

The ELI Weekly

Out and About: Busch Gardens

by the entire class of RW42



Busch Gardens is a popular theme park in Tampa, Florida. The ELI visited the park this past weekend. Five students from Reading/Writing 42 attended, and they enjoyed the trip. The most popular ride among the RW42 students was Iron Gwazi, a twisty, speedy roller coaster. Another favorite roller coaster was Sheikra, which has much wider cars, seating eight people side-by-side. The park has a wide variety of animals, including alligators, flamingos, cheetahs, penguins, elephants, and gorillas. The animals were divided into areas themed by locations, like Asia and Africa. The students in RW42 had mixed experiences with the food. While some enjoyed hamburgers and chicken nuggets, other students ate at a Chick-fil-A location inside of the park, where the food was low-quality, expensive, and the portions were small. Overall, the

students concluded that, while the ticket prices were high, the experience was worth the money. Three of the students spent a bit more to purchase annual passes, which will allow them to visit several times.

CIP Weekday Activities

Monday, March 6th – Coffee Talk– 6:30-9:00pm



Socialize with LAs and ELI friends at the Panera Bread on Newberry Road next to Oaks Mall! Play games, speak English, and drink a coffee or get dinner or go shopping at the nearby mall! Take bus 5 or 20 to Oaks Mall and walk a few minutes from there.

Address: 6017 W Newberry Rd, Gainesville, FL 32605

Tuesday, March 7th – Volleyball – 6:30-9:00pm



Come play volleyball and hang out at Lexington Crossing Apartments Phase 2! No experience necessary! Take bus 34 or 35.

Address: 3900 SW 27th St, Gainesville, FL 32608

Wednesday, March 8th – Soccer – 6:30-9:00pm



Come play soccer on campus at Flavet Field! No experience necessary!

Address: Woodlawn Dr, Gainesville, FL 32603

Thursday, March 9th – GVL Farmers Market at Heartwood Soundstage– 5:30-7:30pm



Enjoy our local farmers market full of amazing food trucks, shops with handmade gifts, fresh produce, and live music! Have fun with ELI friends at this lively outdoor market! Bring some money to spend on food and shopping if you would like. Meet at Heartwood soundstage near the stage. Take bus 1, 46, or 5!

Address: 619 S Main St, Gainesville, FL 32601

Friday, March 10th – Game Night at the Reitz – 6:30-9:00pm



Hang out with ELI friends and play pool or go bowling! Pool and bowling are at a discounted cost with your Gator ID but board games and socializing are free!

Address: 655 Reitz Union Drive, Gainesville, FL 32611

Weekend Events

Saturday, March 11th – No event for Spring Break

Saturday, March 18th – Midterm Welcome Picnic – 12:00-2:45pm

Meet new B-term ELI students and get free food! Enjoy the sunshine outside with ELI friends to end your spring break! Meet outside Norman Hall.

You must sign up to attend this activity:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4BA9A823A02-midterm3> (opens in new tab)

Other CIP Reminders

CIP Passports

Don't forget to get your CIP Passport hole punched from the activity leaders AT the event (not after). Redeem your completed passport for a small gift and photo for the ELI Instagram! Remember the CIP Pineapple is hidden in a new place every Monday in the CIP office. Stop by and find it for hole punches!

Conversation Partners (CPs)



Want to make a friend and speak English? Sign up for a conversation partner! Wait two weeks to be paired and then meet your new partner for one hour a week to practice conversation and make a friend! If you are a returning student and still want a CP, you should still sign up here, even if you had a partner last semester.

Sign up for a CP here: <https://forms.gle/8nDmxEbrzaSP92Cj8>

Remember, if you sign up, you must meet your partner at least once a week and respond to their messages. Email conversationpartners@eli.ufl.edu if you have any questions or problems.

Notes from the Office

Midterms: Midterm week is this week (March 6-10), so your teachers might have a midterm exam or project for you. Ask your teacher if you are not sure. Here are some tips to help you study: review activities in your book and on Elearning, ask your teacher questions as you review the material, and make sure you eat and sleep well!

