ELI Pre-registration Schedule
Spring 2018

If you plan to study at the ELI next term, you must pre-register with Stacy at your assigned time in room M22. If you do not pre-register with Stacy, the ELI cannot guarantee your place for the spring term. If you plan to take a vacation term, you must see Stacy to register, too.

Sections 2A, 3F, 3G, 4J, 4K:
Monday, November 6:
1:00-1:40 pm
3:00-3:30 pm

Tuesday, November 7:
1:00-1:40 pm
3:00-3:30 pm

Sections 4L, 5P, 6T, 6U:
Thursday, November 9:
1:00-1:40 pm
3:00-3:30 pm

Friday, November 10:
1:00-1:40 pm

F1 Students and Part Time Study

Students with F1 visas have the benefit of taking a vacation term for part time study. If you have studied full time at the ELI for two semesters, you can choose to take a break next semester or to study part time. You may only take one vacation term during your study at the ELI.

Please remember that you must pre-register for this benefit. You cannot change to a vacation term after the term starts. There are no exceptions to this rule. The deadline for choosing a vacation term or part time study for F1 students is December 4, 2017.

Also, please remember that Saudi and Kuwaiti students who are sponsored by their governments are not allowed to study part time because of sponsor rules. If you are a sponsored student and would like to study part time, you must provide a letter of permission from your sponsor before December 4. This letter must be in English. The ELI does not make these requests for students; you must speak to your sponsor yourself.

Letters of Recommendation

Many of you will need to ask Stacy for a letter of recommendation if you are applying to other institutions. There are two important things to remember when making a request for a letter. The first factor is that letters of recommendation are based on your performance at the ELI. Stacy uses your grade reports as a resource for information about your performance. If you miss a lot of classes and don’t do your work, your letter of recommendation will not be very strong.

The second important factor is time. Please remember that it takes approximately one week to receive a letter of recommendation. Stacy has many letters to write, and she cannot provide them immediately when you ask for them. This means that if you need a letter before the semester break in December, you should request it by Monday, December 4. If you request a letter after this date, or during the break, you will have to wait until after the next term begins. Please plan ahead when making your requests.

Coffee Talk on Fridays!
4:00 – 6:00 pm Panera
(3800 Forbes Ave.)

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday, Dec. 1</th>
<th>Monday, Dec. 4</th>
<th>Tuesday, Dec. 5</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing final</td>
<td>Grammar final</td>
<td>Reading final</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am - 12:00 pm</td>
<td>10:00 am - 12:00 pm</td>
<td>10:00 am - 12:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaking final</td>
<td>Listening final</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>2:00 pm - 4:00 pm</td>
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Visit the ELI NEWS online: www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news
**F1 Students and End-of-Term Grace Period**

The Department of Homeland Security requires students to complete all levels of the ELI program in order to receive the 60-day grace period following the completion of study. This means that if you complete level 6 at the ELI, you will have 60 days after your last day of study to remain in the U.S. or request a transfer to a new program.

If you end your study at the ELI before completing level 6, you will have a two-week grace period after your final day of class. This means that you will need to request a transfer to a new program or leave the U.S. within 2 weeks of your last day of study if you do not complete level 6.

If you transfer to a new program at any time, you must begin study at the first available term for the new program. If you transfer within your grace period, you are permitted to be out of school for up to 5 months before beginning the first available term of your new program. Please see Stacy if you have questions about these policies.

**ELI Activity**

**ELI NIGHT**
Saturday, November 11
Please Sign Up!

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!

Please let us know if you are planning to attend. You can do this online at http://tinyurl.com/ENFall2017. Let us know if you are coming and how many guests (homestay family members, conversation partners, Talk Time leaders, friends) will be coming with you. We want to make sure that we have enough tables and chairs for everyone!

You should plan to arrive at the church 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 Ec at ecul@pitt.edu.

**ELI Activity**

**Language Music Club**

If you still haven’t joined us on Tuesdays to practice English while listening to music, you are missing out on this fun language learning opportunity! Last week, we enjoyed some Halloween-themed music and the week before that, we listened to several songs from Motown the Musical. What will we listen to on Tuesday, November 7? Come to the Language Music Club and find out!

We meet every Tuesday at 4pm in Room 104. 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 Ec at ecul@pitt.edu.

**ELI Writing Contest**

The ELI is holding a competition for students in all writing classes. There will be one winner in each level (2, 3, 4, 5, 6), and the winners will be announced at the 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 not know who you are).

The judges will choose the best composition from each level.

The deadline for entries is Tuesday, November 28 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 2 or 3, your entry can be a shorter composition, even a single paragraph. Each student can enter only one composition.

Good luck!

