Fun in the sun with animals!

Tuesdays and Thursdays he will be helping new students before they arrive.

Bicycle Safety

Our ELI classes are spread all over campus and some students ride bike to get to classes on time. We think this is awesome and we definitely encourage using a bicycle. However, bicycle safety is very, very important and it is taken very seriously here in Gainesville and on the UF campus. You should park your bike in well-lighted areas and lock it up when you park it. The best lock is a U-lock. This kind of lock looks like a U and is very difficult to cut or break. Be sure to put the lock through the bike's frame and wheel as well as the bike rack.

If you bike, be sure that you familiarize yourself with the rules of the road. Bicycles should ride in the bike lane or all the way to the right side of the road if there’s no bike lane. Use hand signals when turning and pay close attention to traffic signals such as stop signs and stop lights. If you’re caught breaking these rules, you risk possible injuries and could result in tickets and fines. Traffic violators on bicycles are subject to the same fines as violators in automobiles, $154 for a moving violation, $104 for a non-moving violation, and $52.50 for a violation specific to bicycle operation.

Also, register your bike with the University Police Department. If your bike is stolen, you’ll need to register. If your bike is stolen, call the UPD immediately. The faster you call them, the better the chance of them finding your bike.

Daily Activities

The following is our afternoon activity schedule. Please check the Activities Board from time to time to see if there are any changes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location/Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 3pm-9pm</td>
<td>Game Night (Alex)</td>
<td>Meet in the Reitz Union Game Room on the Ground Floor. Bring $5-$10 for games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7pm-9pm</td>
<td>Soccer (Becca)</td>
<td>Meet at Flavet Field. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7pm-9pm</td>
<td>Coffee Talk (Andrea)</td>
<td>Meet at 7 p.m. at at the Starbucks on Archer Rd. Bring money for drinks or food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 7pm-9pm</td>
<td>Volleyball (Sharon)</td>
<td>Meet at the Reitz Union Information Desk. Bring your Gatorl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 6pm-9pm</td>
<td>Gator Nights (Taylor)</td>
<td>Meet at the Reitz Union Information Desk. Bring your Gatorl</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note the new volleyball rules: To encourage the use of English and...
participation by everyone, the teams will be mixed by skill, age, and language. Teams will only be allowed to play 4 games in a row.

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do people from the USA answer "American" when somebody asks 'Where are you from'? I'm from Argentina and I'm American too.

A: Because “Unitedstatesians” doesn’t sound pretty. It’s true that Argentinians and Venezuelans are also Americans, and more specifically, South Americans. Canadians and Mexicans are also called North Americans. But since people from the US don’t have their own nice sounding nationality, in the US we call them “Americans.”

Q: I go to restaurants a lot and I don’t understand when I should tip. What restaurants should I tip at?

At restaurants where you have full service from a waiter like The Top or Gator Suyaki, you should leave between 15% to 20% of the total bill. If your bill was $25 and you leave $2, this is not enough!

Some full-service restaurants nowadays automatically include an 18% gratuity in the bill for large groups. If you’re splitting the bill and the restaurant didn’t add the gratuity, make sure you calculate it and add it.

At restaurants that have partial service like Tijuana Flats or Bentos, where you order at a register and they bring the food to your table, it’s nice to leave a small amount. Here $2 is ok.

Restaurants that are complete self-service like Maude’s or Leonardo’s where you order at the counter and then pick it up at the cashier, it’s not necessary to leave a tip. However, if they were extra friendly or helpful, it’s always nice to leave a couple of dollars for the tip.

Tipping in restaurants is particularly important here in the US; servers in restaurants in Florida have a minimum wage of only $4.77 an hour, which is much less than the regular minimum wage of $7.79.

Grammar

Q: Which is correct for the negative shortened response form with “hope”: “I hope not,” or “I don’t hope so.”?

A: You’ve noticed that we’re not consistent. With “hope” the correct form is “I hope not.” However, for example, with “think”, it’s “I don’t think so.” They have slightly different meanings. If someone asks, “Is it going to rain later?”, meaning is different depending on the phrase used.

“I hope not” means “I don’t want it to rain.”
“Don’t think so” means “I have no idea and don’t care if it does or doesn’t rain.”

Q: If “plan” doubles the “n” in the past tense, why doesn’t “open”?

A: Actually, you’ve found one crazy spelling point in English that does have a pattern. In verbs of more than one syllable, we only double that last consonant when the stress falls on the last syllable. In “open” the stress falls on the “o”.

Quote of the Week

Differences of habit and language are nothing at all if our aims are identical and our hearts are open.

Albus Dumbledore
J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire