Whitman Summer Community OutReach Excursions (SCORE)

2015 Social Issues:
Food & Hunger
Housing & Homelessness
Conservation & Environmental Justice
Community & Identity

August 20-27

Welcome
We are so excited to have you join the Whitman and Walla Walla communities! In addition to a plethora of volunteer opportunities during the school year, the Student Engagement Center offers two types of service trips: SCOREs and Spring Break Service Trips.
Summer Community OutReach Excursions (SCOREs) are student-led pre-orientation service trips for incoming Whitman students. Through direct service and reflection, SCORE participants expand their education beyond campus to engage in the local community. We hope you are able to join us on one of the SCOREs. No prior service experience needed; just a positive attitude, a willingness to work hard, and an openness to building community.

Can I go on a SCORE and a Scramble?
Yes! Although most Scrambles are offered at the same time as the SCORE program, there is one early Scramble that is designed for fall sport athletes, international students and SCORE participants. The “Strawberry Jubilee” starts on August 13 and returns on August 18, just in time to start your SCORE. Please see the Scrambles booklet for more details on the Scramble program.
What are SCORE trips like?

SCORE participants volunteer at a primary service project each day and go on field trips to non-profits to gain an understanding of the social issues that affect our community. Evening activities provide opportunities for fun and reflection for the new students and their leaders. Students will be housed at nearby churches and will cook most meals together. The trips will run from the evening of Thursday, August 20, through the morning of Thursday, August 27, 2015.

![Image of students]

Expectations

Every student plays an important part in the success of a SCORE. Because the trips are service-based, every volunteer will be expected to work hard, be open to new ideas, contribute to the group, and have a positive attitude. Part of SCORE is learning how to live simply and be aware of your personal impact on the community.

Reflection about what you do and learn is an important part of SCORE, and it will require thoughtful and respectful participation. At the lodging sites, all students help cook and clean up. Willingness to build a cohesive group will help you develop friendships that will continue throughout your time at Whitman.
Space is limited, so register right away!

There are a limited number of spots for incoming students, so sign up right away. The application can be found online at:

**whit.mn/SCORE**

You’ll need to fill out the application before **June 15**. On **June 15** we will review applications and match participants to trips based on stated preferences. We’ll start with the applications that were submitted first, so it is best to turn in your application as soon as possible to improve your chances of getting on your top choice SCORE trip. We will maintain a waitlist once SCOREs fill up.

We will notify you of your trip placement within two weeks. Once accepted, you will need to submit your payment and follow up paperwork.

**Cost**

All SCORE trips cost $375 per person. This includes food, lodging, supplies, and transportation for six days. If the cost is prohibitive, please contact the SCORE coordinator to discuss a reduced cost trip.

**Cancellations and Refunds**

- If you cancel before **July 15**, you will receive the full refund minus a $50 cancellation fee.

- If you cancel after **July 15** but prior to **August 1**, the Student Engagement Center will retain 50% of the trip fee.

- From **August 1** throughout the duration of SCORE, all trip fees are non-refundable.
Schedule and Travel Plans

There are only two daily flights to Walla Walla from Seattle, so you should make travel arrangements as soon as you are confirmed on a trip. In July, you will receive an email from SCORE coordinators with additional trip details. Included in this email will be a travel plan survey. Please fill out this form as soon as possible. We will make arrangements to pick you up at the Walla Walla airport or bus station.

All SCORE trips start with a group orientation at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 20. All SCORE trips will return to Whitman’s Reid Campus Center on Thursday, August 27, at 9 a.m. for new student arrival, and leaders will be available to help with storage pick-up and moving into residence halls.

Equipment and Food

Food, transportation, and group gear are all included as part of the trip. Participants need to bring a sleeping bag and pad, but both can be rented from the Outdoor Program if needed for a low cost. A detailed list of necessary personal items will be included in your SCORE packet.
Storage

We will provide a place for you to store your belongings while on your SCORE. Your items must be well-labeled and will be placed in a storage room. You will be able to pick up your belongings on Thursday, August 27, at 9 a.m. when all other first-year students have the opportunity to move in.

