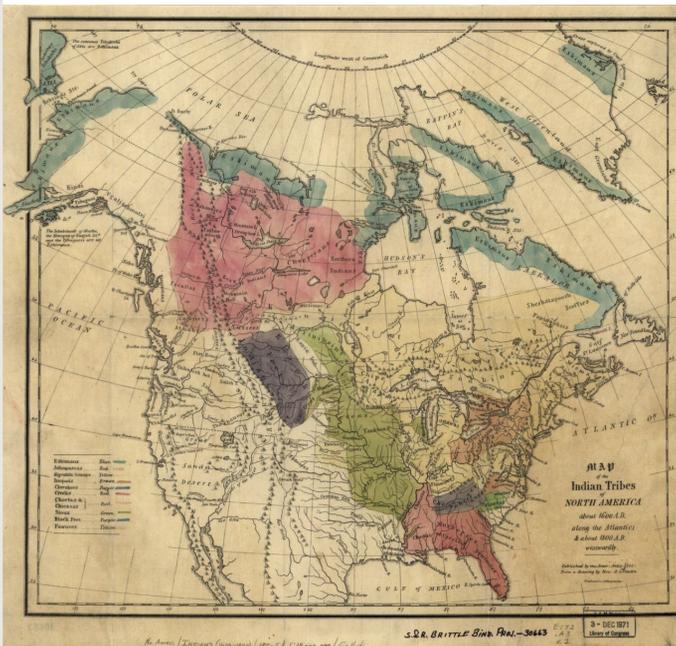




Whitman Today

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

Beyond Acknowledgement, Into Action: Indigenous Peoples' Day



By Dr. John Johnson, vice president for diversity and inclusion.

This week is a short one with Thursday and Friday included in October Break, two days without classes when students have the opportunity to pause, reflect, perhaps catch up on some school work or even return home for a quick visit. Classes will resume on Monday, Oct. 11, which is Indigenous Peoples' Day. As noted by [Dennis W. Zotigh and Renee Gokey in their essay published in Smithsonian Magazine](#), "Indigenous Peoples' Day recognizes that Native people are the first inhabitants of the Americas, including the lands that later became the United States of America. And it urges Americans to rethink history."

Last week, students in POL 345-A Indigenous Politics delivered presentations that focused on both the history and politics of Columbus Day and the ongoing discussions around the statue located in front of the Walla Walla County Courthouse. You can access recordings of the presentations by following the links at the end of this article. During this October Break, we encourage you to spend some time thinking about your relationship to the land. How do you perceive your relationship to the original stewards of this land? How do you honor their legacy? Their sovereignty?

[Read the full reflection.](#)

October Break Operational Changes

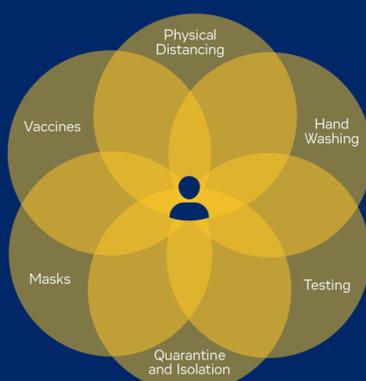
There will be no classes Thursday, Oct. 7 and Friday, Oct. 8. There will also be the following changes in campus operations:

- **Reid Market:** closed Thursday through Saturday; normal hours resume Sunday
- **Jewett Cafe:** closed Thursday and Friday; normal hours resume Monday
- **Climbing Wall:** closed Thursday through Sunday; normal hours resume Monday
- **Reid Campus Center:** open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday; open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; normal hours resume Sunday
- **Penrose Library Tech Desk:** closed Thursday through Sunday; normal hours resume Monday
- **OP Rental Shop and the Bike Shop:** closed Thursday and Friday; normal hours resume Monday
- **ARC drop-in tutoring:** closed Wednesday through Sunday; normal hours will resume Sunday

The Whitman College Bookstore, Penrose Library, Cleveland Commons, WCTS HelpDesk, WCTS Student Printing, Welty Student Health Center, BFFC, Sherwood and campus administrative offices will maintain their normal operating hours.

Stay Safe During Break

COVID-19 Layers of Protection



Whether you are sticking around campus, hiking in the mountains or visiting family and friends, make sure you maintain your COVID safety practices over this long weekend. We've done a great job keeping COVID at very low levels on campus this fall, so stay safe and keep layering on the protection!

Upcoming Events

Save the date to hear from these speakers joining the Whitman community for events next week!



Melanin, Estrogen, and Electrons at the End of the Earth

Dr. Adina Scott is part of the Full Circle Everest Expedition, a group of climbers seeking to be the first all-Black group to climb the highest mountain on Earth, and provides support for expeditions promoting diversity in mountaineering. Professionally, Adina is a Marine Instrumentation and Computer Specialist for the US Antarctic program.

[Details](#)



Visiting Writers Reading Series: Madeleine Jubilee Saito

Madeleine Jubilee Saito is a cartoonist + illustrator living on Duwamish land in Seattle, Washington. As an artist, she makes intimate, poetic comics about the environment and the sacred. She is a Christian and an anti-capitalist and currently works as the creative director & operations lead at The All We Can Save Project.

[Details](#)



Unmaking Whitman, Unlearning the Myth

Authors Sarah Koenig and Blaine Harden, with community members from Whitman College and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, will offer commentary on the scholarly contributions of two recent books as tools for unlearning the myths that continue to inform American history.

[Details](#)

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](#).

