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CIES Nole News

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Welcome to Summer 2017

A new session begins with old and new friends

For those of you that are new to CIES this session – welcome! We usually have fewer students here during the summer session, so this is an excellent time to get to know everybody and to make the most of your experience learning English. No matter what level or group you are in, it is important to try to speak English as much as possible. No matter what your interests are, there will be a group of people here in Tallahassee who you can spend your time with. Talk with your tutor or conversation partner and find ways to really go out and learn about Tallahassee.

Also, we have a couple of summer session **tips** for you. One tip is to come to class every day! Our sessions are short, so missing one or two days can really affect how much you will learn over the session. A second piece of advice is to dress in **layers**! Over the next few weeks, the temperature outside will get hotter and hotter. However, the temperature inside the building may get colder and colder. As a result, you may find that here at FSU (and many places in Tallahassee) you might need a small or light jacket even on the hottest days of the year.

May Activities

Friday May 5: This Friday we are kicking off summer semester with a big event! Classes will end at 12:30pm, and after class we will have a delicious barbeque lunch to celebrate the end of our first week. After the lunch, we are going to go over to the sports field on campus and the teachers and students will play a fun game of kickball. Many of the students and teachers are very competitive, so this should be an interesting game!

Friday May 12: Tom Brown Park is the largest park located within the city of Tallahassee, and there are many outdoor activities there. On May 12 we will meet after



classes at 12:30 and transportation will be provided to Tom Brown Park. Once

there we will play some fun games outside, including Frisbee golf. Make sure you bring food or snacks since you might be hungry after your classes.

Friday May 19: The FSU Reservation (nicknamed ‘the Rez’) is the most popular outdoor spot at Florida State. It is located about four miles from campus. There you will find ropes courses, a beach, volleyball courts, and a lake with kayaks and canoes. We will meet after classes at 12:30 and head over to the Rez. You will be able to go swimming or, if you don’t want to get wet, you can get in a boat and paddle around the beautiful lake and enjoy some Florida nature.

Perfect Attendance Spring II 2017

There are signs in every classroom that will tell you how important it is to attend every class here at CIES! We would like to **commend** the following students for having perfect students during the Spring II session. 😊

Saad Alburakian
Luana De Oliveira
Nagisa Ikeda
Eman Jamsheer
Mohammad Jamshir
Maria Stephany Mejia
Nadege Oubda

Our Competition Winners

Three times a year CIES has a student writing competition where every student can submit a writing sample. We had 15 excellent entries last session – Congratulations to all of you that entered! All of the entries will be published and available on the CIES website by the end of May. A very special congratulations to our winners.

Winner: Ghady Bahathiq

2nd Place: Ana Claus

Merry May Birthdays

Abdullah Albrazi (May 1)
Ramin Yazdanpanah (May 6)
Daniel Corothie (May 15)
Ah Young Kim (May 18)
Jenn Dickinson (May 23)
Ryan Flemming (May 25)
Ankhabayar Jargalsaikhan (May 29)

Culture Questions

Question: Do most FSU students study during the summer?

Answer: Many FSU students do study during summer semester, but there are fewer students here on campus during the summer.

A lot of FSU students graduate at the end of spring semester in April or May, but most new students don't start FSU until fall semester in August. As a result, there are fewer students around during the summer. Also, many FSU students will return home during the summer or use the time to study in another country or do an **internship**. Even though there are still a large number of undergraduate classes being offered, there are very few graduate school classes offered. As a result of the decreased enrollment, there are often fewer activities on campus. However, having fewer students around might make it easier to join organizations or to meet people!

There are always FSU newspapers available on the front desk at CIES. Be sure to pick up one of these newspapers and find out what is going on around campus. You can try to make some friends in the summer and that way you'll be prepared to meet even more friends in the fall.

Question: Is Mother's Day an important holiday in the US?

A: Yes! Mother's Day is a holiday celebrated on **Sunday May 14**. Although this is not an official holiday, it is a day that has become an important part of American life. People buy their mothers special gifts and usually try to have a special meal with their mother. Some people will even travel from far away to see their mom. Additionally, a man will often give a special gift to his wife on Mother's Day to thank her for the many things she does for the family. Even if this holiday isn't celebrated in your country, you should make a point to call your mother to show her your **appreciation**.

Question: What is Memorial Day and why is it celebrated?

Monday May 29 is Memorial Day in the United States. As a result of this holiday, both **CIES and FSU will be closed and there will be no class**. Memorial Day is an important holiday in America. It is a day that Americans remember all of those who have died serving in the country's military. America has fought in many wars during the past 250 years. Even though FSU will be closed, almost every store and restaurant will be open on Memorial Day. It is actually a very good day to go shopping because many stores have excellent sales. Even though summer doesn't officially start

until June, Memorial Day usually serves as the traditional start of summer in the USA.

Language Question

*Question: Are the words **media** and **data** singular or plural?*

A: **Both**. Technically speaking, *media* and *data* are both (irregular) plural count nouns. These words are derived from Latin. The singular form of *media* is *medium* (noun) and the singular form of *data* is *datum*. However, many native English speakers do not realize these words are plural, so you may often hear and even read these words being used as non-count (singular) words.

Correct: The data show that most people don't want to pay for a parking decal.

Commonly used, but technically incorrect: The data shows that most people don't want to pay for a parking decal.

Quote of the Week

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

- Maya Angelou



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This week's vocabulary:

tip (noun) – a piece of advice

layer(s) (noun) – having multiple things covering another (such as an onion or many clothes on top of other clothes)

commend (verb) – to tell someone that they've done a good job

internship (noun) – a (sometimes unpaid) job where a younger person gets experience working in a given field

appreciation (noun) – a show of thankfulness; gratitude; showing that you like someone or something

media (noun) – newspapers, television, radio, the internet; sources of news and information