Taxes are due on April 18th. If you don’t make money in the U.S., you won’t owe money; however, all international students who studied in the US in 2016 must send a document to the IRS. If you do not file, it may hurt your chances to be approved for future visa applications.

If you are on an F-1 visa, do not have a job in the US, and have been in this country for less than 5 years, you need to fill out this form:


Fill out the information under Part I and Part III. In 9 and 10, you need to include the information about the academic institution that you attended in 2016. You’ll find that on the back of this Weekly at the bottom of the page. The name of the director of the ELI is Megan Forbes.

Mail your completed form to this address:
Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Austin, TX 73301

If your situation is different, you should check online or make an appointment to ask Daryl for help.

You can also find many answers to your questions on the UF International Center tax page:
http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/iss/Taxes.html?menuId=1&smId=5

The links above are also on the ELI Facebook page.
Prayer/Meditation Rooms

If you are looking for a place to pray or meditate on campus, here are some suggestions:

- The Broward Serenity Room is a multi-faith, non-denominational prayer room located in Broward Hall. It has chairs, lots of floor space, and privacy screens. The restroom next to the Serenity Room also includes a footbath.
- The multipurpose room in Library West is another option. Just ask for a key at the second floor Information Desk. If the key is unavailable, go to the first floor and the multipurpose room there should be open.

If you would like more information or have questions, please talk to Victoria in Matherly 223.

Birthdays!

Students:
March 21: Amer Alshaikh
March 24: Ibrahim Alkhaibari
March 24: Jefferson Gil Salazar
March 25: Jose Iglesias Colina

Staff:
None this week!

Grammar

Q: What’s the difference between to people and for people?
A: It depends on the context. To can mean that it’s going towards someone. For can mean that it’s being done as a favor. Here are some examples. Can you tell what the difference is?

- David threw the ball to Scott.
- David threw the ball for Scott.
- I’m donating this money to the organization.
- I’m donating this money for the organization.

Q: What is the difference between kind, sort, and type?
A: Type is the most specific and clearly defined of the three. Sort is used more often with people. However, sort and kind are used more freely, although there is overlap with all three. Sort and kind are generally followed by of; we don’t make compound nouns with them. See the examples below:

Type: blood type, personality types, skin type
Sort: What sort of person is he?
Kind: What kind of dog is that?
Incorrect: blood sort, blood kind, dog kind

Manners & Culture

Q: Why do Americans say “excuse me” when they pass by you in the store?
A: It is a way to be polite and maybe to give notice that they are going to pass by you. Also, saying “excuse me” is a much nicer way to say get out of the way. Typically, the usual response is “I’m sorry.”

Q: Why do Americans care a lot about punctuality?
A: Many Americans place a lot of significance on time. When they make an appointment, they find it important to be on time. It is a show of respect. If you are late, you are saying that your time is more important than their time.

Q: Why do the bathroom doors in America have a gap? No privacy!
A: I have no idea. Most Americans don’t realize that this is unusual compared to other places.

Q: I asked someone “how old are you?” and they told me that it’s rude. Why is this rude?
A: Age is considered a taboo topic that some Americans are uncomfortable discussing, especially a woman’s age. Other taboo topics that you should not ask about are weight, why someone doesn’t have children, why they aren’t married, and how much money they make at their job. Many of the taboo topics deal with money and numbers.