



Whitman Today

Monday, July 20, 2020

Online COVID Course



Health

How Are You Doing? I'm a Mess, Thanks

The pandemic has left millions isolated, depressed, anxious, and trying to come together. At least we all feel the same way.



Though orientation for new students and families begins today, more than 120 incoming students already have one free Whitman credit for completing the [COVID-19: A Liberal Arts Approach to the Study of a Global Pandemic](#) online course. Each student had to watch at least seven of the 20+ lectures, and then participate on discussion boards for each course. They were also asked to keep a journal on what they were learning, and then write a three-page essay reflecting on COVID-19 in a cross-disciplinary way. Faculty and students reflect on the importance of this course, which is now available to the general public, in articles for [the Whitman newsroom](#) as well as [Inside Higher Ed](#).

Coronavirus News

Coronavirus Task Force Update: Wearing Face Coverings

Two hair stylists with COVID-19 spent at least 15 minutes with 139 clients

EVERYONE WORE FACE COVERINGS **NO CLIENTS ARE KNOWN TO BE INFECTED***

WEAR CLOTH FACE COVERINGS CONSISTENTLY AND CORRECTLY TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

*The 139th reported symptoms, all 137 customers tested had negative tests.

CDC.GOV bit.ly/MMWR71420 MMWR

[A recent study](#) in the Center for Disease Control's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* demonstrates the important role face coverings play in preventing the spread of the novel coronavirus in public. At a Missouri hair salon where face masks were required by city ordinance, two stylists tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. Before their results came back, they saw 139 customers while symptomatic. Of the 100 clients who were interviewed, 98% were also wearing face coverings. None of the clients developed symptoms, and of the 67 clients tested all were negative for the virus. However, four household contacts of one stylist tested positive.

Building Reopening Progress

A limited number of employees continue to return to campus as buildings are reopened. Currently buildings are open only to the employees authorized to work in that building. The purpose of returning employees to campus is to prepare buildings to reopen in the fall and to facilitate working for employees unable to work remotely. Buildings are not reopened for general services like library check-outs, fitness activities, or rental or customer service operations. The buildings scheduled to reopen this week are Baker Ferguson Fitness Center, Sherwood Center, Baker Center, Fouts Center for the Visual Arts, Hall of Music, Penrose House and Penrose Library.

[Whitman's Coronavirus Info Center](#)

Coronavirus in Walla Walla

The [Walla Walla County Department of Health](#) reported 73 new coronavirus cases in the past week. Of the total 294 cases confirmed since tracking began in March, 206 residents are now recovered and 85 are in isolation.

Announcements

Faculty and Staff Coronavirus Open Office Hours

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

Happening This Week

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

Noon [Community Engaged Summer Research Program Share-out](#)

A Zoom presentation celebrating eight different community engaged research partnerships including students, community partners, faculty and staff.

[More Upcoming Events](#)

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

Seen Around Campus



Through support from a [Whitman Internship Grant](#), Christian Moreno '21 is a summer intern for Haser Inc, a nonprofit group that works to strengthen other nonprofits in Puerto Rico by offering administrative support, strategic planning and proposal development and fiscal sponsorship. [This newsroom article](#) explores how he finds creative opportunities to develop a global perspective while living with travel restrictions due to his status as a DACA recipient and the coronavirus pandemic.

"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. Previous newsletters can be found on the [Whitman Today archive website](#).

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



WHITMAN COLLEGE