Photo Waiver: All semester, LAs and teachers take photos of activities and classes to use in the ELI Weekly, on the ELI social media sites, or in the fantastic slide show that the CIP creates at the end of the semester. Many students signed the photo waiver at the beginning of the semester and said that the ELI cannot use a photo of them. If you are one of these students, and you want to be in the Weekly photos, ELI social media posts, and in the slide show, you need to sign a new photo waiver that says it is ok for you to be in photos. If you do not want to be in the ELI Weekly, ELI social media posts, and the slide show, please, do not get in the photos that LAs and teachers take during classes or activities.

Time Change: Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00am on March 12th, so remember to “spring forward” by changing the time on the clocks in your house. Your cellphone should update automatically, but most electric and battery-powered clocks will not. You can check www.time.gov to make sure your time is correct.



New Students: B Term is about to begin, and you will see new students coming to the main office, in the hallways, and at activities. Please welcome and help new students as they begin to settle at UF and in Gainesville.

People Out: Christine is out of the office on Monday, March 13. Please plan around this date if you need to talk to her.

Student Voices: We love to see our students writing. Every semester, we take your writing and publish it in Student Voices. Past submissions have included paragraphs, essays, creative stories, recipes, letters, obituaries, poetry, creative stories, class projects, and other interesting works on a variety of topics. I encourage you to submit anything of your work that you wish to see published. It can be from any class or something you have written on your own but ask your teachers for help editing! You can email it to Olga (omooddy@ufl.edu) or to your teacher. Please include your name and class on your submission. The deadline for submissions is Friday, April 14th.

Birthdays! (Including Spring Break week)



Students:

- Azzam Almatrodi 3/7
- Abdulhakim Almarzuqi 3/8
- Jiyoun Jeong 3/10
- Seona Jeong 3/10
- Seoyoung Jang 3/11
- Diego Artieda Justiniano 3/12
- Mina Choi 3/15

- Yunseo Gong 3/15
- Cesar Pena Agredo 3/18
- Arnoldo Torres Juarez 3/18

Staff:

- Danielle Betancourt 3/13
- Melina Jimenez 3/17

Spring Break: March 13-17

There are no ELI classes March 13-17 for Spring Break. This is a great time to rest, travel, and prepare yourself for the rest of the semester.

Here are a few things you should know about Spring Break:

- There are no CIP weekday activities during the Spring Break week.
- There is reduced bus service from March 11-March 19. Check your bus route at RTS for any schedule changes (<https://go-rts.com/>).
- If you are traveling outside the US, you need to have the travel authorization on your I20 signed. If you have any questions, talk to Daryl (dbish@eli.ufl.edu)

If you are staying in Gainesville, there are lots of cool things to do!

If you like being outdoors, check out:

- Devil's Millhopper State Geological Site
- Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
- Walking in Paynes Prairie
- Biking on the Gainesville-Hawthorne Trail
- Tubing or canoeing on the Ichetuknee River

If you like museums, check out:

- Harn Museum of Art
- Florida Museum of Natural History
- Matheson Museum

Photo of the Week



Manners & Culture

Q: Why do some people knock on my door and try to get me to read the Bible? And why do they come so early in the morning?

A: In the southern US, including Florida, there is a strong tradition of missionary religion. This means that people from a missionary church will try to get new church members by going door-to-door and trying to get new people to join their religion.

As for your second question, how early are they coming? Normally, it is considered impolite to knock on a stranger's door outside of business hours. This means that they should not be at your door before 9:00am or after 5:00pm. Again, this is the rule for strangers. Your friends, family, and neighbors who know you and your schedule might stop by earlier or later.

Do you know how to respond to the people coming door-to-door, who are trying to sell you something or trying to get you to join their church? If you want to talk to them, you can answer their questions, and they will keep talking as long as you continue. If you do not want to talk to them, you can say, "No, thank you," and close your door.

Notes from the Editor

Does anyone have any interesting grammar questions? I haven't had any for the Weekly lately. Keep those great culture questions and story submissions coming! Email Maya (mshastri@ufl.edu) with submissions.



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