**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.

**Mark your Calendars!**

**Upcoming ELI Activities**

- **Sunday, November 5:** NBA Cavs Game
- **Tuesday, November 7:** Language Music Club
- **Saturday, November 11:** ELI Night
- **Thursday, November 16:** Hoopla! Pitt Women’s Basketball
- **Tuesday, November 21:** Motown the Musical

**Want to write for the ELI News?** We’re always willing to publish articles from our students, regardless of level. Please email elipitt@pitt.edu with your submissions.

Visit the ELI NEWS online: www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news
NBA Basketball Game Reminders

There are 49 of us going to Cleveland, Ohio to see the Cleveland Cavaliers take on the Atlanta Hawks on Sun., Nov. 5. We’ll board our bus on the corner of 5th Avenue and Bigelow Boulevard (near the Cathedral) at 9:15 am. Check the flyers around the ELI for a map that indicates the meeting place. If you are late, we cannot wait for you. There are no refunds.

It takes about 3 hours to get to Cleveland from Pittsburgh. Before we arrive in Cleveland, we will stop at a rest stop for lunch. You are also welcome to bring your own lunch or snacks on the bus, but don’t bring anything with a strong smell. Drinks must be in spill-proof containers.

The game begins at 3:00pm. We will depart Cleveland around 6:00pm and arrive in Pittsburgh around 9:00pm. Please plan your ride home before Sunday. Buses operate on a limited schedule on Sundays.

If you have any questions, please email Ece at ecu4@pitt.edu.

Student Storytellers: Nanami Moriyasu

Please join us for the third Student Storyteller presentation. Nanami Moriyasu will share some of her observations about differences between Japanese and American culture. You are encouraged to attend and share your own culture so that we can learn from the diverse experiences and backgrounds of our students. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Date: Today, November 2, 2017  
Time: 4:00 – 4:20 pm  
Place: ELI Conference Room, M-15

Motown the Musical

Join the ELI as we go see Motown the Musical at the Benedum Center downtown on Tuesday, November 21 at 7:30pm. A musical is a performance that is similar to a theater play but with the addition of singing and dancing.

Motown the Musical follows the story of Berry Gordy, a featherweight boxer who overcame great obstacles to become a heavyweight music mogul. He is responsible for launching the careers of several famous musicians, who are still well-known today. Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye, and Smokey Robinson are just a few of these artists, but there were many more. This musical includes many of the famous songs of Motown as well as some original music.

The music of Motown began during a significant period of American history. It was the 1960s and the middle of the civil rights movement. This was a difficult and turbulent time for African Americans who were fighting segregation and racial prejudice. Despite these stressful circumstances, most of the Motown music is upbeat and happy. You can’t help but tap your toe and sing along! According to the website of Motown the Musical, “Motown shattered barriers, shaped our lives and made us all move to the same beat.”

If you would like to “move to the same beat” with the ELI, you must pay the main office by 4:30pm on Friday, November 3. Discounted tickets are $27 each. We need at least 10 people for this price. The main office will begin collecting money on Monday, October 30. Please bring the exact amount. There are no refunds. If you have any questions, please email Ece at ecu4@pitt.edu.

Time to Change Our Clocks! Daylight Savings Time

On Sunday, November 5 at 2:00 am we will move the time on our clock back one hour. At 2:00 am, you should change your clock so that it says 1:00 am. This is called “Daylight Savings Time.” The practice of Daylight Savings Time is followed mostly in North America, Europe and other locations that are usually farther north of the equator.

While the exact date of Daylight Savings Time may fluctuate every year, it is not arbitrary. Daylight Savings Time corresponds with the natural shortening of daylight time in the Fall and the natural lengthening of daylight time in the summer. According to wikipedia.org, by moving our clocks back one hour we’re adding more daylight time to the afternoons and less daylight time to mornings and evenings. This gives us more daylight time in the summer for sports and activities outdoors.

Another benefit is saving electricity and energy. However, some people have conflicting points of view on the issue of Daylight Savings Time. Not everyone agrees with the practice. Some people feel that they are being manipulated into working longer hours in the summer. Some believe that more daylight means more exposure to the sun and therefore more possibilities of skin cancer. Other people say that the problems are more basic. They say that many people inevitably forget to change their clocks, causing them problems with work and family life. What do you think?

Follow us on Twitter
@Upitt_EL
**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.

**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.

- 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.
- The deadline for submission is Thursday, November 16 by 4:00 pm.

Visit the ELI NEWS online: [www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news](http://www.eli.pitt.edu/eli-news)

**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

**Address Updates**

Remember, each time that you change your address, you must update your address with the University of Pittsburgh and with immigration. Please visit the ELI Main Office to update your address.

You must also change your address with the bank, your cell phone provider, and with any other company or office that is using your old address. If you are expecting a refund from the university, the university will mail it to the address they have on file. Therefore, if you don’t update your address your check may be mailed to the wrong place.

**Coffee Talk on Fridays!**

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