

Student Life and Services

Taking seriously the vision of George Whitworth to provide “an education of the mind and heart,” the Student Life Division participates in the educational mission of the college by viewing all aspects of life on campus as a laboratory for learning. We continue this tradition because we believe that this commitment to building character as well as cognitive skills reflects scriptural principle and community values; we also believe that this “whole-person” approach to learning is educationally effective.

The Student Life Division offers numerous services designed to support learning in all areas of life. Health Center and counseling programs, career/life advising services, support networks for international and national students of color, and an active student-activities program are available to enhance learning, encourage fun and build connections to the Whitworth community.

The Chapel Program

Whitworth enthusiastically embraces its call to equip students to honor God, follow Christ, and serve humanity. The activities and programs sponsored by the Chapel are designed to help students deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and their understanding of the Christian faith. It is the special responsibility of the Chaplain’s Office to provide students with opportunities for worship, personal growth, the building of Christian community, and mission and service. Midweek Worship, retreats of solitude and prayer, special focus weeks, and covenant groups led by ministry coordinators are among the ways in which we promote a growing commitment to Christ. The opportunities to explore the Christian faith offered through the Chapel are open to all students. We recognize and welcome the diversity of faith backgrounds and commitments of our student body. Yet we are convinced of the central reality of God’s love expressed in Jesus Christ. And we believe that Whitworth’s commitment to Christ provides the cornerstone of a liberal arts education of mind and heart.

Campus Housing

All students are required to live on campus for their freshman and sophomore years (a total of four housing terms) unless they reach 22 years of age before completing the sophomore year or four housing terms. Exemptions must be processed using the Residency Requirement Waiver Request, available in the Housing Office in Student Life.

Academic Advising

Each student is assigned a faculty advisor. Freshmen are assigned a specifically designated freshman advisor. Following the freshman year, each student selects an advisor whose academic specialty corresponds with the student’s area of academic interest.

The advisor is the main link between the academic program and other resources of the college and, as such, plays an important role in the personal and academic development of students. Students are encouraged to discuss educational objectives as well as personal goals and problems with their advisors. While Whitworth makes every effort to assist students through the academic advising system, the final responsibility for meeting all academic and graduation requirements rests with the student.

Educational Support Program

Whitworth is committed to providing equal opportunities to all academically qualified students. Resources are available to assist with learning and physical disabilities. Our policy is to ensure all students reasonable accommodation in the admissions process and in their programs of study and activities.

Academic requirements may be modified as necessary to ensure that Whitworth does not discriminate against students with disabilities, so long as accreditation of classes will not be at risk. These modifications shall not affect the substance of the educational programs nor compromise educational standards; nor shall they intrude upon legitimate

academic freedom. Modifications may include changes in length of time permitted for the completion of degree requirements, substitution of specific courses, and other adaptations that may be needed.

Legal documentation of all disabilities is required for services to be rendered. It is the responsibility of the student to request accommodation or auxiliary aids at least sixteen (16) weeks before classes, programs or activities begin.

Reasonable accommodations and auxiliary educational services that are not precluded by undue hardship to the institution may be requested through the Educational Support Office in Career Services. The use of tape recorders, brailers, guide dogs or other adaptive devices in the classrooms or campus buildings is permitted. Auxiliary services may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- referral to appropriate on- or off-campus resources, services or agencies
- registration assistance
- note-taking services
- academic and tutorial services
- testing accommodations
- arrangements for special auxiliary aids, including taped texts, large-print materials, or interpreters
- disability parking

Associated Students of Whitworth College

Associated Students of Whitworth College is the student governance and programming component of the college. All full-time undergraduate students are members of ASWC. Elected leaders represent students from each living area and from off campus by providing information to, and obtaining information from, students about all college policies and about curricular and extra-curricular programming. ASWC student leaders provide a vital communication link between students and the faculty, staff and administration of the college.

Athletics

Whitworth Athletics, now affiliated with the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) at the Division III level and a member of the Northwest Conference (NWC), offers 18 varsity sports. Men can participate in football, soccer, cross-country, basketball, swimming, baseball, tennis, and indoor and outdoor track and field. Women's sports include volleyball, soccer, cross-country, basketball, swimming, tennis, softball and indoor and outdoor track and field. Whitworth also offers a strong intramural program, which is available to the entire student body.

A commitment to excellence is the hallmark of Whitworth Athletics. Since 1980, more than 100 of our athletes have received All-America recognition and more than 80 have been named to the Academic All-America team. In 1996, Men's Basketball Head Coach Warren Friedrichs and Men's Swimming Head Coach Tom Dodd were awarded National Coach of the Year honors by the NAIA, of which Whitworth was formerly a member. During the 1990s, the NWC honored 18 Whitworthians as Coach of the Year.

