S.C.O.R.E.
Summer Community OutReach Excursions

Living and Learning In Our Backyard

Whitman College
SUMMER 2014
Whitman Summer Community OutReach Excursions (SCORE)

2014 Social Issues:

Food & Hunger
Housing & Homelessness
Conservation & Environmental Justice
Community & Identity

August 21-28

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 are two early Scrambles that are designed for fall sport athletes, debaters, international students and SCORE participants. The “Wallowa Kapowa” and “Bowman Bonanza” Scrambles start on August 14 and return on August 19, 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 21, through the morning of Thursday, August 28, 2014.

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:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/14SCORE

You’ll need to fill out the application before June 10. On June 10 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.

Cancellations and Refunds

- If you cancel before July 10, you will receive the full refund minus a $50 cancellation fee.

- If you cancel after July 10 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 21.** All SCORE trips will return to Whitman’s Reid Campus Center on Thursday, August 28, 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 28, 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

This new SCORE trip will explore community, family, background and identity in Walla Walla and Umatilla counties, and the implications of gender, race, ethnicity and socioeconomic class. We anticipate that 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, Reservation Blues by Sherman Alexie.
2012 Participants:

“I thought that my SCORE experience was fantastic and was the perfect way to start my freshman year. It allowed me to not only begin making friends in my year, it also allowed me to get to know older students as well. With my group the community service turned into community fun. I was able to learn more about the local and school community that I was entering. Highly recommended!”

“Leading a SCORE was a wonderful and unique opportunity for me to provide first-year students with an opportunity to engage in meaningful community service and to learn about important social issues while at the same time, exposing them to the beauty of Walla Walla and what the town has to offer them. The SCORE trip naturally fostered a sense of community and facilitated life-long relationships and the individual growth of students, and provided them with an experience they are unlikely to forget!”

“My SCORE trip was by far the best part of my summer before college. It was a gratifying experience to volunteer in ways that benefitted the people in the Walla Walla community …”
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

“Leading the Housing & Homelessness SCORE last summer was a great experience, because I got to build connections with Community Partners in Walla Walla, as well as learn some things I didn't know about social services in our community. It also enabled me to form friendships with underclassmen and help them get excited for the next four years of their lives!”

— Hanna Mosenthal ’14
(Student Leader)
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