

Whatcom
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Bellingham, Washington U.S.A.

A great place
to live and study



Safe, American College Town
University Transfer
Intensive English
International High School Completion
Personalized Student Support
Exciting Student Life





About Whatcom

Whatcom Community College is a public, two-year college accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, with programs of study that are approved by the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. Whatcom offers associate degrees in university transfer, general studies, and professional technical programs, as well as certificate programs in professional technical areas. Whatcom also provides English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction to prepare students for college level coursework.



Campus Population

An average of 7,000 students study at Whatcom each quarter, including more than 300 international students from over 30 countries.

The Campus

Whatcom offers one of the newest community college campuses in the U.S., including twelve buildings with modern facilities to meet students' needs.

- student center
- library
- free tutoring center
- cafeteria
- free wireless internet access
- gym and a state-of-the-art artificial turf soccer field
- art studio
- performance theater
- computerized language learning laboratory
- bookstore





Josh Durras

Bellingham: A Great Place to Live & Study

Whatcom is located in Bellingham, Washington (population 80,000)—a student-friendly town that is rated one of the top cities for the outside adventurer. Positioned between the San Juan Islands and Cascade Mountains, and the cities of Seattle and Vancouver, Bellingham is situated in Whatcom County (population 190,000), an area of small towns and scenic nature. Bellingham offers an enviable quality of life and a wide variety of cultural and recreational opportunities including skiing, snowboarding, mountain biking, kayaking, and an active arts community.

“Bellingham is a really safe place to live and the local residents are nice and friendly.”

*Warute Phanthumkomol (Pai), Thailand
University of Washington*

“Bellingham is convenient as it is close to Vancouver and Seattle where you can visit and enjoy many activities.”

*Wing Tung Tsoi (Vivian), Hong Kong
University of Michigan*





American “small city living”

...all of the conveniences of city life, but in a friendly, clean, and affordable community. International students enjoy a true American experience in a “small city” environment.



Gabriel Boone Photography

Safe

Bellingham has a low crime rate, and is well-known for being a safe and welcoming community.



Josh Dunlap

College Town

...with more than 20,000 college students at Whatcom Community College, Western Washington University and Bellingham Technical College—Bellingham is well-educated and student-friendly.



Programs of Study

University Transfer

Whatcom's most popular program is the university transfer program. The Associate in Arts and Sciences degree is designed for students who plan to transfer to a four-year university to complete their bachelor's degree. Whatcom's International Programs staff are experts in advising students on transfer to top universities throughout the U.S.



Start Your University Degree at Whatcom

$$\text{2 years at WCC} + \text{2 years at University} = \text{BACHELOR'S DEGREE for less \$\$}$$

Whatcom international students have been accepted at:

Arizona State University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Indiana University
Montana State University
Ohio State University
Oregon State University
Pacific Lutheran University
Penn State
Texas State University
State University of New York- Buffalo
University of British Columbia
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
University of California, San Diego
University of Colorado
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
University of Oregon
University of Texas
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin
Washington State University
Western Washington University
And many others...



Popular transfer major areas:

Accounting	English
Architecture	Environmental Science
Art	Finance
Biology	Hospitality and Tourism
Business	Management
Chemistry	Mathematics
Communications	Natural Sciences
Computer Science	Physics
Economics	Psychology
Engineering	<i>And many more...</i>



Intensive English (ESL)

Whatcom's English Language Institute (ELI) is an excellent choice for ESL learners. ELI students have the opportunity to attend classes with people from around the world, with the ELI hosting students from more than 30 different countries each year.

Intensive Courses

The Intensive Courses allow students to study English full-time in order to prepare for college courses. These courses offer flexibility to match students' levels in discrete language skills (reading, writing, grammar and oral communication).

College Transition Courses

The College Transition Courses allow students to continue to develop their English competency and, at the same time, begin their college degree or certificate program.

"Whatcom Community College introduced me to the U.S. education system. Their professional and friendly instructors and staff supported my success and made my transition to a 4 year university smooth."

