



Whitman Today

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

“14 hours”—The Chinese Student Experience During the COVID-19 Pandemic



Out of approximately 150 international students currently attending Whitman, about 40 are citizens of the People's Republic of China. All Whitman's first-year Chinese students remain in China, studying online with a time difference of 14 hours, as do any Chinese students who left campus during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Chinese students who stayed at Whitman experience other difficulties, including a lack of connection with non-international students, homesickness, and adapting to different cultures and languages.

Greg Lecki, associate director of the Intercultural Center for International Student Support Service, has compiled a report sharing some of the extraordinary challenges the pandemic has put on Whitman's Chinese student population. Through personal interviews with students both in China and on campus, he identifies several common themes as well as highlights the various ways Chinese students are responding (reaching out through WeChat, staying up until 4 a.m. to attend science labs synchronously, planning journeys complicated by significant visa and travel restrictions in order to be at Whitman for the upcoming fall semester).

[Read “14 Hours”—The Chinese Student Experience During the COVID-19 Pandemic.](#)

Q: Can I get vaccinated today?

A: Yes, you can! Due to a significant vaccine allocation, Walla Walla County Health has opened another first-dose Pfizer vaccine clinic this week, which means that there are even more opportunities for you to get the COVID vaccine! Don't delay—getting your first dose this week means you will get your second dose before the end of the semester.

Upcoming vaccination clinics at the county fairgrounds:

- **Today from 4-6 p.m.** <https://prepmo.doh.wa.gov/reg/5292046201> (This clinic is open to everyone 16 and older even though it is before the April 15 eligibility date.)
- **Saturday, April 17, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.** <https://prepmo.doh.wa.gov/reg/2657156109>

Announcements

Register for NW5C Faculty Workshops

The Northwest 5 Consortium for Community Engaged Learning (NW5C) is pleased to open [registration](#) for the second series of faculty development workshops taking place Fridays at noon throughout the month of April. The focus of this series will be [“Collaboration and Community Engagement in Prisons.”](#) Contact Emily Anderson (andersoe@whitman.edu) with any questions.



Bookstore Sale on Art Supplies

Visit the Whitman Bookstore throughout April for a special sale: For the rest of the month, all art supplies are 30% off! Shop online or in person for great deals on sketchbooks, paints, pencils and more.

[Visit the Whitman Bookstore Online](#)

Happening Today

- noon [What You Need to Know to Serve on a Nonprofit Board Conference Call & Debrief Discussion](#)
Join Shelly Rasmussen from the SEC for talks about how to build community engagement and involvement through serving on nonprofit boards. This event is open to students, staff and faculty.
- noon [Community Engaged Summer Research Program Info Session](#)
Do you have questions about the Community Engaged Summer Research Program (CESRP)? Kelsey Martin, community learning specialist, is here to help! Attend this information session on Zoom to learn more about projects that thoughtfully engage with pressing issues in the Walla Walla Valley through reciprocal and co-creative partnerships with on and off campus community members.
- 2:30 p.m. [Relational Leadership Model Workshop](#)
Come learn about the Relational Leadership Model, which is dedicated to a group's positive social development and advancement. Each of five components can be explored through the Knowing-Being-Doing framework.
- 4:30 p.m. [Craft Your Future: Cover Letters That Work](#)
Learn how to use a position description as a template for a cover letter and how to characterize your experiences accordingly.

[Whitman Events Calendar](#)

Have a virtual event you'd like to share with campus? Email the details to whitmantoday@whitman.edu.

“Whitman Today” is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed Monday-Friday to Whitman College staff, faculty and students. All times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

Submissions are welcome! If you have a professional or personal accomplishment to celebrate, an event to publicize or other content to share with the Whitman community, email whitmantoday@whitman.edu. Submissions should be 125 words or less. The deadline for submissions is noon for the following day's newsletter, though submissions may be held for a later date according to space and editorial needs. By submitting to Whitman Today you also authorize use on Whitman's social media unless otherwise specified.

Previous issues of Whitman Today are [archived on our website](#).



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