



Whitman Today

Tuesday, August 31, 2021

Fall 2021 Coronavirus Task Force



Anyone who has been around Whitman for a little while has received at least a few COVID-19 updates from Peter Harvey, who has been serving as our Coronavirus Task Force Chair for over a year now. However, there are actually a number of people working diligently to keep our campus community as healthy and safe as possible.

As the pandemic has evolved, so has the task force structure. This fall there are four groups evaluating different aspects of campus operations: the Policy Committee, which considers overall conditions at Whitman, in Walla Walla County and nationally in order to determine the necessary policies and protocols to protect the health of our students, faculty and staff, as well as subcommittees on Academic Operations, Student Support and Employee Support. [Learn more about the Coronavirus Task Force.](#)

Q: If I'm fully vaccinated and I've been exposed to someone with COVID-19, what do I do?

Whitman is following the CDC guidance on quarantine for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals who are close contacts to a person who has COVID-19. "Close contact" is defined as being within 6 ft. of another person for 15 minutes or more over the course of 24 hours; whether or not either individual is masked has no bearing on the definition of "close contact."

If you are fully vaccinated and a close contact to someone with COVID-19, you must wear a face mask at all times when indoors, maintain at least 3 ft. of distance from others and get tested 3-5 days after exposure. Even if you remain asymptomatic and your test is negative, you must continue to mask and distance for 14 days. You do not have to quarantine unless you develop COVID-19 symptoms, in which case you should quarantine and get tested.

Announcements

Fall 2021 Athletic Facilities Recreational Use Information

Whitman athletic facilities are now open to students, staff and faculty with fall campus access. For recreational use, indoor mask mandates are in effect at all times in all facilities except when actively swimming or in the water, bathing, eating or drinking. State masking guidance does allow coaches and student-athletes to remove their masks when actively practicing or competing.

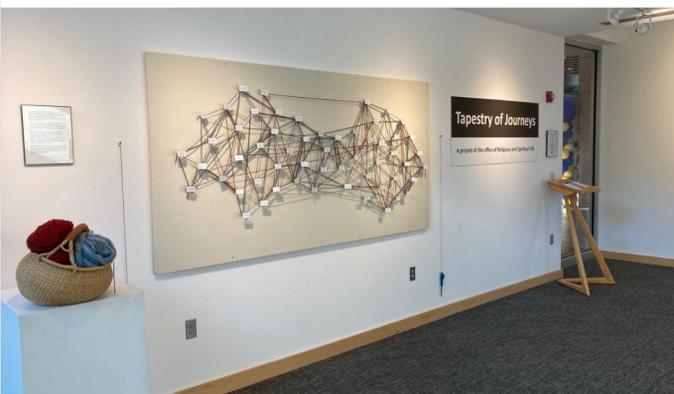
Facility hours are:
Baker Ferguson Fitness Center
Monday–Friday 7 a.m.–9 p.m.
Saturday–Sunday 7 a.m.–noon and 5 p.m.–8 p.m.

Bratton Tennis Center
Daily 6 a.m.–midnight

Sherwood Center (no staff or faculty recreation; students may use the multi-purpose gym and dance rooms)
Monday–Thursday 7 a.m.–10 p.m.
Friday 7 a.m.–7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.–9 p.m.

Harvey Pool
Monday–Friday 7–9 a.m., 12–1:30 p.m.
Monday–Thursday 8–10 p.m.
Saturday 2–5 p.m.
Sunday 2–5 p.m. and 7–9 p.m.

[Read more about recreational use of Whitman athletic facilities.](#)



Interactive Gallery Installation: Tapestry of Journeys

The start of a new school year can be an exciting and anxious time—perhaps especially so this year. Adam Kirtley, interfaith chaplain in the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, invites the Whitman community to carve out a few minutes of quiet and reflection by stopping by the Stevens Gallery in Reid Campus Center to interact with the "Tapestry of Journeys" installation. Map out what grounds you and makes you whole by wrapping yarn around phrases and words that resonate with you. Consider your own journey in the context of those with whom you share this community.

Happening Today

all day	First Day of Classes
8 a.m.–3 p.m.	Round 2 Baseline COVID-19 Testing <i>For those whose Round 1 test was Monday, August 23, as well as anyone required to take a weekly test due to an approved vaccination exemption</i>
9 a.m.–12 p.m.	Chamber Singers Auditions <i>Chamber Singers is a 24-member select ensemble specializing in unaccompanied choral music from the 15th to 21st centuries. Sign up for an audition.</i>
noon	"You Are Here" Exhibition Opens <i>This exhibition in Sheehan Gallery offers artistic coordinates for understanding Indigenous presence here and now, broadly conceived by 11 renowned artists.</i>
4 p.m.	Opera Workshop Auditions <i>Open auditions to join the Whitman College Opera Workshop presents a program of scenes from operas, operettas, and musicals.</i>
	Orchestra Auditions Begin <i>All string, wind, and percussion players are welcome to audition for the Whitman Orchestra. The audition sign-up sheet is located on Professor Paul Luongo's office door (Hall of Music 216).</i>
	Wind Ensemble Auditions Begin <i>All brass, wind and percussion players are welcome to audition for the Whitman Wind Ensemble. The audition sign-up sheet is located on Professor Gary Gemberling's office door (Hall of Music 12).</i>

Whitman Events Calendar

Have an event you'd like to share with campus? Submit the information to the [Events Calendar](#).

"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed Monday through 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](#).

