



Whitman Today

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

Black Life at Whitman: Stories From Across the Years



Good news if you missed last Friday's conversation "Black Life at Whitman: Stories From Across the Years": the [video recording](#) is now available.

Thanks to students Hannah Paul '22 and Aliyah Fard '22 for leading such a thoughtful, challenging discussion. Thanks to alumni Steve Hammond, Wanjiro Kamau-Rutenberg, and Cherokee Washington for speaking so clearly and openly about what Whitman has been for Black students in the last fifty years, what it has not been and what it can be.

You can also watch that video on the [website for the "Race, Violence, and Health" theme](#), and read about many other events, courses and projects. The website has been growing by the day, so if it's been a while since you looked at it, come see what's changed.

Announcements

Campus Internet Issues

We are still experiencing intermittent connectivity issues on campus today. Our primary connection has been damaged by a regional fire, with no ETA for restoration as of this morning. We are working with our backup provider to troubleshoot the performance issues impacting Zoom, Google Meet and VPN sessions.

If you are using Google Meet, sessions are able to dial your phone to improve audio connection quality:

1. In the lower right corner click the three dots and choose "Use a phone for audio."
2. Enter your 10-digit phone number. Google will call you and connect for audio.

Off-campus connections to Zoom and Google are not impacted by this situation.

We will update campus as we learn more. Thank you for your patience as we work to resolve these issues.

Student Financial Aid Info Session

On Thursday, Sept. 10 at 4:30 PDT the Financial Aid Office will host a [virtual meeting](#), which is required for new students receiving need-based financial aid and/or federal student loans. It should only last about 30 minutes and will cover student loans, work-study and reapplying for aid (among other things).

Academic Resources



COWS (Center for Writing and Speaking)

The [Center for Writing and Speaking](#) (COWS) is a resource for all members of the Whitman community. We support a culture of peer feedback on writing and speaking at all levels and in all genres. We offer one-on-one meetings with trained peers, workshops and open writing hours for both students and faculty. During this time of remote learning, COWS will be offering tutoring on writing assignments online.

Coping With Coronavirus

Download the Everbridge Mobile App

In an effort to make symptom checking, reporting and contact tracing easier, the college has expanded our contract with Everbridge, the company that provides our emergency alert system. Faculty, staff and students cleared to be on campus will receive a daily wellness check notification via email and in the Everbridge app. Those using the app can also self-report if they test positive for COVID. The Everbridge app will also provide location and proximity data to support contact tracing in the Whitman community. Those who do not utilize the app will need to complete paper contact tracing logs. As stated in the [community pledge](#), we expect every member of the Whitman community to download the Everbridge app on their smartphone if they are able. [Get instructions on downloading and using the Everbridge app.](#)

[Fall 2020 Information Center](#)

Happening This Week

TODAY

various times [Power & Privilege Symposium External Review](#)
Staff, faculty and students are invited to open forum sessions with external reviewers to provide feedback on the Power & Privilege Symposium.

