



# ELI NEWS

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

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Rachael Crabb, rec59@pitt.

ELI Activity:

## ELI NIGHT New Date!

Get ready for one of the most highly anticipated activities in the ELI! ELI Night will be held on Saturday, November 11 from 5-8pm in the reception hall of the First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh, located at 605 Morewood Avenue, which is between North Oakland and Shadyside.



ELI Night is a potluck dinner for ELI students and teachers, Talk Time leaders, conversation partners, and their families and friends. At a potluck dinner, everyone brings a dish to share. The dish should be enough to feed you and your guests and approximately 6-8 others. There is always a diverse selection of delicious food to select from. You will not leave hungry!

You should plan to arrive at 5pm. Dinner will be served at 5:30pm. If you arrive after this time, you will miss out on a great deal of delicious food! If you have any questions, please contact Ece at [ecu4@pitt.edu](mailto:ecu4@pitt.edu)

## Coffee Talk on Fridays!

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



## Student Storytellers – Yasuda Women’s University in Hiroshima

This semester, the ELI welcomed 35 students from Yasuda Women’s University in Hiroshima, Japan. The ELI’s very own Rino Shiota will give a brief presentation describing her university and the city of Hiroshima. Please come join us for our first Student Storyteller presentation of the semester. After her presentation, Rino and other students from Yasuda will answer your questions.

Date: Today, October 19, 2017  
Time: 4:00 – 4:20 pm  
Place: ELI Conference Room, M-15

Everyone is welcome!

## Student Storytellers May Alghamdi “Pushing the Boundaries”

There have been several stories in the news lately about women in Saudi Arabia. ELI student May Alghamdi will talk about her own experiences and the important and dynamic (changing) role of women in her country. Please feel free to bring your lunch to enjoy while you listen. There will be time for Q & A after May’s talk.

Date: Thursday, October 26, 2017  
Time: 1:00 – 1:20 pm  
Place: ELI Conference Room, M-15

Everyone is welcome!

## English Language Institute Final Exam Schedule Fall 2017

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.

Friday, December 1	Monday, December 4	Tuesday, December 5
Writing final 10:00 am- 12:00 pm Speaking final 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Grammar final 10:00 am- 12:00 pm Listening final 2:00 pm- 4:00 pm	Reading final 10:00 am- 12:00 pm

## Mark your Calendars! Upcoming ELI Activities

**Tuesday, October 24:** Language Music Club

**Friday, October 27:** Halloween Party

**Sunday, November 5:** NBA Cavs Game

**Saturday, November 11:** ELI Night

**Tuesday, November 21:** Motown the Musical

ELI Activity:

## Language Music Club: Motown Edition!

Join the Language Music Club on Tuesday, October 24 to enjoy some music from Motown the Musical! This is a good chance to learn about Motown the Musical and the type of music we will enjoy when the ELI goes to see this performance on Tuesday, November 21.

The Language Music Club meets every Tuesday at 4pm in Room 104. We have had three meetings so far, but if you missed them, don't worry! You can drop in anytime! You don't have to be a good singer to participate. No musical talent is required. All you need is a desire to improve your English! For more information or to make song suggestions, please email Ece at [ecu4@pitt.edu](mailto:ecu4@pitt.edu).

ELI Activity:

## ELI Halloween Party

The ELI will again have our annual Halloween Party! The party is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 27, from 6:00-9:00 pm. There will be food, candy, pumpkin carving, traditional Halloween games, prizes for the best Halloween costumes, and more!



Tickets for the party are \$5 each if you pay by Wednesday, Oct. 25. Tickets are \$10 each if you pay after Oct. 25. This will help compensate for the cost of renting the hall, food, candy and prizes. There are no refunds. The main office will start collecting money on Monday, October 16.

Start planning your Halloween costume now. You can create your own Halloween costume or buy one at any retail store (including Target, Walgreens, CVS, RiteAid, etc.). The ELI has some Halloween costumes that we will loan to students. (We do ask for a \$20 deposit for costumes. When you return the costume, you get your money back.) Look for more

information about how to rent these costumes in this week's ELI News. Costumes are not required, but they are encouraged. It's fun!

The ELI Halloween Party will be held in the basement hall of First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh at 159 North Bellefield Ave. We are using the church's space because they have a large kitchen we can use for carving pumpkins and a stage we can use for the costume contest. Halloween and Halloween parties are not religious activities. If you have any questions, please contact Ece at [ecu4@pitt.edu](mailto:ecu4@pitt.edu).