Whitworth's mission as a Christian liberal arts college is emphasized in its athletics program: Student-athletes are encouraged to participate fully in the academic, spiritual and social life of the campus, and Whitworth coaches are chosen for their effectiveness as teachers and mentors as well as for their athletic knowledge and ability. We at Whitworth take great pride in the athletic accomplishments of our students; we strive to equip our student-athletes to excel in sports, in academics, and in life.

Library

The Harriet Cheney Cowles Memorial Library, at the heart of the campus, is home to the Division of Information Resources, encompassing academic and administrative computing departments and audiovisual media services as well as traditional and contemporary library services.

The collection includes more than 185,000 books, periodical volumes, volume-equivalents on microfilm, recordings and audiovisual media. The library also serves as the gateway to vast resources beyond its walls via the Internet and other computer connections, and via interlibrary loan through its participation in various regional and national library consortia.

Instructional Resources

The Information Resources Division supports three microcomputer labs and several satellite labs, providing student access to Apple Macintosh and PC computers. Software for word processing, electronic spreadsheets, databases, graphics, statistics and other applications are supported in the labs. Students may connect their personal computers to the college network directly from their dorm rooms or, using remote access, from off campus. The campus network provides access to campus information resources and services, including connection to the Internet.

Learning Resource Center (Study Skills)

Study-skills assistance is offered through this office located in Career Services. The Learning Resource Center provides individualized academic counseling and effective study-skills instruction in many areas, including time management, note-taking and test-taking strategies, and stress management. Tutors are also available in most departments to offer small-group and individualized assistance. Tutoring session schedules are posted within participating departments. There is no charge for these services for full-time students.

Writing Center

The Whitworth Writing Center is a place for all writers on campus to come for individual discussion about any step of the writing process. Faculty and student consultants who represent several departments are available many hours daily. Students may make appointments or stop by to talk about their ideas for papers, work on development and organization, or discuss editing concerns. The Writing Center is centrally located in the room with the curving glass block wall at the top of the stairway in the library.

Career Services/Student Employment

The Career Services Office assists students in exploring interests, values and an understanding of God's work in the world as each relates to academic and professional goals. The staff of the Career Services Office offers computerized testing, career-related seminars, residence-hall workshops, and individual advising to students. A twenty-four-hour job/internship phone line, Internet research, and an extensive, up-to-date career library are available as resources for researching careers, employers, international opportunities, graduate/professional schools and seminaries. Student Employment assists Whitworth students in obtaining part-time employment to help them to meet their college expenses. Part-time positions on and off campus are posted in the Student Employment Office. These include both work-study and non-work-study positions.

Sexual Harassment

Whitworth College has a clearly defined policy prohibiting all forms of sexual harassment that applies to all campus constituencies.

For the purposes of this policy, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic advancement; (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions or academic decisions affecting such individuals; or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individual's work or academic performance or creates a demoralizing, intimidating, hostile or offensive working or academic environment.

Refer to the Student Handbook section on “Community Values and Behavioral Expectations” when there has been a potential violation of this policy. More information is available in the Office of the Associate Dean of Students, in Student Life.

Behavioral Probation and Suspension

Students may be placed on behavioral probation on the basis of their cumulative record of behavioral policy violations, violation of civil law, or other behavior which places, or has the potential of placing, the offender or the Whitworth community, its mission, or any of its members in jeopardy. As such, behavioral probation is considered and applied in situations where it is believed that such action may redirect a student’s behavior so that suspension will not be necessary.

Behavioral probation consists of a contract between a student and the college, specifying behavioral criteria for continued enrollment. Any violation of these criteria on the part of the student may result in behavioral suspension. The decision to place a student on behavioral probation is made by the dean of students or her/his designee.

Students may face behavioral suspension on the basis of their cumulative record of behavioral policy violations, failure to comply with the terms of their behavioral probation, violation of civil law, or other behavior which places or has the potential of placing the student or the Whitworth community, its mission, or any of its members in jeopardy.

Behavioral suspension includes suspension from classes as well as from all other Whitworth facilities and services, and it may be imposed at any time that behavior warrants such action.

The decision to suspend a student on behavioral grounds is made by the dean of students or her/his designee. If a student feels that there are mitigating circumstances, he or she has until 5 p.m. of the business day following the notice of the suspension decision to file a written request for appeal with the Educational Review Board, through the board chair.

Implementation of these policies, including the appeal process, is regulated by the Student Bill of Rights, Section V, as printed in the Student Handbook.

Rules and Regulations

It is Whitworth’s expectation that each student will follow college rules and regulations as they are stated in the catalog. In instances where no appeal procedure is spelled out and the student believes that a special set of circumstances makes appeal reasonable, he or she may appeal the application of specific rules or regulations to either the Vice President for Academic Affairs or the Vice President for Student Life depending on the situation. This office will either render a decision on the appeal or refer the student to the proper office for a decision. While Whitworth makes every effort to assist students through the academic advising system, the final responsibility for meeting all academic and graduation requirements rests with the student.