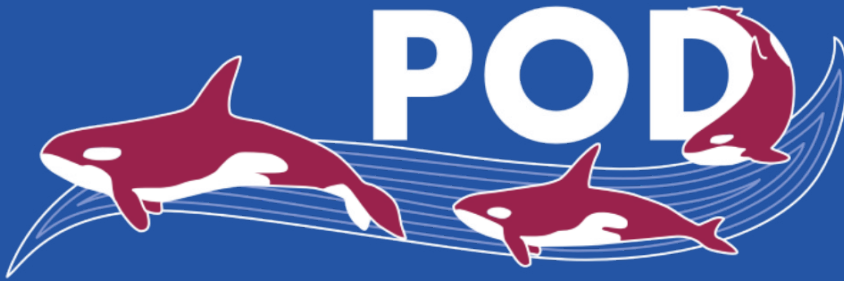


FIND YOUR POD



Building Academic Success
Through Academic Communities

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Melanie Zabel

WCC Psychology Instructor

2019 Faculty Excellence Award Winner

Melanie Zabel joined the faculty at WCC as an adjunct instructor in 2010. She teaches courses in General, Abnormal, and Developmental Psychology and serves on the college's Student Success and Achievement Committee.

She majored in psychology as an undergraduate, pursuing interests in neuroscience, developmental, and clinical perspectives. Her master's degree is in Experimental Psychology, which centers on research design and statistics. Her thesis was a survey in which she assessed parents' beliefs about the causes of autism and how these were related to their information preferences, trust in information sources, and service selection.

She decided to teach because of her love for the school setting. She loves being surrounded by active minds and being challenged to find new ways to see familiar ideas. Melanie believes that a teacher, you learn from your students each and every day. In psychology, she found a topic that genuinely interests her and believes this enables her to capture the interest of her students and inspire them to apply their learning to improve their own lives and those of others.



When Melanie is not teaching or working in her office, she enjoys spending time with her husband, two sons, and dog. They enjoy visiting local parks, camping, and kayaking together. She spends any alone time she has reading or attending classes at Barre 3.

Melanie hopes that you find the joy of new connections here today and that these connections will be a great support to you throughout your education and beyond. She hopes her talk will show you how the connections you find and those you choose to nurture can guide you in creating a life you love.

SCHEDULE

9:00 - 9:15

Check-In

9:15 - 9:20

Welcome

9:20 - 10:20

Keynote Speaker

10:30 - 11:20

Breakout Session 1

11:30 - 12:50

Lunch

12:50 - 1:40

Breakout Session 2

1:45 - 2:00

Closing and Prize Drawing

BREAKOUT SESSION 1

10:30 AM - 11:20 AM

Exploratory Pod

Syre 104

How do you connect to students with similar interests when you're still exploring what those interests are? We'll address that question in this interactive workshop. You'll leave with a plan to start connecting with campus groups to find your pod.

Presented by **Sharon Link, Career and Academic Advisor**

Making a Difference Pod

Syre 107/108

Impact club makes the world a better place through direct action. Projects include removing graffiti, feeding the hungry, and improving stream habitat for salmon. In this breakout session, we will be defining the actions that you feel are priorities.

Come by and share thoughts, resources, and hear inspiring stories about how service transforms lives on all sides.

Presented by **ASWCC Impact Club**

Improv Your Grades and Find Direction

Syre 211

We will provide a description of the Improv Club and how it helps academically, socially, and personally. Most notably, we will provide interactive demonstrations by doing improv exercises of learning from failure, accepting change, creative problem-solving, and working with others.

Presented by **The Leadership Council of the ASWCC Improv Club**

BREAKOUT SESSION 1

10:30 AM - 11:20 AM

Intercultural Pod

Syre 212

The Intercultural Center is a space for students from DIVERSE identities to come together to get BOOKS from the satellite library, STUDY, see a TUTOR, meet with professors, scholarship resources/workshops, and much more. There are four student-led ASWCC clubs operating out of the Intercultural center: NISA, MSA, LLC, and BSA. Events range from STONE SOUP every Wednesday at noon to FIRESIDE CHAT.

Presented by **ASWCC Muslim Student Association, ASWCC Black Student Association, ASWCC LatinX Leadership Club, and ASWCC Native Indigenous Student Association**

Engineering Pod

Syre 216

This breakout session will be focused on a second-year engineering student's perspective about the engineering academic pathway at WCC and beyond. Examples of common engineering careers will be presented and discussed. We will be available to discuss some of the classes that are critical to the education of engineers. We will have information about transfer options and requirements. Towards the end of the session, we will talk about the engineering community at Whatcom and how you can get involved.