## 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

## Halloween Costumes

A selection of Halloween costumes are available for ELI students who will be attending the Halloween party. You can come see the selection in M15 from 4:00-4:30pm on Friday, October 20 and Monday, October 23. Costumes will not be available outside of these times. Students will be asked to make a \$20 deposit when they borrow the costume. When they return the costume on Monday, October 30, the \$20 will be returned to them. Contact Ece at [ecu4@pitt.edu](mailto:ecu4@pitt.edu) if you have any questions.



## Student Advisor Office Hours

Please remember that Stacy Ranson, your Student Advisor, can help you with questions about your registration and classes, academic issues, letters of recommendation, and personal issues, as well. Feel free to stop by her office in M22 during any of her office hours. You can also email her at [sar72@pitt.edu](mailto:sar72@pitt.edu).

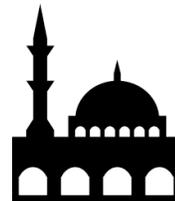
Stacy's office hours are:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
1:00 pm-1:45 pm  
3:00 pm-3:30 pm

Friday  
1:00 pm-1:45 pm

## Friday Prayer for Muslim Students

The ELI is aware that many of our Muslim students attend mosque on Fridays at 1:10. Of course, we want to assist you with this, so teachers will allow up to 20 minutes for Muslim students to return for the 2:00 class. If you are over 20 minutes late, though, teachers will have to count you as absent. If you are having a problem returning to class within 20 minutes, please see Stacy.



## ELI Students and Pitt Email

ELI students MUST use Pitt email. Your teachers and the University will use ONLY Pitt email to contact you. If you don't check your Pitt email every day, you may miss important messages about your classes, registration, or tuition payments. To check your email, visit [my.pitt.edu](http://my.pitt.edu) and click on "My Pitt Email". If you do not know your Pitt username or password, or you cannot access your account, please read the yellow paper in your orientation folder (or get a new yellow paper in our computer lab). This will give you instructions on how to activate your email address this week

## Study Rooms Available

The ELI can offer Room 110 from 12:00pm-12:45pm, and Room 102 from 1:00pm-1:45 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays for a quiet place to study. Please note the following rules:

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

If the rules are broken, the study room will be removed from the schedule.

## Prayer Rooms Fall 2017

The ELI can provide the following rooms for prayer:

Room 107:  
1:00 – 1:45 pm.  
Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday

If you plan to use these rooms, you must read and follow the rules below. Please note that if any of these rules are broken, the prayer room will no longer be available.

- ❖ Rooms are available only for the times listed.
- ❖ Students must finish prayer at the times listed. The teachers of the 1:00 and 2:00 classes must be able to prepare before the class begins. If the teacher ever has to wait for students to finish praying, rooms will be removed from the schedule immediately.
- ❖ **Students may not pray in the hallways, locker room, or anywhere in the ELI building.**

## 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 off

## ELI Storytellers Series



One of the benefits of studying at the ELI is the chance to meet and to learn from people with diverse backgrounds and experience. The ELI Storytellers Series gives students an opportunity to share their stories with classmates. Speakers give a 10-15-minute presentation, followed by a question and answer period. The talks are scheduled during the 1:00 lunch break. The series is open to all ELI students, and it is a great way to get extra speaking and listening practice outside of class. Your English doesn't have to be perfect! This is a great opportunity to challenge yourself and share your story with your friends, teachers and classmates.

How about you? Do you have an interest or a skill you would like to tell us about? Have you accomplished something special or done something fun and exciting? Would you like to share information about your culture or hometown? What is your story? If you are interested in giving a short presentation, email Heather at [hlm44@pitt.edu](mailto:hlm44@pitt.edu)

## Pitt Master of Laws for Foreign-Trained Lawyers Program (LLM)

The University of Pittsburgh offers a Master of Laws (LLM) degree that provides lawyers who have already completed a law degree outside the U.S. with training in common law legal tradition and the U.S. legal system. This is a one-year program with an average of 15 students each year. It is offered by the School of Law's Center for International Legal Education. For acceptance to this program, TOEFL and IELTS scores are waived for students who have completed all classes at ELI Level 5 or 6 with at least 85% final grades in each class. Applicants must also have a recommendation from the ELI Student Advisor. See Stacy if you have questions, or find out more about getting your LLM at Pitt School of Law by visiting the LLM program website at <http://law.pitt.edu/llm>, or call 412-648-7023.

