



Whitman Today

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Campus Closed Due to Severe Weather

Campus will be closed today. Snow on sideroads will make it difficult for some community members to travel to campus and freezing rain is in the forecast for this afternoon. In-person classes will move to an online format if possible. Professors will be in touch with students with details specific to their individual classes via email or Canvas.

COVID-19 Surveillance Testing

If you have a COVID-19 surveillance test assigned for this week, testing will be available today from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Cordiner Hall if you feel it is safe for you to come to campus. If it is not, we will also have testing available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. tomorrow.

What Would You Put in a Time Capsule?



It was almost a year ago that Whitman made the decision to close campus to protect the community from COVID-19. And though the pandemic still isn't over, the roll-out of vaccines and the return to (modified) in-person classes signal the beginning of a new phase.

As we all reflect on the past year, the Whitman Magazine staff invites students, faculty and staff to share what items they would place in a time capsule to commemorate this tumultuous time. Perhaps it's a hand-sewn mask or a bottle of DIY hand sanitizer you mixed yourself because it was sold out everywhere. Or maybe it's a sourdough starter you nurtured in quarantine, or a book that gave you comfort when things looked bleak. It could even be the adoption papers for the "pandemic pup" who kept you company during the lockdown.

Send a description and/or photo of what you'd include in a time capsule—and why—to Lara Hale, Whitman Magazine editor, at halel@whitman.edu. It could be included in the Spring 2021 issue.

Q: Should I be double masking?

A: Well, that depends. The [recent CDC study that investigated double masking](#) was looking specifically at how to improve the effectiveness of disposable medical masks, which tend to allow a lot of airflow due to the fact that they often do not fit tightly on the face. Adding a cloth face mask to a disposable medical mask provided additional layers of protection and improved the fit of the medical mask.

The generalized take-away from the study is that the [most important qualities for effective protection](#) are that a face mask includes multiple layers and fits snugly to the contours of your face. Therefore, double masking may not be necessary if you properly wear a multi-layered cloth mask with a middle filter layer, a nose bridge and adjustable ear loops like those Whitman provided ([non-Whitman-branded versions are available for purchase online](#)).

So, if you wear a disposable medical mask, a single or double layer cloth mask or any type of mask that does not fit snugly against your nose, cheeks and chin, you would have better protection by adding a second mask over it.

Announcements

Deadline for Placing Stationery Orders

Today is the final day to place orders through Whitman's [online stationery portal](#) for delivery on Mar. 18. As a reminder, this is a twice-yearly opportunity to get bulk pricing, so if you will need letterhead, envelopes or other stationery items before the fall semester, this is the time to order.

Your portal login 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.

Happening Today

- 9 am.–2 p.m. **COVID-19 Testing**
COVID-19 testing at Cordiner Hall for those in this week's random sample surveillance testing.
- 4:30 p.m. **[Craft Your Future: A Professional Development Series presents: Communication in the Workplace with Shelly Rasmussen & Madeline Gyongyosi](#)**
Professional communication is crucial for achieving productive, balanced, and dynamic goals in group settings. This workshop will teach you the best communication practices no matter your audience.
- 7 p.m. **[Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism](#)**
*Dr. Safiya Umoja Noble will discuss her book *Algorithms of Oppression*, the impact of marginalization and misrepresentation in commercial information platforms like Google search and the power struggles over representation on the web, as well as the implications for public information needs.*
- 7 p.m. **[quarterlife Writing Workshop and Share-Out](#)**
Do you want to submit to quarterlife, but don't know where to start? Do you need peer pressure in order to write/create? Do you want feedback from an amazing and supportive group of writers? You're in luck! [Sign up](#) for quarterlife's first ever, super-chill, virtual writing workshop.

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 Standard 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.

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

