



Whitman Today

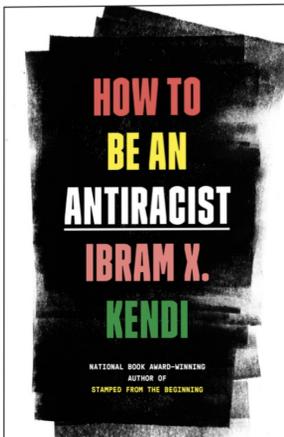
Monday, August 10, 2020

2020 Common Read

As part of our journey to become a more holistically equitable and inclusive college, President Kathy Murray announced Ibram X. Kendi's "How to be an Antiracist" as [the summer 2020 common read](#) for all members of the Whitman community.

Kendi's book was purchased for each student, thanks to generous donations from alumni and members of the President's Advisory Board. Multiple ebooks and audiobooks were also purchased by Penrose Library for faculty and staff.

Throughout the fall, Whitman will offer programming to complement the reading, which will call on every member of our community to engage in personal reflection and self-improvement, toward a goal of transforming our community through collective action.



Health Tips

How Close is "Close"?

The question of what constitutes close contact frequently comes up during symptom checking and contact tracing surveys. According to July 22 [information from the Centers for Disease Control to health departments](#), "close contact is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes.

Following good physical distancing protocols remains one of the most important ways we can prevent transmission of the novel coronavirus.

Coronavirus in Walla Walla

In the month of July, [Walla Walla County](#) confirmed 249 cases of COVID-19. So far in August, there have been an additional 124 cases, 96 of them in the past week, for a total of 544 confirmed cases since tracking began in March.

Announcements

Uddin Publishes Scholarship on Race and Modern Architecture
Lisa Uddin, associate professor of art history and visual culture studies, has published work in [Race and Modern Architecture: A Critical History from the Enlightenment to the Present](#) (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2020). This edited collection shines a spotlight on constructions of race and their impact on architecture and theory across various global contexts since the 18th century. Uddin's essay considers African American artist Noah Purifoy's sculptural response to the racial protocols of LA modernism in the wake of the 1965 Watts uprising.

Off-Campus Studies Image Contest Awards
Congratulations to this year's OCS Image Contest winners — Amara Garibyan '20, Kylin Brown '20, Jarrett Arakaki '21, Salma Angiano '22, Camille Marshall '21, Eli Baez '21, Emma Beyer '21, Jessie Mano '20, Emily Goldfarb '20 and Lian Gamble '20. Their spectacular photos and stories, highlighting the wonderful learning experiences of Whitman students around the world, can be viewed on [the Off-Campus Studies webpage](#).

Blavascunas Receives National Science Foundation Grant
Eunice Blavascunas, assistant professor of anthropology and environmental studies, received a grant from the National Science Foundation. The grant, from the Improving Undergraduate STEM Education program at NSF, is part of a multi-institutional partnership to develop evidence-based recommendations that environmental studies programs can use to help increase students' understanding of environmental concepts and enhance their overall science literacy.

Coronado Receives Grant from National Institutes for Health
Michael Coronado, assistant professor of biology, was awarded an exploratory/developmental research grant from the National Institutes of Health. In collaboration with colleagues at the Mayo Clinic, Coronado will investigate sex differences in exercise-induced mitochondrial function during viral myocarditis. Understanding the mechanism causing heart failure and death with exercise during myocarditis could save lives by providing targeted therapies that prevent heart failure and may allow the health benefits of exercise after diagnosis without living with the fear of sudden death. This grant will enable two students to perform research at Whitman.

Resources

Fall Whitman Stationery Order

Whitman's [online stationery portal](#) has opened for orders. You will have until Aug. 14 to place your orders, and products will be delivered to you on Sept. 8. As a reminder, this is a twice-yearly opportunity to get bulk pricing, so if you will need items before spring semester this is the time to order. Your portal login information is not the same as your Whitman login credentials, and is not automatic. If you have ordered in the past your login remains the same. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact Communications Printing and Mailing Services Manager Christie Fuller at 509-527-5160 or fullerch@whitman.edu.

Information Added to Fall 2020 Information Center

The Fall 2020 Information Center continues to be updated with information for students and employees. Visit regularly for important details on remote learning and working. Things to know this week:

- If you are a student whose home circumstances make it extremely difficult or impossible to complete your studies remotely during the fall semester, please complete [this application](#) by Aug. 17 to request on-campus housing for the fall.
- [COVID-19 testing is coming to campus](#) Aug. 19-22. Any member of the Whitman community in Walla Walla, including employees who have already been working on campus, should sign up to be tested for free.
- The [Fall 2020 Academic Calendar](#) has been updated to include two short breaks, a reading day and new dates for Finals Week, which will be Dec. 1-5.

[Fall 2020 Information Center](#)

Happening This Week

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

10 a.m.

[Faculty and Staff Coronavirus Task Force Open Office Hours](#)

Each Friday at 10 a.m. through August, join Whitman's Coronavirus Task Force Chair Josh Jensen to ask questions about Whitman's return-to-work and planning for the fall. All faculty and staff are invited to join the [Google Meet](#).

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

4 p.m.

[Student Open Office Hours](#)

Students are invited to join President Kathy Murray, Provost Alzada Tipton and Faculty Chair Barry Balof for open office hours on [Zoom](#).

[More Upcoming Events](#)

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

Seen Around Campus



Congratulations to [39 Whitties who received fellowships and scholarships](#) in 2019-2020! As a [Humanity in Action](#) fellow, Dorothy Mukasa '19 will work with the Walla Walla Immigrant Rights Coalition and its Socially Engaged Arts Committee to create a project that highlights the different perspectives of immigrant communities in Walla Walla, while incorporating art and music.

"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed weekly to Whitman College staff, faculty and students. All times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

To submit items, email whitmantoday@whitman.edu. The deadline for submissions is 12 p.m. Friday for the following week's newsletter.

