

The ELI Weekly

Busch Gardens Trip

Busch Gardens is a theme park in Tampa. It is famous for its roller coasters and its wild animals. Among the roller coasters is "Sheikra", which has two 90-degree angle drops making it the first coaster of its kind in the Americas and only the third in the world. This is one of the most popular trips of the semester; don't forget to buy your bus pass early!

For more information visit their website at www.buschgardens.com



When: Saturday, February 18th from 9:00 a.m.-9:30 p.m. We will go rain or shine.

Where: We will meet at the Norman Hall garage.

Transportation: This is a bus trip so you must purchase a pass from the CIP. To ride the bus, you must buy a bus pass for \$20 from Nate in the CIP office from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The last day to buy bus passes is Thursday, February 16th. This is non-refundable. Please bring exact change in cash.

Cost: The bus passes do not include the price of admission to Busch Gardens. Busch Gardens admission tickets are \$93 plus taxes and fees if you buy it online before the trip. You can buy a Florida resident Fun Card for \$103 plus tax and use it for admission to Busch Gardens and Adventure Island as many times as you want until December 31, 2017. Bring your Gator 1 card or Florida driver's license to prove that you are a Florida resident. Also, bring money for food and souvenirs.

Notes from the Office

Immunizations: You will not be allowed to attend class until you take care of your immunizations. Every day missed counts as an absence!

Changing Classes: Drop/Add is over and students can no longer request to change classes because of level or time of day. If you have a problem, try to speak to your teacher to solve it.

Victoria Out: Victoria will be out of the office February 23rd-24th. If you need to meet with her, you can schedule this in the Main Office, MAT 223.

The Next Activity

For the next two weekends, we will not have a weekend activity since you will need to study for midterm exams and then it is the beginning of Spring Break.

Our next activity will be the Midterm Picnic to welcome the Spring B students on Saturday, March 11th. Details will be on the Activities Board and in an upcoming *Weekly*.

Research Corner

Attention Listening/Speaking 40, 50, and 60 Students!

Two professors in Linguistics are looking for people for a study on reading. This means they need you for two hours (one hour a day for two days). If you are interested in being part of very important research, please contact Dr. Theresa Antes at antes@ufl.edu.

Notes from your Teachers

Do you feel lost in class? Maybe your teacher is talking too fast or the explanation is unclear. Talk to your teachers. We're here to help you. Talk to the other students. If they understand, they can help you understand it, too. Here are some phrases to use:

- Could you speak a little slower?
- Could you repeat that?
- Could you explain that again?
- Could you explain this to me after class?

Do you feel homesick? Are you missing class because you feel lonely and you miss your family? This is normal. The best thing to do is talk to your teachers, talk to your classmates, and talk to your roommates. Friends can help make the loneliness go away. Here are some more tips:

- Commit to doing at least one CIP activity per week, every week
 - Go to an open-air farmers' market on Wednesday or Saturday
 - Sign up for story hour with your children at the public library
 - Join a free exercise class or group at the public library
- <http://www.aclib.us/all-events>

Class Attendance: Your teachers are inputting your missed classes every week. We're also taking note of every time you speak something other than English. These things will prevent you from being eligible for the ELI scholarships and, more importantly, from really learning English.

Grammar

Q: What's the difference between until and 'til?

A: It's the same word, just shortened. We use the short form usually in conversation. We use the full word in formal writing or formal speech. Interestingly, there is also a newer written form of 'til that is becoming more acceptable: till.

- Conversational: I have to stay 'til 4pm.
- Academic: I have to stay until 4pm.

Q: Why is while followed by driving in the sentence below?

Using a cell phone while driving is dangerous.

A: It's a reduced adverb clause. While usually uses a progressive (verb+ing) in a generalization, so it's reduced from "While one is driving". You may have also seen the following:

- Reduced: Fasten seat belt while seated.
- Long version: Drivers must fasten their seat belt while they are seated (sitting).

Talent Show

The **5th Annual ELI Talent Show** will be held on Friday, March 24th! You can show off your amazing abilities by performing a song, dance, fashion show, poetry reading, or any other talent (as long as it is safe and family friendly).

The sign-up list will be posted on the CIP Activity Board. The deadline to sign-up is February 23rd and there will be a required Info Meeting for participants on February 24th.

Birthdays!

Students:

February 13: Maria Leyton Navarro
 February 14: Fares Alkanderi
 February 14: Ammar Alshanjiti
 February 16: Ahmad Shareef
 February 17: Ujung Yang
 February 18: Khaled Alanezei
 February 18: Salem Aldosari

Staff:

None this week

Manners & Culture

Q: What is Presidents' Day?

A: It's a combined holiday, actually. We used to have holidays for George Washington's birthday and Abraham Lincoln's birthday. These two are generally considered to be our greatest presidents. Both birthdays are in February, so the federal government decided that it was a good idea to make the Monday between them into a holiday to make a long weekend. However, UF and ELI students still have class on Monday, February 20th!

Q: What should you do if someone bothers you during a class?

A: Take the first available private opportunity to tell your teacher about it.



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