



# ELI NEWS

English Language Institute • University of Pittsburgh  
Parkvale Building, Room M13, 200 Meyran Ave • Pittsburgh PA 15260

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ELI Activity:



## Baseball Game Deadline Today!

Join the ELI as we cheer for the Pittsburgh Pirates when they take on the Washington Nationals on **Tue., July 10**, at 7:05 pm.

This game is special because it is Pitt Night! That means that the ballpark will be filled with other Pitt students, faculty, staff, and their families and friends. In addition, everyone in our group will get a Pirates baseball cap!

Tickets are \$17 each. Our seats will be in the Upper Level Grandstand (with a view of the game and the skyline!).

If you would like to go with our group, you must pay the main office **by 4:30 pm on Thursday, June 14. Please bring the exact amount, cash only.** Feel free to buy a ticket for a friend, too, even if they are not in the ELI.

There are no cancellations or refunds. Even if it rains, we will still go to the game. Baseball games are rarely cancelled because of weather.



[www.facebook.com/PittELI](http://www.facebook.com/PittELI)

## Unpaid Tuition



If you or your sponsor have not paid your ELI tuition for the summer term, you are past the deadline for payment. You can check your tuition account by logging in to [my.pitt.edu](http://my.pitt.edu) and clicking PittPay. Please note that students with unpaid tuition cannot receive copies of midterm grades, letters of recommendation, or any other documents from the ELI. There are several ways to pay your tuition.

- **eCheck:** Free online transfer from a US bank account to your Pitt account.
- **Cash, check, or money order:** Visit the Student Payment Center in room G-7 Thackeray Hall.
- **Credit cards:** Online **only** at [my.pitt.edu](http://my.pitt.edu)—you may not use a credit card at Thackeray Hall. There is an additional 2.75% fee for using a credit card.

## Children at the ELI

Please note that ELI students may not bring their children to ELI classes, and children may not be left unattended in the ELI building while their parents attend ELI classes. We realize that it is sometimes difficult to find childcare, but you must make arrangements for the care of your children while you are in school. Bringing your kids to the ELI while you study is not an option.

## Midterm Grade Reports. Already?

On Wednesday, June 13th your teachers submitted your midterm grades. Although these are not the final grades, they do show you how well you are doing in each class. Teachers also write specific comments for each student for each class, which tell you exactly what you do well and what you need to work a little harder on. If there is something you don't understand about the grade or the comments, please talk directly to your teacher.

A copy of your midterm grades will be given to you on Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> in your listening class. Of course, you can check your grades in all of your classes any time on Course Web throughout the term. If you receive very low grades or have many absences, you will be given an appointment with the Student Advisor to discuss any problems you might have and get advice about how to improve.

If you are absent on Friday or do not have listening class, you may pick up your midterm grade report in the ELI Main Office starting Monday the 18th.  
ELI Activity:

## Religious Holiday

Muslim students may be excused from class in observance of Eid Al-Fitr. You will have **one** excused absence for this holiday on Friday, July 15. Please tell your teachers if you plan to observe this holiday. You will not be counted as absent, but you will be responsible for any work that you miss.

## Heinz History Center

There is more to Pittsburgh than meets the eye. Join the ELI on a trip to the Heinz History Center and discover the history of Western Pennsylvania. The Heinz History Center is the largest history museum in Pennsylvania and contains 250 years of Pittsburgh history, from the French and Indian War to the city's most recent sports history. This is not a typical museum; the exhibits are interactive and there is something for everyone to enjoy.

In addition to the regular exhibits, there is a special exhibit called "Mister Roger's Neighborhood." Mister Rogers was a children's TV host who was a strong advocate for public television and stressed the importance of kindness. At the Heinz History Center, we will see the TV set that was used in the show as well as learn more about Mister Rogers.

Admission is \$6.50 for any student with a valid ID. Regular admission is \$16. You can pay for your admission at the museum. On **Saturday, June 16**, we will meet in the ELI lobby at **11:00 am** and take the bus downtown together.

