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CIES Nole News

The Weekly Publication for the FSU Center for Intensive English Studies



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Welcome One and All

New Academic Year Greetings from Dr. Kennell, CIES Director

Welcome (and welcome back) to Fall 2016! Fall semester is the most exciting time of year at FSU, and you picked a wonderful time to study here. In a month the weather will start to get cooler, and there is definitely lots of excitement in the air here at FSU.

Remember that here at CIES you are all an important part of the FSU community. Don't be afraid to participate in FSU activities. There are student groups and fun athletic activities all over campus. Football is the biggest sport at FSU, and football season starts in just a few weeks. Try to go to some of the games, and you'll be surrounded by tens of thousands of people **cheering** for FSU. You may even see me at some of the games.

I know you are very excited to be here, but there may be times when you feel a little frustrated or lonely. Here at CIES we are a big family, and you should give yourself the opportunity to make friends here that will last a lifetime. In this issue of Nole News, you will read tips that can help you feel more at home and welcome in Tallahassee and FSU.

Finally, here at CIES our most important goal is communication. We want you to be able to express yourself and not be afraid to share with us any exciting things in your life or any troubles you may have. We are here to serve you and make this one of the most **enriching** experiences of your life.



Canoeing on the River

Every week this session we have an exciting trip planned. You will see a schedule of this session's activities in all of the classrooms as well as on the activities board downstairs in the lobby.

Our first trip will be coming up this Friday! We will be going down to the beautiful **Wakulla River**, and we'll go canoeing. We will meet right after class at **12:30 this Friday (August 26)**. We will be transported down to the Wakulla River, and we'll spend several hours on the river before returning home. You do not need money for this trip, but you may want to bring sunscreen, a hat or sunglasses, as well as a snack in case you get hungry. It is also important to stay **hydrated**, so bring water!

This is a great opportunity to have fun and meet new students. Be sure to take lots of pictures! If you ever take pictures that you would like included in the Nole News, please email the editor at acwilson@fsu.edu.

Congrats to CIES VOICES winners

Every semester we host a writing competition for all CIES students. Everyone can submit anything that they've written. The next competition will be held at the end of Fall II session in November. However, you can submit anything you've written during Fall I session as well.

During summer session we had many wonderful entries! The winner from last session was Shishir Kumar, and 2nd place went to Madeleine (Made) Clement. We are very proud of these excellent writers.



You can read their submissions on the CIES website: www.cies.fsu.edu and then go to the Newsletter tab.

Congratulations again to Shishir and Made!

Perfect Attendance

Attendance is VERY important here at CIES. Missing classes can make it harder for you to learn English. Having perfect attendance, however, can be difficult. We'd like to recognize those students last session who tried very hard and had **PERFECT ATTENDANCE!** This is quite an accomplishment, and on behalf of Lacey and Dr. Kennell, we'd like to congratulate these students.

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|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Ahmed Alshammari | Jameel Awad |
| Chung-Kuang Chen | Diana Corral |
| Cheyon Ha | Dan He |
| Margo Mesquita | Xiao Ma |
| Younghawn Park | Tran Chi |
| Minxue Wei | |

Birthdays

No birthdays this week

Important Dates this session

Monday September 5: Labor Day Holiday (no class)

Thursday September 29: Composition TOEFL-style final

Monday October 3: Speaking Final

Tuesday October 4: Listening Final

Wednesday October 5: Grammar Final

Thursday October 6: Reading Final

Friday October 7: Graduation & Fall Festival

Culture Question

Question: I really miss my home country and my home culture. What are some ways that I can reduce my culture shock?

Answer: We have many students at CIES this session, so we thought that this would be a good question for those of you who just arrived. (Also, this might be a good reminder for those of you who have been here a while.)

When you first arrived, you probably felt very excited to be in a new place. You were experiencing new sounds, sights, smells and even tastes. You probably also noticed how hot Tallahassee is during the summer time.

However, usually after a week or two, you might start really missing home. You might also find yourself really surprised and having trouble with the new culture around you. This is called culture shock. Here are some ways to help you feel more comfortable.

* Try to find a hobby that you enjoy from home. Tallahassee is a large town, so if there's a particular sport or hobby (even Pokémon Go ☺) that you enjoy playing, try to find a group here in Tallahassee. This will help you feel more comfortable, and it can also improve your English.

* There might be times that you miss the food and culture from your home country. Try to find a small group of people from your home culture that are not CIES students. This will help give you a Tallahassee family as well as people that could offer you advice or help. Even if these people are from similar countries, they can still offer help. A community center, mosque, or church might be a good way to meet people.

* Try to participate in as many CIES activities as you can. These activities are all very fun and can help keep you busy! Keeping yourself busy is the best way to avoid culture shock.

* Ask CIES students that have been here a while or your teachers for suggestions about things to do. There are lots of fun things to do around Tallahassee; you just have to know where to find them!

* Do not spend too much time with people speaking your language. The reason why you came to the United States is so that you could be surrounded by English. The more English you speak, the faster it is to learn.

Language Question

Question: What is a semicolon and when do I use it?

Answer: A semicolon (;) is a way to make your writing more effective. A lot of people are not sure how to use semicolons, but they are actually very easy to use. A semicolon is used in the middle of a sentence where both the first and second part of the sentence are complete sentences. You can use semicolons to combine two ideas that are closely related. Just remember that unlike commas, you cannot use coordinating conjunctions (and, or, but, so) after a semicolon.

John accidentally said a bad word. He quickly apologized and told me he was sorry.

You can combine these sentences:
John accidentally said a bad word; however, he quickly apologized and told me was sorry.

Try to combine the following two sentences:

John is planning to go to Europe this summer. I am going to stay home and relax.

Quote of the Week

A smile is the universal welcome.
- Max Eastman



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This week's vocabulary:

cheer (verb) – to loudly and enthusiastically support something, to eagerly want something/someone to succeed

enriching (adjective) – worthwhile, wholesome, having value or significance

hydrated (adjective) – having water or liquid

culture shock (noun) – the experience of being uncomfortable with or overwhelmed by a new culture or place

busy (adjective) – having many things to do, having lots of activities or tasks