



Whitman Today

Monday, August 31, 2020

Week One: In the Books



Following the most unusual first week of classes most of us have ever experienced, Barry Balof, faculty chair and professor of mathematics, reflects on what he and faculty have learned and are doing to make sure the semester starts off well.

[Fall 2020 Information Center](#)

Announcements

Community Conduct Policies Updated

Over the course of the summer there were important updates made to several policies and procedures that guide students, staff and faculty in constructing respectful and inclusive community.

- [Student Code of Conduct](#)
- [Grievance Policy](#)
- [Title IX Policy](#)

Please make time to review these documents and understand the role you play in making Whitman a safe and caring physical and digital space.

Question of the Week

Last week, we asked how you were feeling about the first week of class. Perhaps unsurprisingly, most of the 204 respondents were feeling:



Hopefully things are looking a little brighter this Monday.

This week, we want to know: what is one characteristic you appreciate in a teacher?

friendliness and approachability

superior listening skills

excellent organization skills

passion for their subject matter

Coping With Coronavirus

Keeping Track of COVID-19 at Whitman and in Walla Walla

There is now a [COVID-19 at Whitman](#) section in the Fall 2020 information center. This page will be updated regularly with information on confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Whitman faculty, staff and students who are authorized to be on campus. The page also includes links to statistical information on Walla Walla County and details for the Washington State Safe Start economic reopening phases.

Happening This Week

DAILY BEGINNING SEPT. 1

4 p.m.

[Student Open Office Hours](#)

Join Kazi Joshua, dean of students, for drop-in office hours every Monday-Friday from 4-5 p.m. on Zoom. Bring any topics you wish to discuss during these sessions

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4

Noon

[Black Life at Whitman: Stories From Across the Years](#)

An open-form conversation between current Black students and alumni, including a discussion of challenges and opportunities, experiences and lessons learned, how all of that shaped the panelists' lives after Whitman and their hopes and dreams for the future of the college.

[More Upcoming Events](#)

Have a virtual event you'd like to share with campus? Email the details to whitmantoday@whitman.edu.

Getting to Know...

SHELLY RASMUSSEN (she/her)
Community Consulting Specialist,
Student Engagement Center

Describe your job or area of focus/expertise:

I work as coordinator for the Whitman Student Consulting Corps and focus primarily on training students to provide high-level organizational administrative consulting to nonprofits in the Walla Walla Valley.

What are you most passionate about?

At work: Inspiring students to develop skills that will empower them to engage with the Walla Walla community and beyond. At home: Cooking elaborate meals for family and friends. (Although gatherings with friends are on hiatus, I am confident we will all be together again!)

Fun fact: I know how to tap dance. Really!



"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed Monday-Friday to Whitman College staff, faculty and students. All times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

Submissions are welcome! If you have a professional or personal accomplishment to celebrate, an event to publicize or other content to share with the Whitman community, email whitmantoday@whitman.edu. Submissions should be 125 words or less. The deadline for submissions is noon for the following day's newsletter, though submissions may be held for a later date according to space and editorial needs.



WHITMAN COLLEGE