## Therapy Dog Tuesdays: Halloween Party!

Does school have you stressed out? Are you an animal lover? Pitt hosts Therapy Dog Tuesdays every week in the Cathedral of Learning. Normal Therapy Dog



Tuesdays are every Tuesday from 7 pm to 8 pm on the first floor of the Cathedral of Learning. But on Halloween, October 31, they will be hosting a special Halloween party! All of the dogs will be dressed up in Halloween costumes. Stop by and spend some time relaxing with all of the certified therapy dogs.

Follow us on  
**Twitter**  
**@Upitt\_ELI**



## Your Name on Your ELI Certificate

Each term, we award certificates for students who attend their classes. The way we print your name on your certificate is the same as it will be printed on the midterm grade report that you received this week. If you would like to make any changes, please email the ELI Main Office at [elipitt@pitt.edu](mailto:elipitt@pitt.edu). Common changes include: adding a hyphen (Ji-young instead of Jiyoung), adding a capital letter (Ji-Young instead of Ji-young), or adding a middle name.

## Midterm Grades in ELI Main Office

Students who do not have Speaking class, or who were absent on Tuesday when midterm grades were distributed, may pick up their grades in the ELI Main Office starting today, October 19. Students must pay their tuition or submit a valid financial guarantee in order to receive their midterm grade reports..

## Spooky English Idioms

This week, we wanted to share a few English idioms in the spooky spirit of Halloween! These idioms consist of scary things that we associate with Halloween and the month of October, such as skeletons, owls, and ghosts.

**Skeleton in the closet**— something you don't want anyone to know about because it may bring shame or embarrassment to you or your family

Ex. Dropping out of college might be a skeleton in David's closet but he's working very hard to graduate now.

**A ghost town**— a place that has been abandoned and there are no longer people living there

Ex. There are lots of students at the ELI for the Fall term, but when students go on vacation, it is like a ghost town.

**Makes one's blood boil**— something that makes you really angry

Ex. It will really make your teacher's blood boil if you don't do your homework!

**A night owl** — someone who likes to be awake and active at night

Ex. Maria is a real night owl! She stays up until 2:00 AM every night practicing her English.

These idioms and more can be found at:  
<http://online-englishlessons.eu/wordpress/2011/10/35-phrasal-verbs-idioms-and-sayings-for-halloween/>.

## ELI Photo Contest

Show us how you see the world by entering the ELI Photo Contest! We're looking for artwork for the ELI walls and to promote the ELI. We think the best source for that art is the students who make us who we are. We are looking for photos in the following categories:

**Show Some Class:** Take a photo that represents the experience of being a student in the ELI. Is there a certain space, person, or object in the ELI building or neighborhood that really represents the ELI for you?

**In the Know:** Now that you know what's cool in Oakland and Pittsburgh, why not share it with the rest of us? Snap a photo of the areas of the city that you think everyone should know about.

**Active Imagination:** Many of you have participated in ELI Activities this term, and we know you have lots of pictures to prove it! Do any of your photos stand out? Enter your favorite!

**Get Some Fresh Air:** Pittsburgh is full of beautiful parks and outdoor spaces. Get out into nature and capture a photo of other creatures that cross your path!

**Pick-Me-Up:** ELI students work hard every day to improve their English. With classes and homework, the schedule can be tiring. Who or what is your pick-me-up for when your energy is low? Can you capture that energy in a photo?

**ELI Pride:** Show off your school pride with a photo of you and your buddies wearing ELI or Pitt gear.

Participation:

- The contest is open to all current University of Pittsburgh ELI students.
- Judges will select 3 finalists from each category to be put on display at the ELI. Note: Categories must have at least 3 entries to be considered for prizes.
- ELI students and faculty will vote on their favorite photos among the finalists.
- Winning photographers in each category will have their photos framed for the ELI walls.
- Photographers may bring entries on a flash drive to Stacy Ranson in M22, or email [sar72@pitt.edu](mailto:sar72@pitt.edu).
- The deadline for submission is Thursday, November 16 by 4:00 pm.

Contest Rules:

- We will only accept high resolution JPEG files (1200X1600 pixels, minimum).
- No photographs incorporating alcohol or illegal activities will be considered.
- All submissions must be your own.
- Each student may enter ONE photo per category.
- All photographers who enter the contest give the University of Pittsburgh the right to use their photos for promotional purposes.

