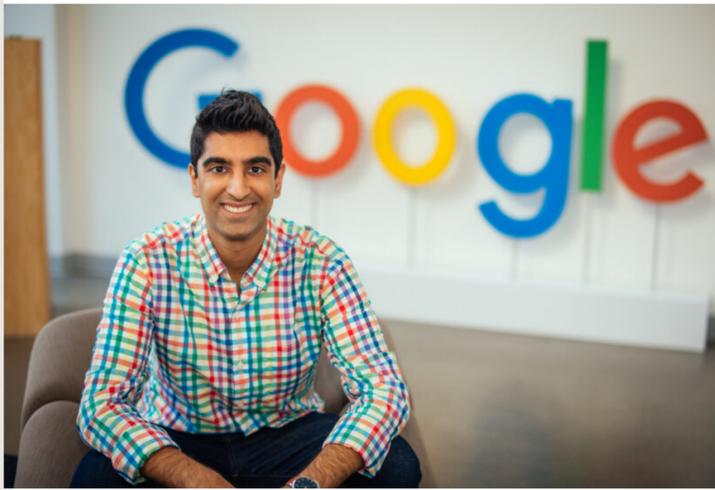




Whitman Today

Friday, May 14, 2021

Googling Success



When you go to high school in certain neighborhoods in Bellevue, Washington, you get a particular idea of what "success" looks like.

For Al-Rahim Merali '13, success meant a future in engineering, health or computer science. As a high school senior and first generation college student, he applied exclusively to engineering and computer science programs. Then his high school counselor told him to apply to Whitman College—immediately.

It was in a Whitman classroom that he found what "felt right" for him. Merali graduated with a degree in psychology and a minor in biology. Today, he's a user experience (UX) researcher at Google, where he uses research methods to understand the needs, behaviors and experiences of people using Google tools and products. He turns these insights into recommendations to direct design and engineering teams on how to improve products.

Merali works in an ever-evolving, future-focused industry, but looking back he sees how his college experience still shapes the person and employee he is today. The opportunities he had—to be a student leader, engage in his community and give back—continue to add meaning, he says. "The Whitman experience is more than just pursuing a major. It's more than just a means to a career. It's about learning, growing and creating experiences that positively impact others."

[Read more.](#)

Q: What does it mean to be "fully vaccinated" for COVID-19?

A: [According to the CDC](#), people are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the final dose of the vaccine. If it has been less than two weeks since your one-dose shot or the second dose of a two-dose vaccine, you are not fully protected.

Announcements

End of Semester Library Hours

Please note Penrose Library's modified hours for the end of the semester:

Today: 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m.
Saturday, May 15, Saturday: 9 a.m.–7 p.m.
Sunday, May 16, Sunday: 12 p.m.–10 p.m.
Monday, May 17, Monday: 8:30 a.m.–10 p.m.
Tuesday, May 18, Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Wednesday, May 19–Friday, May 21: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Saturday, May 22, Saturday and Sunday, May 23: closed

Don't forget to reserve your study space through the [reservations calendar](#) up to three days in advance.

Whitman Bookstore Sale

In preparation for upcoming operational changes, the Whitman College Bookstore is currently holding a wall-to-wall 50% off sale. Whether you're looking for one more hoodie, your favorite Whitman swag, or a water bottle to keep you hydrated throughout the summer, everything in store is half price (excluding textbooks). This is also a good opportunity for administrative offices to stock up on office supplies or gifts you may need for the future. So come by the store or [shop online](#) to take advantage of the great deals!

Question of the Week: Answer Edition



There's no doubt about it, the end of the semester is a tough time and as this week's poll showed, the [overwhelming majority of us](#) are just plain exhausted. Hang in there and take a few minutes this weekend to put into practice a few of the tips for [self-care in stressful times](#) that counselors representing the Walla Walla Tri-Colleges provided.

Happening This Weekend

TODAY

- all day [Final Exams](#)
- 11 a.m.–1 p.m. [End of Semester Optional COVID-19 Testing](#)
Optional rapid antigen COVID-19 testing is available from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. on May 12, 13 and 14 at Cordiner for any students who want to be tested before leaving campus. Additional dates may be added if there is sufficient demand.
- 11 a.m.–5 p.m. [Textbook Buyback](#)
Bring any books you want to try to sell. Bookstore staff will scan all books and provide you with a price and you can decide to sell or not.

SATURDAY

- all day [Final Exams](#)
- 11 a.m.–5 p.m. [Textbook Buyback](#)
Bring any books you want to try to sell. Bookstore staff will scan all books and provide you with a price and you can decide to sell or not.

[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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