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# CIES Nole News

The Weekly Publication for the FSU Center for Intensive English Studies



Volume 7, Issue 1



## Fun First Friday

A great way to start our Spring II session

Welcome to Spring II 2016! The start of a new session is always exciting for everyone, and we hope all of you are just as excited as all of the teachers and staff.

We've got a very busy spring session with activities planned. Our first activity will be this Friday. When classes end at **12:30**, please plan to stay and eat lunch with everyone. There will be a lunch from Sonny's **Bar-B-Q** restaurant provided. This is a very delicious restaurant that specializes in smoked meat; it is famous throughout Florida. This will also be an opportunity for old and new CIES students to meet. There will also be music and dancing, and Jasmine Carnell will be teaching us some awesome dance moves. Come hungry and ready to have some fun!

### MAG LAB SATURDAY

FSU is home to one of the most famous **supermagnets** in the world. People come from everywhere to see this wonderful and amazing device. CIES will be taking a trip to see the Mag Lab on Saturday morning. We will meet at CIES on **Saturday February 27 at 9:30am**. Transportation will be provided and we will return to CIES around noon.

### Let's Go Camping

Since we have a week-long spring break coming up from March 7 until March 11, CIES has decided to plan some fun opportunities for you during that week.

On March 7th we will leave for St. Augustine, which is one of the most beautiful places in Florida! There we will be camping overnight on an Atlantic Ocean beach. This is a great way to make strong friendships and enjoy getting to know your wonderful CIES classmates.

If you are interested in camping, be sure to sign up on the **bulletin board** downstairs. Since this is a 2-day trip, **you must sign up only if you absolutely plan to attend**. This is a very special trip, so we need to know exactly who is attending. This trip will be awesome!

### Happy Birthday to me...

This issue marks the **one year anniversary of the Nole News newsletter!** This newsletter is an opportunity for you to know what is going on at CIES and learn some important and useful grammar and culture lessons.



Be sure to keep these newsletters as each issue contains valuable vocabulary. Also, if you ever have a question you would like answered or you would like to write or be featured in the newsletter, please let the editor know! The editor can be contacted at [acwilson@fsu.edu](mailto:acwilson@fsu.edu).

### All Across the World

**This session we have a very large and diverse student population. This is one our most diverse sessions in a long time. We have students from 29 different countries this session.**

Those nations are:

- |                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Algeria              | Angola        |
| Argentina            | Benin         |
| Bolivia              | Brazil        |
| Burkina Faso         | China         |
| Colombia             | Côte d'Ivoire |
| Cuba                 | Ecuador       |
| Kuwait               | Mali          |
| Mexico               | Oman          |
| Panama               | Palestine     |
| Peru                 | Portugal      |
| Russia               | Saudi Arabia  |
| South Korea          | Spain         |
| Thailand             | Turkey        |
| United Arab Emirates | Venezuela     |
| Vietnam              |               |



## Happy Birthday!

Happy birthday to those celebrating birthdays last week and this week!

**Andrea Arrendondo (February 21)**

**Salem Alamri (February 26)**

**Sang Hyun Kwon (February 28)**

**Marthial Oubda (February 28)**

## Culture Questions

*Question: There was very bad weather on the first day of class. Is Tallahassee a city that has bad weather?*

Answer: Tallahassee has better weather than most other American cities. Parts of the US have recently suffered from terrible winter **blizzards**. Thankfully, this horrible winter weather is almost never a problem in north Florida. However, late winter and early spring can be a time of terrible thunderstorms. During this time of year the weather starts shifting from cold to hot, so sometimes this can cause wild weather. This transformation can have awful and dangerous storms (sometimes with tornados). It is important to know about dangerous weather. If you do not receive messages from FSU, please go online to my.fsu.edu and click on “Enter Student Center” which is found on the right side of the

page underneath the “My Information” tab. After clicking there, you can enter your phone number and also sign up for text alerts. This will not only let you know when there is dangerous weather, but it will also let you know if there are other types of events, crimes, or other happenings on campus.

And while we’re on the subject of weather, please remember to dress smartly. Often times the weather in the CIES classrooms is the opposite of the weather outside. On cold days it is often very warm in the building, and on hot days it is freezing inside. You sometimes may need to wear a short-sleeved shirt during the winter with other layers on top. Similarly, when it gets warm in a few weeks, you may need a jacket in the classroom. This is true in many buildings in Tallahassee!

## Language Question

*Question: In the United States, how are dates and birthdates written?*

A: It is important to remember that in the United States, dates are written MONTH, DATE, and then YEAR. In formal writing, you will see February 24, 2016. In shorthand you will see 02/24/2016. Here at CIES we are flexible – we know that many of you are used to writing dates a different way. However, when you write dates on important

documents such as an apartment lease or at the bank, it is necessary to write the date in the usual American format.

*Question: What’s the difference between “affect” and “effect”?*

A: Both words have similar meanings and are pronounced exactly the same by most English speakers. However, please be careful because “affect” is a verb whereas “effect” is a noun. Furthermore, the common adjective (effective) and adverb (effectively) are spelled like the noun. Don’t feel bad if you confuse these words— many native English speakers are confused by this. If you use these words in your writing just be sure to go back and ask yourself if the word is functioning as a noun or verb – taking that little extra time will guarantee effective 😊 writing.

- Cloudy weather **affects** my mood – if it is dark and gray outside, I usually feel very sad. [Affects is a verb.]
- Violence has many negative **effects** on society. [Effects is a plural noun.]

## Quote of the Week

The best way to **cheer yourself up** is to cheer someone else up.

- Mark Twain



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**strength. skill. character.**

This week’s vocabulary:

- Bar-B-Q** (also spelled ‘barbecue’) (noun/adjective) – cooking meat over a fire for a long time
- magnet** (noun) – a type of device where metal is attracted to other metals
- bulletin board** (noun) – a board hung on a wall where announcements and information can be displayed
- blizzard** (noun) – a winter storm with large amounts of snow, cold temperatures, and strong winds
- to cheer up** (verb) – to make someone feel happier or better