**The CIP Insider**

*Your place to find out what is going on with the Cultural Immersion Program!*

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**Thursday Activity**

**Exploring Downtown Gainesville**

Have you visited Downtown Gainesville? It is a fun place full of culture, great food, and cool places to hang out with your friends. This Thursday, October 18th, the ELI will be going downtown to spend a nice evening with friends. If you have not visited downtown before, this is a great way to get your feet wet!

**When:** Thursday, October 18th from 6:30 until 9:30

**Where:** Meet at the Downtown Starbucks. You can take RTS bus 1 to get downtown.

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**Saturday Activity—B-Term Welcome Picnic**

On Saturday, October 20th, the ELI will be hosting its B-Term Welcome Picnic! Do you remember how much fun you had at the Welcome Picnic earlier this semester? Now you get to do it again with new B-term ELI students! Come meet new students and enjoy free food! Sign up on the activities board if you want to attend!

**When:** Saturday, October 20th at 12:00

**Where:** The Plaza of the Americas

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**Santa Fe College Admissions Workshop**

Santa Fe College is a popular destination for students after they leave the ELI. Located here in Gainesville, Santa Fe College is one of the best community colleges in the country. In fact, it was named the number one community college in the country in 2015, and has been ranked in the top 10 every year since 2012. Many ELI students transfer to Santa Fe College after completing their time at the ELI. In fact, several employees in the Santa Fe College International Student Services department are former ELI students!

If you are planning on attending Santa Fe College or just want to learn more about the application process, the ELI will be hosting representatives from Santa Fe College on Thursday, October 25th from 5:15—6:15 in Matherly 209. You can learn about transferring from the ELI to Santa Fe College and ask any questions you have about applying to universities in the United States. The application deadline for the Spring 2019 semester is quickly approaching!

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**Checking Your Midterm Grades**

Midterm exams are happening this week. This means that you will get your midterm grades next week. You can check your midterm grades online through the myELI website. To check your grades, follow these steps.

1. Login to [www.my.eli.ufl.edu](http://www.my.eli.ufl.edu) If you have problems, ask Tiffany in the office for help!

2. Click on My Courses in the top right-hand corner of the welcome page.

3. Click on My Grades/Scores.

4. Click on the link ‘Midterm’ under Student report link to see your report for each class.
Conversation Partner Meeting

There will be a Conversation Partner meeting on Tuesday, October 30th at 6:30 PM in Matherly 2 for ELI students and their Conversation Partners! If you would like to present about your country, please let Ryann in the CIP office know!

Fall B Students

You will likely start seeing students for the ELI Fall B semester around Matherly Hall and at the picnic this weekend. If you see someone new, be sure to say hello and welcome them to the ELI family!

In addition, it is likely that the main office will be a little bit busier this week, and some people in the office like Daryl and Victoria will be helping the new students. If you need to meet with someone in the office, please be patient and make an appointment if necessary!

Culture Questions

Do you have questions about American Culture? The ELI Weekly wants to help! Submit your culture questions to Thomas Dolce by email (tomedolce@ufl.edu) or to his mailbox (Dolce) in the main office.

Question:

What should I do if I am late for class?

Answer:

As you know, Americans care a lot about punctuality. This means that Americans care a lot about being on time, especially to scheduled events like class.

If you are late, the most important thing is to not be a distraction. This means that you should not knock on the door before you enter the classroom. In some cultures, you must knock on the door, but this is very rude to Americans. Instead, enter the room quietly and find a seat as quickly as possible.

If you want to apologize or explain why you are late, wait until after class to talk to your teacher.

Useful Expression of the Week

Expression of the Week: In the CIP Insider, you saw the following underlined phrase:

Phrase One: to get one’s feet wet

If you have not visited downtown before, this is a great way to get your feet wet!

To get one’s feet wet is an idiom. It means to get some experience in a new situation or with a new activity. If you get your feet wet, you might try something new in a slow and simple way.

A similar idiom with a very different meaning is to get cold feet. If you get cold feet, it means that you lose confidence before something you planned to do.

Example: My friends went skydiving. I wanted to go, but I got cold feet when I saw the airplane.

Did you hear an English expression that you don’t know? Ask the ELI Weekly! You may ask me, Thomas Dolce, in person in my office (MAT 220B), email me at tomedolce@ufl.edu, or put them in my mailbox (ELI Office, MAT 223, box marked Dolce) anytime the office is open.

Happy birthday!

Be sure to wish the following people a happy birthday this week!

Students:

October 15th: Awad Alsulami
October 17th: Andrea Orozco Burbano
October 18th: Mohammed Alnukhali
October 18th: Sebastian Andrade Farias
October 19th: Seolah Han
October 19th: Hasmeen Abu Anagarita

Staff:

October 18th: Nate Bloemke

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