Drug and Alcohol Policy

No drugs or alcohol are allowed on service trips. We believe they inhibit full engagement with the group and the service project. Anyone who uses drugs or alcohol will be sent home at his/her own expense.

Additional Questions You May Have:

What training do my SCORE leaders have?

SCORE leaders are required to possess current Red Cross first aid certification. They also participate in a two-day training provided by the Student Engagement Center prior to the SCORE start date. Many of them have led service trips in the past.

What safety and communication equipment do leaders carry?

Each SCORE trip will have a first aid kit and a cell phone for each leader.

More Info:
whitman.edu/score-faq
SCOREs

Food & Hunger

The Food & Hunger SCORE will focus on food issues in the Walla Walla Valley. Participants will work at local family farms, participate in gleaning for the food bank, and visit food-related organizations such as the food bank, the Farmers’ Market and Whitman’s catering service Bon Appétit. The Food & Hunger SCORE encourages students to think about where their food comes from and how food travels from farm to fork.

Housing & Homelessness

The Housing & Homelessness SCORE will work with local agencies in Walla Walla that serve the homeless population. Students will do construction projects, serve meals and work with local shelters. The Housing & Homelessness SCORE raises questions about the difference between a house and a home.
Conservation & Environmental Justice

The Conservation & Environmental Justice SCORE will focus on sustainability and conservation issues in the Walla Walla Valley. Participants will work on stream restoration projects and tour the local watershed and waste water treatment plant. The Conservation & Environmental Justice SCORE focuses on thinking about our environmental impact as consumers.

Community & Identity

The Community & Identity SCORE trip will explore community, family, background and identity in the Walla Walla Valley, and the implications of gender, race, ethnicity and socioeconomic class. Participants will work with a variety of organizations, groups and individuals in order to gain a deeper understanding of the cultural history of the region, and engage in service with these communities. In addition, students will participate in reflection activities and discuss identity through personal experiences with the potential for connecting this to the “Summer Read” selection, Brother, I’m Dying by Edwidge Danticat.
2013 Participants:

“As someone who was very involved in community service during high school, a SCORE seemed like the perfect fit for me. As I expected, during SCORE I was able to immerse myself in meaningful service in the Walla Walla community, which helped me connect with more service opportunities after I started my first semester at Whitman. What I didn’t anticipate was how much one week of SCORE would connect me to the Walla Walla area and the Whitman community. I left SCORE feeling like I had a relationship with Walla Walla outside of the context of Whitman College. In addition, I started school knowing that I had a group of people who shared this connection with me. I would highly recommend a SCORE for anyone interested in serving with other students while getting to know the place that will be their home for the next few years.”

— Lindsay Ross ‘17

“SCORE changed me. I was a shy first year when I began SCORE, but entered the first day of college as a confident student who just made many friends. Because of SCORE, I have grown to love the town of Walla Walla and its people. SCORE is the first experience I had at Whitman that made me realize how lucky I am to be here.”

— Celia Gorbman ‘17
2014 Participants:

“SCORE was incredible. While it may not get the same fanfare as Scramble, it certainly is worth doing. Having done both, I can honestly say that they are equally beneficial to you if you want something pre-orientation. I now have a strong base of friends whom I trust and like. I feel incredibly immersed in and aware of the Walla Walla community.”

— Dan Lovato ’18

“SCORE was a great way to get comfortable in the community before the rush of orientation started! With your smaller SCORE group and the entire group of SCOREos, you get to know so many people, and so much about the various social issues in Walla Walla. I’m so glad I did my SCORE, and I can’t wait to do more service at Whitman.”

— Jamie Willard ’18

“Beyond a doubt, SCORE was the greatest way I could have started my Whitman experience. From visiting the state penitentiary to serving at local high schools, I’ve gained amazing friends, unique experiences, and a new outlook on Walla Walla.”

— Deepraj Pawar ’18
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