## Study Rooms Available

The ELI can offer Rooms 102 and 104 from 1:00 pm-1:45 pm, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays for a quiet place to study.

Please note the following rules:

- No food in classrooms
- No drinks in classrooms unless using a spill-proof cup
- No noise: These classrooms are for students who want to study
- Use the Vault for socializing

If any of the rules are broken, the extra rooms will be removed from the schedule immediately.

## Coffee Talk on Fridays!

4:00 – 6:00 pm at Panera  
(3800 Forbes Ave.)



ELI Activity:



**Make a New Memory.**

Do you like roller coasters and thrill rides? If you do, then join the ELI as we go to Kennywood Amusement Park on Sunday, July 15 for Pitt Day! This is a special day for Pitt employees, their families, and their friends. The teachers and staff of the ELI would love for our students to join us.

Regular admission to the park is \$45.99, but the University of Pittsburgh has a limited number of tickets available for only **\$25!** (Children under 3 are free; seniors 55 and over are \$20.) The special Pitt Day tickets get you admission to the park for Pitt Day on July 15 and a catered picnic lunch. In addition to the special price and lunch, there will also be prizes, games, and activities for kids! Pitt Day tickets are available on a first come first served basis online at [www.kennywood.com/pitt](http://www.kennywood.com/pitt).

If you would like to go with the ELI group, you must purchase your tickets online **by Monday, June 25**. This event sells out every year, so purchase your tickets soon! As soon as you purchase your ticket, write your name on the sign up sheet in the Vault. If you bought additional tickets for guests, write the number of guests on the sign up sheet, and indicate if you will be taking the bus with us.

If you need any help purchasing your tickets, **Ece will be in the lab on Monday, June 25 from 1:00-1:30 pm**. Tickets must be purchased online, and you have to print your tickets before arriving at Kennywood on July 15. This special price is not available at the gate. You can buy up to 10 tickets, so invite your family and friends! There are no refunds.

The 61C bus will drop us off at Kennywood, so it's even easy to get there! We will meet in the lobby of the ELI **at 10 am on Sunday, July 15**, and take the 61C bus to Kennywood together. The bus will pick us up at 10:20 am, so don't be late. Gates open at 10:30 am and the park closes at 10 pm. You are free to

meet us at the park, but let Ece know. Ece will stay at the park until 6 pm, but you can leave the park anytime you wish.

For more details about Pitt Day, visit <http://www.utimes.pitt.edu/news/new-games-menu-planned>. For information about Kennywood, visit [www.kennywood.com/](http://www.kennywood.com/).

ELI Activity:

## ELI Picnic Wednesday, June 27 12 pm – 4 pm



The ELI Picnic is **Wednesday, June 27, from 12 pm - 4 pm** in Highland Park. ELI teachers will cook food on a grill. There will be hot dogs, watermelon, s'mores, and other picnic foods, as well as traditional picnic games. The ELI will provide the food; we're relying on ELI students to provide the fun!!! We'll be at the Maple Grove picnic shelter in Highland Park, about 15-20 minutes away by bus. (Take the 71A or 71B outbound and get off at the **St Clair St at Bunker Hill Apts** stop. Look for the tall apartment building.)

You must sign up and pay the main office in advance to attend the picnic. If you pay **by 4:30 pm on Thursday, June 21, the cost is \$5**. If you would like to bring friends or guests, they are welcome to join us, but the cost is \$5 for each adult guest. There is no cost for children, but please let the main office know how many children are coming. After **Thursday, June 21, the cost is \$10** per person.

We don't want to exclude anyone! When you sign up, you will be asked to mark what kind of hot dog you prefer (vegetarian, halal, beef, turkey, etc) or allergies you may have when you sign up. A separate grill and utensils will be used to prepare all halal foods.

## ELI Writing Contest



The ELI is holding a competition for students in all writing classes. There will be one winner in each level (3,4,5,6), and the winners will be announced at the ELI Closing Ceremony.

