Preamble

MISSION OF THE COLLEGE

Whitman College is committed to providing an excellent, well-rounded liberal arts and sciences undergraduate education. It is an independent, non-sectarian, residential college. Whitman offers an ideal setting for rigorous learning and scholarship, and encourages creativity, character, and responsibility.

Through the study of humanities, arts, and social and natural sciences, Whitman’s students develop capacities to analyze, interpret, criticize, communicate, and engage. A concentration on basic disciplines, in combination with a nurturing residential life program that encourages personal and social development, is intended to foster intellectual vitality, confidence, leadership and the flexibility to deal with a changing technological, multicultural world.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Whitman College has a strong commitment to the principle of non-discrimination. In its admission and employment practices, administration of educational policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs, Whitman College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender, religion, age, marital status, national origin, the presence of any physical disability, veteran’s status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other basis prohibited by applicable federal, state, or local laws.

HARASSMENT AND CIVILITY

Whitman College is committed to providing a learning and working environment characterized by mutual respect and fair treatment among all its constituents. An essential component of this environment is a strong ethic and practice of equality, acceptance and nondiscriminatory interactions. Harassment and discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, veteran’s status, or any other basis prohibited by College policy or by state or federal laws is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. (A complete copy of the Whitman College Grievance Policy appears as Chapter XI of this document.)

Members of the College community should understand that standards of mutual respect, civility, and tolerance must inform our interactions with one another, regardless of whether the violation of such standards subjects one to sanctions under the formal policies of the College. Certain types of conduct may be objectionable even though they may not be violations of these policies. Such conduct should be dealt with by suasion rather than sanctions. In keeping with the need to protect academic freedom, a greater degree of latitude must be permitted in academic settings than in workplace settings involving support personnel and staff. Sanctions for violations of College policy will be imposed without regard for a faculty members’ right to determine the appropriate content and presentation of academic material.
STATEMENT OF DIVERSITY

Diversity is fundamentally important to the character and mission of Whitman College. Diversity enriches our community and enhances intellectual and personal growth. We seek to provide a challenging liberal arts experience for our students that prepares them for citizenship in the global community. By sustaining a diverse community, we strive to ensure that all individuals are valued and respected and that intellectual and personal growth are enriched because of our differences.