Welcome to Wheaton College!

Whether you have decided to launch your Wheaton College experience with Wheaton Passage or you’re still on the fence, read on to learn the ins and outs of this unique pre-orientation program. You will meet new classmates in a fun environment, interact with professors outside of the classroom, and build confidence before stepping on campus. We hope to see you at Passage!
Read what students shared after their Passage experience:

“I wasn’t eager to leave home, but after experiencing Passage I’m so much more excited for college and to continue to build these relationships that began there.”

“Passage is something every incoming Wheaton student should participate in. It gave me the chance to grow stronger in my faith, meet close friends that I made have been incredibly supportive. Besides that, it is just a fun, beautiful experience.”

“It was an extremely valuable time that I doubt I will ever be able to replicate again. Not having technology was a good break and I made stronger connections with friends than if we would have had our phones. Also reading those books and having the discussions with the professor in a non-academic environment really allowed me to be trusting and open with myself and get the help I desperately needed.”

“It’s the way to go, especially if you feel like you are not ready. Just do it!”

“It was possible one of the most informative and hands-on experiences with Christian community, and made my transition infinitely better. A lot of what I learned at Passage was instrumental in how I look at success and failure in the Wheaton setting.”

“It has made all the difference. Spiritually, I feel much more mature than I did even three weeks ago. Practically, recognizing two hundred or so faces on campus during orientation week has made stronger connections with friends than if we would have had our phones. Also reading those books and having the discussions with the professor in a non-academic environment really allowed me to be trusting and open with myself and get the help I desperately needed.”

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ABOUT WHEATON PASSAGE

Wheaton Passage is Wheaton’s pre-orientation program designed to prepare students for life at Wheaton through shared experiences, faculty mentors, and an introductory curriculum in spiritual formation.

Designed and led by HoneyRock, the Outdoor Center for Leadership Development at Wheaton College, Passage provides students with strong social connections, supportive faculty relationships, and a vision for their time at Wheaton. Come join 300 of your peers on this passage into Wheaton!

PROGRAM DATES:

Part 1: Choose your track!

- Wilderness: August 4–19
- Urban: August 7–19
- Northwoods/Equestrian: August 11–19

For more detailed information on the track options, visit wheaton.edu/passage.

Part 2: Converge with Faculty

While each track starts out on their own, all tracks converge together with faculty from August 14–19 at HoneyRock.

COURSE INFORMATION

Wheaton Passage is a 2-credit course through the Christian Formation and Ministry Department. The course is called Introduction to Spiritual Formation (CFM:131). Regardless of your major, these credits will contribute to elective credit hours.

COURSE COSTS

The cost for all tracks is $795. This includes food, housing, and transportation (van pickups from Midway and O’Hare airports as well as coach transport between Wheaton’s main campus, the Urban Studies Facility and HoneyRock). The first installment will be a $100 deposit taken at the time of registration. The remaining $695 will be charged to your Fall semester bill from Wheaton College. There are also some costs associated with buying course books and supplies.

REGISTRATION

To register, visit wheaton.edu/passage and follow the link to register.

PRE-COURSE WORK AND READINGS

This course involves pre-course work. Students are required to purchase and read two course texts. Students will then complete discussion questions that are embedded in the Wheaton Passage Workbook.

1. Embracing the Love of God by James Bryan Smith (either edition is fine). This book can be purchased through the Wheaton College bookstore at Wheatonbooks.com, or through an outside vendor like Amazon. You must purchase a hard copy of this book (not an e-book) because you will not have access to electronics during Passage.

2. Wheaton Passage Workbook. This workbook, published by Kendall Hunt, contains the course syllabus, a student checklist, and various readings and assignments. This book can be purchased through the Wheaton College bookstore at bookstore.com/wheatoncollege/home. If you already have a 2021 version you may purchase a print copy of this book (not an e-book) as you will not have access to electronics during Passage.

For more information and links for purchasing books, visit wheaton.edu/passage

TRANSPORTATION AND CHECK-IN INFORMATION

Check In Days

- Wilderness: Wednesday, August 4, 2021
- Urban: Saturday, August 7, 2021
- Northwoods and Equestrian: Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Transportation

Please note the following, as these are the options for traveling to Wheaton College for the beginning of Passage. Again, if your travel plans change before check-in day, please email us right away at: passage@wheaton.edu or call us at 715.479.7474 ext. 201.

Note: for the Northwoods track only, students may choose one additional option - driving directly to HoneyRock in Three Lakes, WI.

By Car:

Students should arrive at Wheaton College between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to check in at Smith/Taaberg Hall. They should NOT arrive early.

By Airplane:

Flying to Midway Airport: A HoneyRock staff member wearing a HoneyRock T-shirt with a yellow sign will meet students near the Southwest Airlines luggage claim area. If any part of flight itinerary changes on the day of travel, they should call the HoneyRock Office immediately at 715.479.7474 ext. 201.

- Wilderness and Urban: schedule your flight to arrive at Midway Airport between 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on check-in day.
- Northwoods & Equestrian: schedule your flight to arrive at Midway Airport between 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on check-in day.

Flying to O’Hare Airport: A HoneyRock staff member wearing a HoneyRock T-shirt with a yellow sign will meet students in the terminal 2, lower-level luggage claim area near the Starbucks, between doors 2B and 2C. If they don’t see anyone, they should wait at the curb near the pumphouses. If any part of flight itinerary changes on the day of travel, they should call HoneyRock Office immediately at 715.479.7474 ext. 201.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Lunch at Check-In
Students will be responsible for getting their own lunch on the day of check-in. A map with directions to dining locations within walking distance of Smith/Traber Hall is provided at check-in.

Introductory Meeting
There is an introductory meeting for all students and parents at 3:00 p.m. For Northwoods, Equestrian, and Wilderness students, this meeting will be in Barrows auditorium in the Billy Graham Center. For Urban students this meeting will be in the Meyer Science Center Lecture Hall. After the meeting, students will say their goodbyes to family and friends and then either load up buses or begin the packing process for Wilderness!

Room Access and Storage
New this year, students will have access to their rooms upon arrival for Passage. As part of the check-in process, they will receive their Student ID card and then have time to drop off any belongings that they do not need during Passage in their rooms.

Students should not expect to be fully moving in when they arrive for Passage. Moving furniture, making beds, and setting up the room will all be done after returning from Passage, so consider this a time for getting a quick look and dropping off belongings before starting your adventure!

Return to Campus
Students will return to Wheaton College on Thursday, August 19 in the afternoon. Parents are welcome to meet students at the McManis-Evans hall upon arrival. Updates on arrival time will be posted on the HoneyRock Facebook page as well as announced via loudspeaker on campus. Orientation begins on Friday, August 20.

STUDENT CHECKLIST

☐ Join the student Facebook group
☐ Purchase textbooks
  - Passage Workbook (2021 edition)
  - Embracing the Love of God by James Bryan Smith
☐ Read through the syllabus and course information provided in the workbook
☐ Complete the assignments that are due at the start of Passage (reading the syllabus will help with this!)
☐ Pack! (a packing list will be sent in early summer, watch your email and/or check the Facebook group regularly for updates)

As you begin to prepare, feel free to contact us at 715-479-7474 ext 203 or passage@wheaton.edu with questions or concerns!

As the Outdoor Center for Leadership Development of Wheaton College, HoneyRock is known worldwide as a pioneer in using the outdoor environment for college preparation, leadership development, and spiritual formation for youth and young adults.

Learn more at wheaton.edu/honeyrock