Presented by **ASWCC Engineering Club**

BREAKOUT SESSION 1

10:30 AM - 11:20 AM

Sorting Pod

Syre Auditorium

Perhaps you already know what you want your major to be and yet you don't see session in the program that you want to attend. Join all the other students who feel just like you do at this moment!! We will do some activities, help you find others in the room that can relate to you, and also provide you with information about how to start a club if you want to find others in your academic pod!

Presented by **Surabhi Subedi, ASWCC Vice President for Clubs and Heidi Farani, Director for Student Life and Development**

NOTES

BREAKOUT SESSION 2

12:50 PM - 1:40 PM

Sorting Pod

Syre Auditorium

Perhaps you already know what you want your major to be and yet you don't see a session in the program that you want to attend. Join all the other students who feel just like you do at this moment!! We will do some activities, help you find others in the room that can relate to you, and also provide you with information about how to start a club if you want to find others in your academic pod!

Presented by **Surabhi Subedi, ASWCC Vice President for Clubs and Heidi Farani, Director for Student Life and Development**

Collaboration in Health Care Pod

Syre 107/108

SNOW seeks to foster connections with pre-nursing and other health-minded students. In order to support holistic care of clients in the hospital or outpatient settings, it is critical to collaborate with all members of the health care team. We work towards a collaborative mindset early in health education, and the nursing program provides many opportunities to practice this skill. With that goal in mind, SNOW plans to use this breakout session to inform students about the broad range of health care pathways available, speak to how these specialties collaborate in the community setting and talk specifically about the nursing program at Whatcom.

Presented by **ASWCC Student Nurses of Whatcom (SNOW) club**

Improv Your Grades and Find a Direction

Syre 211

We will provide a description of the Improv Club and how it helps academically, socially, and personally. Most notably, we will provide interactive demonstrations by doing improv exercises of learning from failure, accepting change, creative problem-solving, and working with others.

Presented by **The Leadership Council of the ASWCC Improv Club**

BREAKOUT SESSION 2

12:50 PM - 1:40 PM

Intercultural Pod

Syre 212

The Intercultural Center is a space for students from DIVERSE identities to come together to get BOOKS from the satellite library, STUDY, see a TUTOR, meet with professors, scholarship resources/workshops, and much more. There are four student-led ASWCC clubs operating out of the Intercultural Center: NISA, MSA, LLC, and BSA. Events range from STONE SOUP every Wednesday at noon to FIRESIDE CHAT. Presented by **ASWCC Muslim Student Association, ASWCC Black Student Association, ASWCC LatinX Leadership Club, ASWCC Native Indigenous Student Association.**

Supporting LGBTQ+ Students on Campus and Beyond

Syre 216

Hello Orcas! We are the ASWCC Queer-Straight Alliance, and our aim is to bring a welcoming, inclusive environment to both the LGBTQIAP2+ community and its allies! As a club, our goal is to be a space of growth, friendship, exploration, and safety for our club members and for the campus as a whole. Today, we are presenting on the various LGBTQ+ resources available to our students, both on campus and in the community, so that our students can get the support they need and fill in the gap to success that is often experienced by our fellow queer students.

Presented by **Blayze Kiefer-VanderYacht and Luke Harrington, ASWCC QSA co-presidents**

NOTES

UPCOMING EVENTS

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FEBRUARY 14
Neon Lights Dance

FEBRUARY 19
Turban Awareness Day

FEBRUARY 20
World Day of Social Justice

FEBRUARY 28
Global Culture Appreciation Night

March 11
Health and Wellness Fair

JUNE 10
Orca Day

Stay connected for our Students Leading Change Conference on May 2

Thank you to all who made Find Your Pod: Building Academic Success Through Academic Communities possible! Special thanks to all workshop presenters and facilitators, Pod Leaders, ASWCC Orca Volunteers, keynote speaker Melanie Zabel, Student Life and Development staff Heidi Farani, Kunbi Ajiboye, and Lucas Nydam, ASWCC Executive Board, ASWCC Programming and Diversity Board, ASWCC Senate, and you!

A big shout-out to Bellingham Screen Printing and Starbucks Coffee for event donations!



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Whatcom Community College
237 Kellogg Road
Bellingham, WA 98226