

ELI Weekly

The Weekly Newsletter of the English Language Institute

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Flu Shots

2006 Influenza Prevention Campaign



The Student Health Care Center (SHCC) will begin the annual campus wide Influenza Prevention Campaign starting the week of **October 23rd**. UF students and staff who are in the **high risk category** are encouraged to get their flu shots during this first week at the Infirmary Building and SHCC at Shands (Room D2-49 Dental Tower of Health Science Center).

The High Risk Category includes:

- ✓ People with chronic illness like asthma, diabetes, and hypertension
- ✓ People age 50 and older
- ✓ Pregnant Women
- ✓ Caregivers of children under 6 months of age
- ✓ People caring for a family member with cancer or any disease that suppresses of the immune system.

For those of us at the ELI who are not in the high-risk category, we can get our flu shots on **November 3rd** from **9 – 11AM**. The shots will be administered in **Norman Hall in Room 158**. The cost is **\$5 for students** and **\$20 for employees**.

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Notices from ELI Students

The *ELI Weekly* will now feature a new section dedicated to posting students' news, notices, events, etc. These aren't ELI sponsored events, but events and news that your fellow students want to tell you about. If you have some information that you would like included in this section, please email our editor, Jen Ramos at jenmlej@hotmail.com or slip a note into her mailbox: Ramos.

This week's student event is:
The Ramadan Fast-a-thon,
submitted by **Karim Alobayyed**

Join the Ramadan Fast-a-thon and help combat hunger in Gainesville! Here's how it works: for every person that fasts on Monday, October 16th, local businesses will donate money to St. Francis House, Gainesville's local emergency soup kitchen. By going hungry for the day someone less fortunate than you will get to eat in your place. Don't worry though, you won't starve to death. At the end of the fast (sunset on the 16th), there will be an international feast in the Grand Ballroom in the Reitz Union for all to attend. To sign up visit the Ramadan Fast-a-thon/Islam on Campus Table in Turlington Plaza or go to www.islamoncampus.com. If you have any questions or would like more information please email Omar Ishaq at oishaq@ufl.edu or call 850-319-7103.

Manners and Culture

Q: Why do women in the U.S. decide to have children at an old age?

A: Well, I guess it depends what you consider “old” to be. I can give you some statistics: The average age for first-time mothers in 2002 was 25 years old. States with a higher average (27-28 years old) included: Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New York, and New Jersey. States with a lower average (23 years old) included: Mississippi, Louisiana, Oklahoma and New Mexico. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau)

Over the last 30 years, the age of first-time mothers has steadily increased. We associate this “delay” in having children with: advanced education, careers and professional pursuits, and waiting longer to get married.

Q: Everyone says Americans speak only one language, English, but I’ve met many people in Gainesville who speak 2 or 3.

A: For all of us who think our mono-lingual reputation is undeserved, we thank you for noticing. Yes, many Americans have a second language through parents or grandparents who immigrated from other countries, or through education or living abroad. I’m sure many people enjoy trying to communicate with you in your native language if they have some knowledge of it. So you know, besides English, Spanish is the most commonly spoken language in the U.S. After Spanish, few realize that French is spoken regularly in more American homes more than any other language (1.6 million). (source: Wikipedia)

More than a million Americans also speak German, Italian, and Chinese. And among the top languages spoken by Americans at home is one that has been spoken in this country longer than English and Spanish—Navajo.



*If you have a question about U.S. manners and culture, please email our ELI Weekly editor, Jen Ramos, at jennlej@hotmail.com, or put questions in her mailbox (marked **Ramos** in the ELI Main Office).*

No Weekend Activity

In an effort to give you more time dedicated to studying for your mid-term exams, the ELI has not planned any weekend trips or activities for this coming weekend: Oct. 14-15th.

Next weekend you can look forward to attending the Craft Fair. More information to come in next week’s *ELI Weekly*.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

Euk Hwan Kim: October 12th

Eid Ayedh: October 14th



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