




Whitman Today

Monday, November 23, 2020

Holiday Travel and Gatherings

Help keep your gatherings fun, festive, and COVID-free.



[GET THE GUIDE ▶](#)

Coronavirus is spreading rapidly, with much of the transmission happening in households and social gatherings. For this reason, the Washington State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention both recommend [restricting travel and gatherings over the holidays](#).

If you are a student living in Walla Walla and plan to return home, we strongly urge you to make one trip total for the break: if you return home for Thanksgiving, you should consider staying until you need to be back in Walla Walla in January (for most students).

Also, to protect your families and friends, the state public health experts advise you to:

- Restrict activities for two weeks before returning home, limiting all in-person gatherings.
- Wear masks at home among friends and family members, and practice good social distancing from family members as much as possible for two weeks after returning home.

Thank you for taking steps to protect our communities and your family from this deadly virus.

Announcements



Outdoor Program Strategic Survey

The Outdoor Program is currently doing a five year strategic plan. As part of that planning process, they are taking feedback from students, staff and faculty. They have already heard from nearly 300 people! Thank you to everyone who has already contributed. If you would like to have your voice heard please take some time to [fill out their survey](#). The survey will close on Nov. 29.

Employee Benefits Open Enrollment

Whitman College benefits open enrollment takes place Nov. 20-Dec. 8. You only need to take action if you are making any changes or want to enroll in a flexible spending account (FSA). There will be no premium changes for 2021.

Please carefully [read the Open Enrollment Summary and view the Benefits Open Enrollment Presentation](#) as they provide details on plan enhancements and changes for 2021. Changes go into effect on Jan. 1.

Limited Campus Mailing and Printing Services

The campus mailing and printing offices will provide limited services this week due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Please plan extra time for processing if you submit any requests.

Campus and Community Health

Coping with COVID: It's Not Just You

To help us deal with these stressful times, the Washington Department of Health has started a podcast series with experts on many of the topics facing us during this pandemic. In episode one, [Coping with COVID: It's not just you](#), Kira Mauseth, PhD and Doug Dicharry, MD talk about how disasters like pandemics affect our brains, what we can do about it and how to be resilient.

Happening Today and Tomorrow

TODAY

4 p.m. [Running for Murdered & Missing Indigenous Women](#)
IPECC will host this Q&A discussion with Rosalie Fish, a Native American collegiate runner, member of the Cowlitz Tribe and activist.

TOMORROW

5 p.m. [Whitman Internship Grant Information Session](#)
Jen Lopez, WIG Program Coordinator, will cover key programming requirements, provide a timeline for applications, share tips and reveal the new application deadline.

Whitman Events Calendar

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

Question of the Week



This week we want to know: how tired are you, really?

Tired

So Tired

#@%! Tired

"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.

