



Whitman Today

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Whitties in Action

Although Whitties are spread around the world this fall, that hasn't stopped the spirit of cooperation between the college and the Walla Walla community. Despite the challenges, Whitman students, faculty and staff have leapt — or in most cases, logged on — to action, along with long-standing partners such as Walla Walla Public Schools, the city of Walla Walla, Providence St. Mary Medical Center and many others.



From writing letters to pen pals at Washington Odd Fellows Home through the Adopt-A-Grandparent program to recording children's books in Spanish through the Storytime Project, a Sunday [column in the Union-Bulletin](#) featured a few of the ways Whitties are continuing the tradition of community engagement despite distance learning.

Announcements

Whitman Teaches the Movement Wants to Hear From You

On Oct. 8 at 4 p.m., [Whitman Teaches the Movement](#) will host a panel of speakers who will discuss the impacts of gaps in our K-12 history curriculum regarding Black history in the U.S. Our panelists will be Dr. Hasan Kwame Jeffries from Ohio State University, Kate Shuster from the Southern Poverty Law Center, and Professor Nina Lerman from Whitman College's history department.

This panel is intended to recognize omitted historical events pertaining to racial equity and raise awareness of Black historical figures who were also omitted from K-12 history curriculum and create a space to learn what the implications of these omissions are. To help us make this event as relevant to our student body and personal experiences as possible, Whitman Teaches the Movement asks that you take just a couple of minutes to fill out [this survey](#) to tell us about what was omitted from your education about Black history in the U.S.

Outdoor Program Fall Photo Contest



The Outdoor Program is excited to bring you a fall photo contest. With remote learning, it can be really easy to spend the whole day inside. We want to see what you're up to outside. Being outside doesn't have to be an extreme outdoor adventure; it could be as simple reading a book outside, gardening, or going for a walk. [Submit your photo](#) for a chance to win one of three prize packs. The contest ends Oct. 4 at 11:59 p.m. Learn more about the contest on the [Outdoor Program website](#).

REGISTERING IS THE FIRST STEP, HERE'S HOW TO GET MORE INVOLVED!

So, you took [the poll](#) yesterday and confirmed your registration status or followed one of the other links? That's great!

Voting is just one of the ways to include your voice in the political process.

Finding additional ways to volunteer and be civically engaged is extremely important, especially during an election cycle that carries with it the immense challenges of a pandemic and rampant misinformation.

Click the image to find [three organizations](#) that you can volunteer with right now!



Coping With Coronavirus

Take a Fall Break Staycation

As we head into fall break, consider how you may spend this four day staycation in an enjoyable and healthy manner. (Check out [these ideas](#) from [dosomething.org](#).) Please remember to be aware of your local travel and gathering restrictions as well as the commitments in our [Community Pledge](#). In Walla Walla, we remain in Phase 2 of the state Safe Start plan, with personal travel for leisure or recreation limited to the county and social gatherings restricted to five people from outside your household.

Happening This Week

THURSDAY, OCT. 1 & FRIDAY, OCT. 2

all day

October Break

There will be no classes Thursday and Friday this week. Whitman offices will be open and staff will be working regular business hours.

SATURDAY, OCT. 3

1 p.m.

Swords and Martial Tradition Webinar

A presentation and discussion co-sponsored by the Fencing Club and the Martial Arts Club on swords, martial arts and the importance of context.

More Upcoming Events

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

Getting to Know...

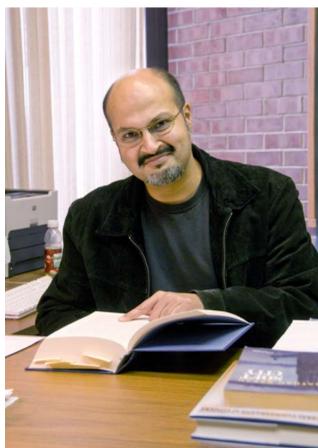
GAURAV MAJUMDAR
Professor of English

What are your areas of expertise?
British and Irish literature (1900 to the present), as well as postcolonial literature in English.

What should students know about this topic?

Concerning the first: A lot of what we consider radical, experimental, and "cool" in the arts can be traced to modernism in the early 20th century. Postcolonial literature galvanizes many resistance movements.

What is one new thing you have done during the pandemic?
I have taught online.



"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.

