

## Highlights

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# The ELI Weekly

*The Weekly Newsletter of  
the English Language Institute  
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## Spring Break

*Relax! Enjoy!*

Just in case you aren't already aware of it, our Spring Break is next week. Since we have no scheduled trip this week and there is no major news, we thought that this week we might let you know that there are quite a few things that you can do if you don't already have plans. Even if you're staying here in town, there is a good bit that you can find right here in Gainesville.

If you do not yet have any plans for Spring Break, we have some suggestions for you! Within an easy day's drive from Gainesville, you will find Atlanta at one end and Miami at the other, with Savannah, Jacksonville, Cedar Key, Orlando, Tampa/St. Petersburg, and many other interesting places in between. There are a number of good Internet resources to help you locate last-minute hotel and flight reservations, notably Travelocity, Expedia, and Orbitz, found at [www.travelocity.com](http://www.travelocity.com), [www.expedia.com](http://www.expedia.com), and [www.orbitz.com](http://www.orbitz.com). And, if you really want good bargains and are feeling adventurous, then you can try out Priceline bidding at [www.priceline.com](http://www.priceline.com) or blind purchasing on Hotwire at [www.hotwire.com](http://www.hotwire.com). If you're planning on renting a car, then be sure to call all of the companies in town to check on the available rates.

If you are among those staying in Gainesville, there are lots of things to do, too! If you like museums, there are the Harn Museum of Art and the Florida Museum of Natural History, both located on the southwest side of campus. Each of these provides an afternoon of cultural enjoyment. If you like nature, check out the Devil's Millhopper State Geological Site and Kanapaha Botanical Gardens. And if you like bicycling, there is the Gainesville-Hawthorne Rail Trail—15 miles of paved cycling trail that winds through Paynes Prairie and beyond. Also, you can try the Depot Avenue/Waldo Road trail system. Also, Paynes Prairie itself has some really nice walking paths worth checking out.

If you're traveling, do please remember that missing any classes on the Friday before Spring Break or the Monday after do count toward total absences.

Check out some of the web links below for some information about traveling or things to do here in Gainesville.

[www.visitgainesville.com](http://www.visitgainesville.com)  
[www.springbreak.com](http://www.springbreak.com)  
[www.springbreaktravel.com](http://www.springbreaktravel.com)  
[www.florida.com](http://www.florida.com)  
[www.daytonabeach.com](http://www.daytonabeach.com)  
[www.flausa.com](http://www.flausa.com)

## The Next Trip



Next week, on Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, our next trip will be **The Midterm Picnic at Yulee Pit**. This will be a fun day in the sun to welcome the new B-Term ELI students. All ELI students, staff, and friends are invited to join us. There will be sports, games, and lot of fun. There will also be lots of great food!

The picnic will be at 11:30am. If it is raining, call 392-3354, x230 after 9am to see if the picnic has been moved to Sunday. **C-Term students, please sign up early (before break) on the Activities Board by 5pm on Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, so we know how much food to order.**

Wear tennis shoes and sunblock.

Everyone is welcome!

## Notes from the Office

- **Time Change:** Remember to set your clocks 1 hour FORWARD on Saturday night, March 10<sup>th</sup>. The time changes officially at 2am on Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup> for Daylight Savings Time. This is 3 weeks earlier than in previous years. You may also want to go to [microsoft.com](http://microsoft.com) (or [apple.com](http://apple.com) for Mac users) to download a patch so that your computer will automatically update to the new time.
- **Spring Break:** There will be no ELI classes during the week of March 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>. Regular classes will resume on March 19<sup>th</sup>. ***Please remember that Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> is a regular day of class.***
- **Appointments:** Students, when you receive a note from the office asking you to make an appointment to see one of our administrators, or if you have a need to see someone, please go to our receptionist, Natalie, in the main office to make the appointment rather than going directly to the administrator. This allows for time to prepare and have an adequate amount of time to discuss whatever issues may be needed.
- **Lost and Found:** If you should lose something in the classrooms

or elsewhere at the ELI, do come and check to see if it has been turned in in the Main Office, Room 315. Also, if you find something in the classrooms that got left behind, this is the place to bring it!

## Birthdays

The following are ELI birthdays from March 9-22:

Students:  
March 12: Bader Alsayyar  
March 21: Abdullah Almekbel

Staff:  
March 17: Melina Jimenez  
March 18: Marianna Tuninskaya

Happy Birthday, one and all!

## Manners and Culture

*Q: Why don't students here wear uniforms? Are there any rules for appropriate clothing at the university?*

A: In general, no. Different colleges and units (the ELI included) have some requirements for student assistants and those who deal regularly with the public, but for the majority of the students at the university, pretty much anything goes. Of course, if clothing

doesn't cover up the body parts that are illegal to show off, a student could be asked to leave. That's about it.

As to the first part of your question, public universities in the US have a long history of being places for creative free expression; this has definitely included, for better or for worse, fashion choices.

*Q: People tell me that I shouldn't go out alone at night. Isn't Gainesville safe?*

A: Safer than many places in the US. Our violent crime rate is pretty low in Gainesville—the number one crime here in town is bicycle theft! Still, it can be dangerous to be out walking in places that are isolated or not very well lit when you are by yourself. The common sense thing to do is to go with a friend or two if you're going to be out after dark.

## Quote of the Week

Don't reserve your best behavior for special occasions. You can't have two sets of manners, two social codes - one for those you admire and want to impress, another for those whom you consider unimportant. You must be the same to all people.

***Lillian Eichler Watson***



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