

Hello Seaside Swaggers!

We are so excited to meet you! Now that you've decided to start off your Whitman career in the most exciting way possible (with a Scramble!) we'd like to introduce ourselves and tell you a little more about what to expect when you get to Walla Walla in August.

A bit about your leaders:

Hello! My name is **Coleman Johnson**. I'm from Boise, Idaho. I am a sophomore, and I intend to major in Biology, because I love plants and animals and science is my jam. I hope to one day become a wildlife biologist. My other dream job is to be a doctor. My interests include: rap music, the other types of music, tennis, lacrosse, hockey, swimming, reading novels, and backpacking. This summer I am going to the Sasquatch music festival with my friends from Whitman!! That will surely be the highlight of my summer along with working at a community health care clinic. My Scramble last year was insanely fun and I cannot wait for another one!

Hey Seaside Swaggers! My name is **Eva Geisse** and I'm from the Bay Area, roughly twenty minutes north of San Francisco (San Rafael, if any of you are from the Bay!). I'm a sophomore and I declared my major at the end of this past school year, so I'm officially a full-fledged Environmental Studies-Biology major! At Whitman you can find me at the climbing wall with friends, swimming laps at the pool, or looking for owls on campus. I'm an owl enthusiast. This summer I am working for a nonprofit that promotes natural pest control by building and installing owl boxes around the Bay Area and will be helping monitor their boxes (the Hungry Owl Project, check them out!). I might also do the Alcatraz Challenge swim, so I will have a great story to tell when we meet! I went on Seaside Swag as a Scrambler and I cannot wait to share the experience with all of you!

Hi all! My name is **Allison Work** and I'm from beautiful Bellingham, Washington, about an hour and a half's drive north of Seattle. I'm a senior Biology major, though my interests academic and beyond span almost every category imaginable. That means I can be found across campus engaged in anything from Ultimate frisbee to improv games in French, and I'm just as happy in organic chemistry lab as I am debating current events in a politics class. I spent my spring studying off-campus on a tall ship in the Atlantic Ocean, researching sea creatures that live on free-floating seaweed, so I'll be adjusting back to Whittie life just as you're learning all about it yourself. I'm spending my summer running the rock climbing program at a summer camp in Wisconsin, so I'll be especially stoked to get back to the ocean with all of you on our Scramble!

Trip information & some logistics:

We will meet in Walla Walla on **Tuesday, August 19th at 1:00 pm** in the Reid Campus Center Ballroom. We will ensure that everyone brought the necessary personal gear, gather all our group gear provided by the Outdoor Program and pack up. You should bring your backpacking backpack with your personal gear for our trip all set to go, but also bring a separate shower bag with a towel, shampoo, and a sheet: we'll put that in storage while we're gone and you'll get it back when we take showers upon our return! You will be able to place anything else you won't be taking on the Scramble into storage that day as well. We'll stay on campus Tuesday night, and

then on Wednesday we'll drive across the state to the Shi Shi Trailhead on the Olympic Coast where our adventure will begin!

Our days will range from two to nine miles of beach hiking. Most days will include ample time for swimming, cooking, reading, games, lounging about, and maybe even a day hike or two. The ocean by these beautiful beaches is pretty inviting, so be prepared to jump in the water. We will be walking primarily along rocky and sandy beaches, not defined dirt trails, so it may not be hiking like you've experienced hiking before!

We'll head back to Whitman on Wednesday, August 27th. There, we'll unpack our bags, clean all of our gear and prepare ourselves for the Scramble Picnic at 6pm on the Reid Campus Center side lawn. Your parents are welcome to attend if they're in town. In addition to taking our first showers in a week, we'll be meeting back up with all the other Scrambles and watching each Scramble perform a song or skit. We'll have to put our heads together during our Scramble so that we can make the BEST skit and bring great honor to Seaside Swag!

After the picnic on the 27th, you'll be able to check into your residence hall, but you will not be able to access what you put in storage before the trip until the morning of the 28th when orientation officially begins. That's why it's super important to pack a sheet with your shower bag (and maybe a fresh change of clothes), because August nights in Walla Walla can be HOT and you probably won't want your sleeping bag.

A couple of pro tips:

- *Break in your hiking boots!* Seriously. Hiking in brand new boots (or boots you haven't worn in a while) = blisters = no fun. Make sure to acquaint yourselves with your boots before you get to Whitman. Wear them up a mountain, on epic stair challenges around your house, to show off your style at the mall, to practice hiking on the beach, etc. In all seriousness, this Scramble is not just a hike on the beach. There will be headland crossings that will involve some inclines and scrambling, so make sure your footwear is as ready to rock as you!
- *Pack layers!* Washington coast weather is completely unpredictable even in August. It should be relatively warm and nice, but we will probably experience some cooler weather as well, especially at night. We also might run into a rainstorm or two, so a good raincoat and rain pants are **VERY** important. For optimal comfort in the backcountry, you want to be cool when it's hot, warm when it's cold, and dry when it's wet. So that means layers! Take the gear list seriously, and don't hesitate to contact us or the OP Rental Shop if you have any questions.

If you have any questions or concerns this summer as you are preparing for our adventure, feel free to contact Eva at (415) 827-4664 or geisseep@whitman.edu, Coleman at (208) 949-8807 or johnsof@whitman.edu, or Allison at (360) 528-0308 or workal@whitman.edu.

We can't wait to explore the Olympic coast with all of you!

Coleman, Eva & Allison