If you have written a good composition in your writing class this semester, you should tell your writing teacher that you would like to enter it in the writing contest. Your teacher will then submit your paper for you. Your entry will be read anonymously by judges (your name will be removed from the paper, so they won't know who you are). The judges will choose the best composition from each level.

The deadline for entries is Tuesday, July 24 at 4:00 pm.

If you are in level 4, 5, or 6, your entry must be an essay that you wrote in class this semester. If you are in level 3, your entry can be a shorter composition, even a single paragraph. Each student can enter only one composition.

Good luck!

## ELI Activities Photos



A picture is worth a thousand words! If you participated in any ELI activities this term, you know that Ece takes a lot of pictures. You may have seen these photos on the monitors in the student lounge and outside the main office.

Ece uploaded all of the photos to a folder on Box. She sent an email yesterday that includes a link to this folder. If you did not receive this email, please email Ece at [ecu4@pitt.edu](mailto:ecu4@pitt.edu), and she will email the link to you.

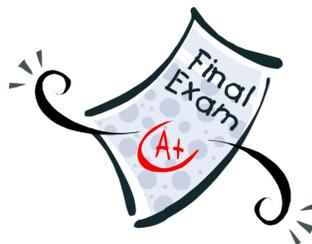
## English Language Institute Final Exam Schedule Summer 2018

The ELI gives final exams at the end of the term. These exams are worth 30% of the final grade for each class. There are no excused absences for finals. The ELI does not give early final exams or make up exams. Please note the following schedule and plan to be present for the finals.

<b>Friday, July 27</b>	<b>Monday, July 30</b>	<b>Tuesday, July 31</b>
<b>Writing final</b> 10:00am- 12:00pm	<b>Grammar final</b> 10:00am- 12:00pm	<b>Reading final</b> 10:00am- 12:00pm
<b>Speaking final</b> 1:00pm- 3:00pm	<b>Listening final</b> 2:00pm- 4:00pm	

## Sponsored Students and Final Exams

Please note that if you are a sponsored student, and you miss your final exam for any reason, or if you fail the final exam, your sponsor will be notified immediately. Final exams in the ELI are worth 30% of the overall final grade, and both the ELI and your sponsors expect you to take the exams and to perform as well as you can on them. Remember, too, that satisfactory academic progress is a requirement of the F1 visa. If you fail courses, your F1 visa may be revoked. Please check the posted schedules for ELI final exams and plan your schedule accordingly.



## Lunch Space Available



We know that the Vault can get very busy during lunch hour at the ELI. For this reason, the ELI will offer Room M15 to students on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 1:00-1:45 pm as an extra room for lunch. This is the conference room next to Stacy's office. Please see Stacy or the ELI main office to unlock the door.

### Please note the following rules:

- Room M15 must be completely clean every day after lunch. Please wipe any spills and throw away all garbage in an appropriate garbage can.
- Students may not use the kitchen on floor M. This kitchen is for staff and faculty only. Students must use the refrigerator, microwave, and sink in the kitchen on the ground floor.
- Students must be quiet when using this room. It is ok to have conversation at a normal level. Please remember that ELI offices are very close, though, and people are working nearby.
- Please do use M15 for prayer.

**If any of these rules are broken, M15 will no longer be available for the lunch hour.**

## U.S. Alcohol Laws

All ELI students and employees of the University must fully obey the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania regarding the possession and consumption of alcohol. These laws prohibit providing alcohol to anyone under the age of 21 or to anyone visibly intoxicated. Anyone under the age of 21 is prohibited from possessing or consuming alcoholic beverages under any circumstances, and anyone under the age of 21 is prohibited from being on licensed premises where alcohol is served, unless under proper supervision. Please see Stacy if you have any questions about these laws.

