maintain 6 feet distance at this event

### Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup> – CIP Overview – 10:00am – 11:00am

Come learn about the Cultural Immersion Program – LAs, Conversation Partners, and activities for this semester! This is required for new students and optional for returning students.

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/95395610804?pwd=WkYrakhway94TFAYakFIV0JwWEk3dz09>

Meeting ID: 953 9561 0804

Passcode: 578032

### Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup> - Welcome Activity at the Plaza – 12:00pm – 2:00pm – Plaza of the Americas

Meet fellow students and ELI teachers, LAs and admin!

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4BA9A823A02-welcome1>

You must wear a mask and maintain 6 feet distance at this event

## Notes from your Editor

Greetings from your *ELI Weekly* Editor, Todd Allen! You will receive the *Weekly* each week this semester during your Reading/Writing class with important information about the ELI.

The *Weekly* also answers **your** questions about manners, culture, and grammar. Email your questions to me at [toddy33@ufl.edu](mailto:toddy33@ufl.edu), and you can see your questions (and the answers) in the *Weekly*.

Tell everyone about your fun experiences! Submit short (1-2 paragraph) reports about the ELI activities, book reviews, movie reviews, or fun places to visit in your country. Email me at [toddy33@ufl.edu](mailto:toddy33@ufl.edu).

## Birthdays

The *ELI Weekly* will list all of the birthdays for our students and staff that occur during the week.

**REMEMBER:** in the US, the birth date is written month/day/year. If you submitted yours as day/month/year on your forms, then it will appear wrong in the *Weekly*. Please let the office know so it can be fixed on your forms. If you don't want your birthday listed, email me ([toddy33@ufl.edu](mailto:toddy33@ufl.edu)). If you missed an issue of the *Weekly*, you can find it online at <https://eli.ufl.edu/news-publications/>.

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