

Whitman College Geology Department Field Trip Code of Conduct

Geology field trips add opportunities and challenges that extend beyond normal campus conditions. Whitman College geology majors have always displayed exceptionally good behavior on field trips. All the department asks is that you continue this fine tradition. In addition to the Student Rights and Responsibilities section of the Student Handbook, please look over this extra set of field trip guidelines in order to help ensure the health and safety of everyone. After reading the information below, please sign to indicate that you understand and will agree to these policies.

Before the trip:

- If you are a Wilderness First Responder (WFR), or have first aid training that is current – not expired – please make this known to the instructor and/or the trip leader before the first day. Your expertise is an asset – thank you.
- If you have a life-threatening allergy or chronic condition that may result in loss of consciousness, please be sure that at least two people on the trip (including the instructor preferably) know what your medical protocols are.

During the trip, strive to be **safe, responsible, and respectful**.

Be safe: Use common sense to always remain safe. For example:

- You are never required to do something that you feel is unsafe. We recognize that people's comfort level with heights, and other field conditions, varies widely. Simply talk to the instructor if you're uncomfortable with the access or conditions at a particular outcrop.
- Listen to all instructions before exiting the vans.
- At a roadcut, cross the road quickly and safely. Don't stand or linger in the road, and be aware of cars at all times.
- If you're examining rocks on a slope, watch your footing carefully. Avoid climbing up slopes with loose rocks that can fall on people below.
- Trip leaders will review biological hazards, like avoiding rattlesnakes or checking for ticks, as appropriate.
- Wear appropriate attire where specified.
 - Closed-toed shoes are necessary, and long pants are a good idea.
 - Protective eyewear is *required* when hammering rocks.
 - Wear a helmet and/or safety vest if requested by the trip leader.

Be responsible: When each person takes responsibility for her/his own duties, everyone has a better experience. For example:

- Your job as a student is to learn. Ask questions if you don't understand something.
- Everyone is responsible for packing the vans and making camp (if applicable).
- Offer help to the instructors and geotech as often as you think of it.
- If you are van certified, you may be asked to drive. Please follow all the safety guidelines you were given during van training through Whitman College, and

drive sensibly. If you are tired or otherwise feel unready to drive, please feel free to decline our request.

- Never bring alcohol or other non-prescription controlled substances on field trips.

Be respectful: You are expected to treat everyone with respect. For example:

- Listen to instructors at the outcrop and in the vans.
- Respect private property and sensitive environments.
- Treat your fellow students and instructors as they wish to be treated!
 - Refrain from harassment or offensive comments of any kind.
 - Be inclusive. These trips are a great opportunity to make new friends.
 - Be considerate of your music choices and music volume level in the vans.
 - Everyone has a better time when you have a good attitude.

Please note: Your instructors are always available to talk about any issues before, during and after the trip.

Overnight trips like Regional Geology require extra considerations:

- Everyone is responsible for packing the vans and making camp. For Regional Geology field trips, you will be given an assigned duty before the trip. Please be aware of your assignment and be prepared to act when it's your turn. For other overnight trips, you may not be assigned camp duties, but please offer to help.
- Be respectful at campsites:
 - Pitch your tent only in our designated sites,
 - Be quiet when the camp's quiet hours begin,
 - Help clean the campsite thoroughly prior to departure.
- Help clear and clean the vans at the end of the trip.
- If you must drop the class after signing up, please communicate with the listed professor as soon as possible. This may allow students on the waitlist to participate.
- If you drop within 7 days of the trip's departure, you will be charged the field trip fee, as food is purchased within this time window. If you drop the day that we depart on the field trip or simply do not show up, you run the risk of failing the class.

I have read and agree to abide by these guidelines.

_____ / _____

Name

/ Signature

Date