

The ELI Weekly



On Saturday, April 1st, we will be going to St. Augustine, which is the oldest European city in the US! St. Augustine was founded in September 1565. It was named St. Augustine after the Saint with the same name.

First, we will enjoy the beach (depending on the weather). After that, we will visit the Old City, where you can choose to enjoy the Fort and walk through the streets to see many shops, historical sites, and restaurants. Families are welcome!

When: Saturday, April 1st. We will meet at Norman Garage at 9am. We will leave St. Augustine around 7pm and arrive back in Gainesville around 9pm.

Cost: You'll need to purchase a bus pass from Nate in Matherly 211 between 9:00am and 12:30pm before Friday, March 31st. Please bring \$20 cash, exact change, and a picture ID (like a Gator 1 ID card or a passport). Bus passes are non-refundable and first come, first serve. If passes sell out, you can be added to a waiting list.

What to bring: Your bus pass and Gator 1 ID to get on the bus. You should bring about \$40 for museums, food, and water. Bring a swimsuit, towel and sunscreen for the beach! Don't forget to bring a camera!

The Next Activity

Saturday, April 8th, we will not have a weekend activity, so you can study for final exams.

Saturday, April 15th, will be our **End of Semester Barbeque** at Blue Springs. Details about the activity will be on the Activities Board and in next week's *Weekly*.

Scholarship Nominees

Please join me in congratulating the eleven outstanding nominees of the ELI Scholarships to study in the Summer 2017 semester.

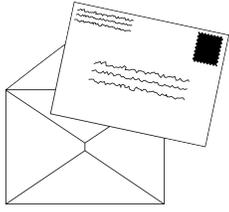
- Karen Balcazar Perez
- Paola Diaz
- Juliana Dourado de Castro Bogossian
- Abdoul Karimou Hamidou
- Albina Hartner
- Maria "Bego" Inchausti
- Betzabeth Mayorca Garcia
- Maria Ramirez
- Hyewon Seo
- John Solorzano
- Bertille Zidouemba

It is very difficult to be nominated for a scholarship. This means the nominees all worked extra hard this semester and achieved the following criteria.

- Full-time C semester student at the ELI.
- Academic Excellence: The student should have a 4.0 GPA and demonstrate a high level of proficiency in at least three of the four skill areas.
- Outstanding Progress: The student should display outstanding progress in language skills as evidenced by improvements in coursework.
- Excellent Attendance: The student should miss no more than ten hours of class in the semester.
- Speak English: The student should make every effort to speak English at all times while at the ELI and at ELI-sponsored activities.
- Successful Work Strategies: The student should demonstrate personal initiative in and out of the classroom, making an effort to get involved in the ambient culture through outside activities such as regular participation in Cultural Immersion activities.

Students, if you want to win the scholarship next semester, make sure to follow the same criteria and talk to the nominees to learn how else to become an excellent student.

Letters of Recommendation



If you need a letter of recommendation, please ask your instructor **first** to see if she or he can write a letter for you.

Remember that instructors' letters have to be an accurate description of your work and student skills, so if you have a lot of absences or do not do the classwork, it will be very difficult to write a letter that will be helpful for you.

If your instructor agrees to write a letter for you, you will then have to go to the ELI main office and fill out a document request form. We will send the request to your instructor. Without this form, your instructor is not able to write a letter.

For all other requested documents, please talk to our receptionist. Documents can take from 3 days to two weeks.

When possible, please plan ahead if you need a document or letter from the main office or your instructor.

Manners & Culture

Q: What is April Fools'? What do people usually do?

A: We play practical jokes on people. A common one is to put sugar in someone's saltshaker. I'm not recommending that you do this; it's just an example!

Q: Why do teachers expect students to work in pairs or groups?

A: At universities, teachers expect students to work together on projects. Group work is also an important part of most of our work culture so your teachers are preparing you for an aspect of 'real world' in the US.

Grammar

Q: Can you end a sentence with a preposition?

A: There is a rule that says you shouldn't end sentences with a preposition. However, this rule came from Latin so it doesn't really work in English and can make sentences sound awkward or too formal. In everyday speaking, there's definitely no problem with putting them there.

Appropriate: I told you who you can talk to.

Awkward: I told you to whom you could talk.

Notes from the Office

Student Voices: Email your writing to christinevoigt@ufl.edu by Friday, April 7th. Please remember to include your name, class, and title for the piece.

Apartment Leases: As the semester draws to a close, keep in mind that your lease might be ending soon. It is important to know the exact date that your apartment lease ends so you can make plans. If you're not sure when it ends, ask your apartment office.

If you need help finding a hotel to stay in short-term (you should ask your friends first!), someone to take over your lease, or a new apartment, talk to Victoria in Matherly 223.

Birthdays!

Students:

March 29: Guillermo Tinoco Madrid

Staff:

None this week



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