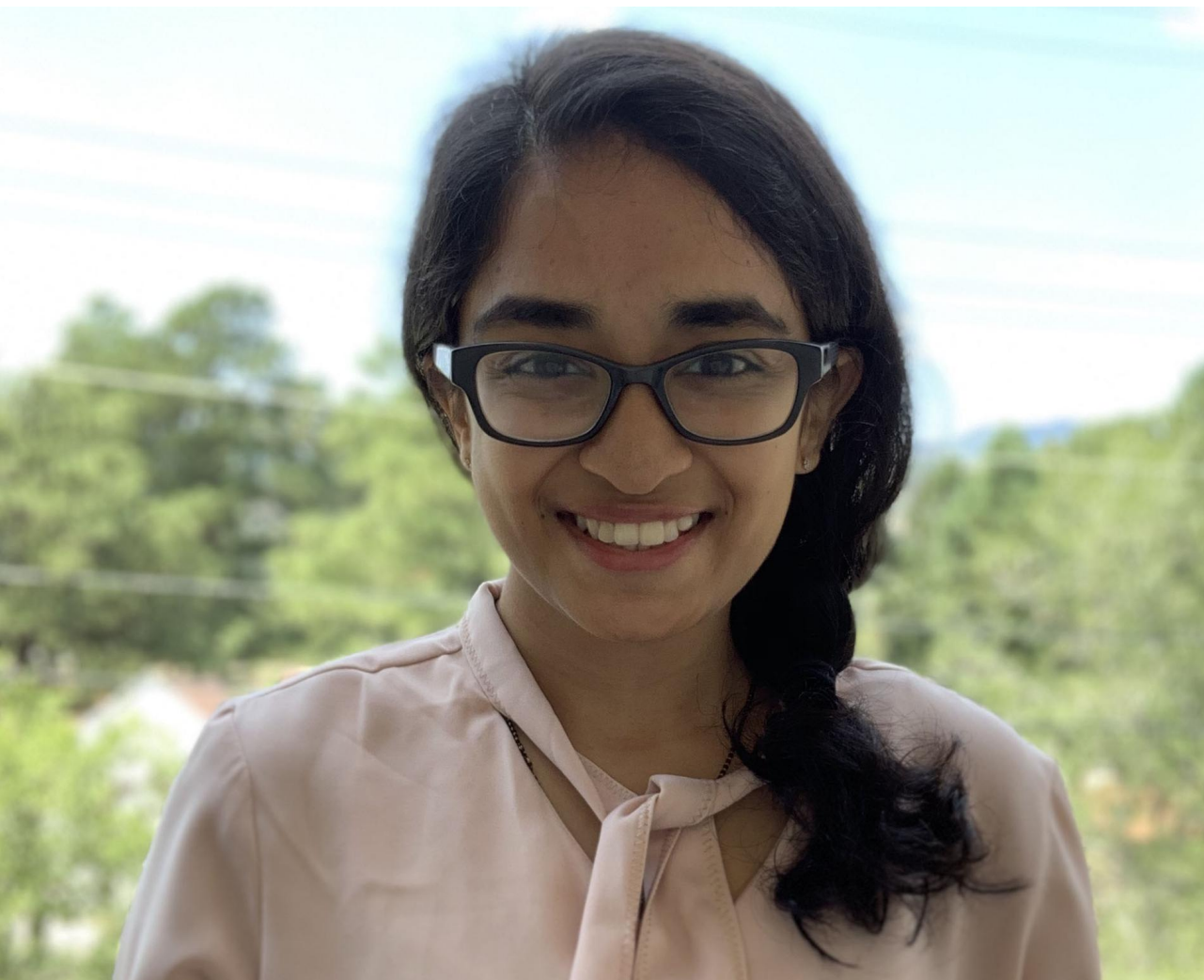
TOMORROW

4 p.m. [Penrose Library Info Session](#)
Join Emily Pearson, Instructional and Research Services Librarian, for a half-hour workshop covering the ins and outs of accessing library resources this semester.

[More Upcoming Events](#)

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

Getting to Know...



Sai Madhurika Mamunuru
Assistant Professor, Economics

What is important for students to know about your research area?

I work on questions related to economic development and gender. To do this, I use a combination of tools such as theoretical models and genometrics. I am also interested in the formation of other-regarding preferences (such as altruism, spite, aversion to inequality, etc.) and social networks.

What are you most passionate about?

I am most passionate about economics education: I would like for all courses that I teach to (a) contribute to creating more informed, responsible citizens; and (b) equip students with skills to better understand the economy they are a part of.

What book is on your bedside table right now?

I like to read novels of all kinds and very rarely do I pick non-fiction. Recently, I read "Girl, Woman, Other" by Bernadine Evaristo, and I felt it whizzed by too fast. I intend to re-read it before the year ends.

"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.



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