## Mark your calendars! Upcoming ELI Activities



Saturday, June 16: Heinz History Center  
Friday, June 22: Titanic the Musical  
Wednesday, June 27: ELI Picnic  
Tuesday, July 10: Pittsburgh Pirates Baseball Game  
Sunday, July 15: Pitt Day at Kennywood

## ELI Absence Policy

There have been many questions about excused absences in the ELI. It is true that if you are sick, it is not **appropriate** for you to come to school—you may infect others, and it is **crucial** that you rest to get well. Please note, though, that the ELI attendance policy states that “**there is no such thing as an excused absence**” in the ELI. Even if you are sick, the absence must be counted as an absence according to the ELI rules.

According to the ELI absence policy, if you miss over 8 classes, you will not receive a certificate of attendance at the end of the term. If you miss over 12, you may not be invited back to the ELI next term. If you are an F-1 student and you miss over 15 classes, your visa may be terminated. Please see page 4 of your Student Handbook for more information on the ELI attendance policy. In addition, please remember that sponsored students have attendance rules from their sponsors, as well.

Remember that if you do not do the work in your classes and the homework, this will affect your grade. If you want to make progress with your language learning, it is important that you attend class on time, regularly, with your homework complete. Please see Stacy if you have any questions or concerns about attendance in the ELI.

## Transfer Process

Students with F1 visas who want to transfer to a new school must see Stacy to complete the transfer. You must bring a copy of the acceptance letter and the transfer form from the new school. You may transfer at any time during the term, but you must complete this process to remain in legal status. Remember that if you complete your final term of study at level 6 at the ELI, you have a 60-day grace period. During that time, you may stay in the U.S. without studying, and you may request a transfer at any time during that 60-day period. If you do not complete level 6, you have a 2-week grace period, and you must request a transfer within that time.

If you do not request a transfer during the grace period, you will be out of status at the end of your grace period, and it will be too late to transfer your SEVIS record. Please see Stacy if you have any questions about this process.

## Medical Emergencies in the ELI



It is the ELI policy that any time an ELI student shows signs of a serious medical issue, ELI staff and faculty must call 911 for medical assistance. For example, if a student complains of the symptoms of a heart attack, the ELI will call an ambulance. In a medical emergency, the first priority of the ELI is always the well-being of its students, and 911 will be called even if the ill student protests or is not insured. Ambulance rides can cost from \$400 to over \$1000, depending on the kind of care the crew must provide and the distance traveled. Patients are responsible for the cost, and patients without health insurance will be responsible for the entire cost of ambulance service. This means that you—not the ELI—must pay for the ambulance, even if an ELI teacher or employee called for the ambulance. The ELI requires that students buy health insurance, which may pay for part of the ambulance service, depending on your coverage.

## Personal Belongings in Classrooms

We have noticed that many students leave their personal belongings in ELI classrooms during the lunch break each day. The ELI cannot guarantee the safety of your bags, laptops, or other items. Remember that it is always safest to keep your personal belongings with you, or locked in your ELI locker. If you leave your things in an ELI classroom during the lunch break, you are taking a chance that you may lose them. The classroom door may be locked when you leave, but please remember that many people have keys to those doors. The ELI cannot guarantee that the classroom will remain locked until you return. In addition, you should never leave your belongings alone in the ELI hallways, on a restaurant table, or in any other public place. It only takes a second for someone to take what is yours, so please be careful! If you would like to sign up for a locker, see the ELI main office

## Probation at the ELI

As you know, consistent attendance, homework, and participation in classroom activities are all important for successful language learning. If you do not attend classes regularly and do the assigned work, your progress may be slow, and your grades may suffer.

In addition, students who do not make a good effort in their work will be put on probation. Students on probation must improve their effort during the probation term, or they may be expelled from the ELI. Sponsors will be notified of probation, as well. There are three ways to be put on probation at the ELI:

1. Having failing final grades in two or more classes
2. Having over 8 absences in two or more classes
3. Having over 15 absences in one or more classes

If you had poor grades and/or attendance last term, you will receive a probation letter. If you are sponsored, your sponsor will be notified that you are on probation, as well. If you have any questions about the probation policy at the ELI, please see Stacy.