Next weekend, Saturday, June 23rd, marks the beginning of our Summer Break.

If you do not yet have any plans for Summer 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 http://www.travelocity.com/, http://www.expedia.com/, and http://www.orbitz.com/. And, if you really want good bargains and are feeling adventurous, then you can try out Priceline bidding at http://www.priceline.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 would like advice on travel, especially if you’re going to Orlando or staying here in the Southeast, then please feel free to ask me about it anytime. You may stop by my office (Room 310) or e-mail me at toddy33@ufl.edu and I’ll get back to you as quickly as possible!

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 a nice 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.

Wherever you go and whatever you choose to do, be careful and have a great time!

Folks, we’ve been working with the TRiP Office, and the Busch Gardens Trip will be moved to next week, Saturday, June 23rd. We do realize that this could be a problem for some students because it is the first Saturday of summer break. So, if a you have a ticket from last time, and you will not be able to make it this time, you CAN get a refund, or sell your van ticket to another student. However, any new students who join the Busch Gardens trip on the 23rd MUST give the trip office their insurance information.

We have changed the time and days of the new Grammar Lab. It will now be offered from 3:30 to 4:30 on Mondays and Wednesdays in Room 313. Check it out!

Summer break is only a week and a half weeks away! If you plan to leave the US at all during the break—even on a cruise or a day trip to Canada or Mexico—please remember to come to the office to have your I-20 signed so that you won't have trouble getting back into the country!

The week that we come back from break,
on Wednesday, July 4th, there will be no classes and the ELI Main Office will be closed for the Independence Day Holiday. Please remember that Monday and Tuesday, July 2nd and 3rd are regular days of class and that missing them will count as absences!

The Next Trips

It’s going to be quite a while, folks, until we have another weekend trip. Next weekend, since it’s right before ELI Midterms, there will be no trip, and then we have summer break! Our next scheduled activity after that is Fanfares and Fireworks, Gainesville’s Independence Day celebration. Also, we will be holding our Midterm Picnic (which is also our Welcome Picnic for the B-Term students) on Saturday, July 7th. Details about both of these trips will be on the Activities Board and in next week’s Weekly.

Birthdays

The following are ELI Birthdays for the week of June 15-21:

Students:
June 17: Saleh Al Thyab
June 21: Florelena Ardila

Staff:
June 19: Emily Kirby

Happy Birthday, one and all!

Manners and Culture

No manners! Folks, instead of running old columns this week, I thought I’d just let you know that I really need some questions from you guys!

Quote of the Week

Whenever evil befalls us, we ought to ask ourselves, after the first suffering, how we can turn it into good. So shall we take occasion, from one bitter root, to raise perhaps many flowers.

Leigh Hunt

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