*Lovissa Winyoto, Indonesia
Georgia Institute of Technology*

International High School Completion Program

The International High School Completion (IHSC) Program allows international students who are motivated and mature to enroll at Whatcom Community College and earn both a Washington State high school diploma and associate's (university transfer) degree at the same time. Students can complete both the diploma and the degree in approximately two years (depending on English proficiency) and save time and money by completing two programs at once.

Admissions requirements:

- Students must be at least 16 years old upon start of studies
- Students must have completed at least 10th grade (or equivalent)
- Students must demonstrate high academic achievement in home country



Professional Technical Programs

Whatcom offers a variety of professional and technical degrees and certificates that provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to work in their area of study upon completion of their program. Professional and technical programs range in length from one to two years, and can be completed alone as a single program, or in combination with other degrees and certificates.



Whatcom offers degree and certificate programs in the following areas:

- Accounting*
- Business Administration*
- Computer Information Systems*
- Criminal Justice*
- Early Childhood Education*
- Education Paraprofessional*
- Hospitality & Tourism Business Management*
- Massage Practitioner*
- Medical Assisting*
- Nursing (RN)*
- Office Administration*
- Paralegal Studies*
- Physical Therapist Assistant*
- Visual Communications (Graphic Design)*
- And more ...*



Student Support

The International Programs office provides a warm and welcoming environment for all international students to get the support that they need in achieving their academic goals. From arrival to graduation, students receive the one-on-one support that they need to be successful. The International Programs staff are friendly, professional, and work hard to create a family-like atmosphere for all students.



Support services for international students

- Admission and visa process advising
- Airport pick-up service
- Academic, personal, and immigration advising
- Orientation
- Homestay Program
- Apartment rental service
- Peer Mentor program
- University transfer advising
- Free tutoring services
- Internship opportunities



International Programs Staff

"At Whatcom I never had an instructor that said "No" when I asked for help. The International Programs staff is the best you could ever ask for. They provide support to international students throughout their studies at WCC."

*Poowadol Napaeng, Thailand
California State University
Los Angeles*

Housing

Because finding the right home is very important for students who choose to study abroad, the International Programs staff assist students in choosing from a variety of housing options to meet their needs. Housing options include:

- Homestay with local hosts
- College-leased apartments
- Dormitories at Western Washington University (on a space available basis)
- Off-campus apartment rental advising

Student Life

On-campus activities provide many opportunities for students to add to their educational experience by being actively involved in campus and community life.



Ulrich Schraml



On-campus activities:

- Student government
- Conferences and student performances
- Film festivals and music concerts
- Student clubs
- Student newspaper
- Sporting events
- And more...

"There are not a lot of international students so you can connect with Americans. I would recommend living with a host family so you can learn and experience American culture"

*Xiaofan Yang (Christina), China
University of Washington*





Off-campus activities:

Off-campus activities are offered year-round through the International Friendship Club. The IFC arranges low-cost activities that allow international students to meet U.S. students and to enjoy the exciting and beautiful environment in Washington State. IFC activities include:

- Skiing and snowboarding
- Outlet mall shopping trips
- Kayaking and whitewater rafting
- Sporting events: Seattle Mariners baseball, University of Washington football
- Daytrips to Seattle and Vancouver
- Hiking and snowshoeing
- Picnics, barbeques, and cultural festivals
- and more....



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Whatcom Community College

International Programs

237 W. Kellogg Road

Bellingham, Washington 98226, U.S.A.

Phone: +1.360.383.3240

Fax: +1.360.383.3241

E-mail: International@whatcom.edu

Website: www.whatcom.edu

Notice of Non-Discrimination

Whatcom Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, genetic information or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director for Human Resources, 237 W. Kellogg Road, Bellingham, WA 98226, 360.383.3400. For Title IX compliance, contact: Vice President for Educational Services, 237 W. Kellogg Road, Bellingham, WA 98226, 360.383.3070. WCC publications are available in alternate formats upon request by contacting the Disability Support Services Office at 360.383.3080; VP 360.255.7182. Edited 4/18



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Find more information
about Whatcom:

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International Programs

237 W. Kellogg Road

Bellingham, Washington 98226

U.S.A.

Phone: +1.360.383.3240

Fax: +1.360.383.3241

E-mail: international@whatcom.ctc.edu

Website: www.whatcom.ctc.edu