

My Journey Through the WWCC Honors Program

CRYSTAL BELL

TRIO STUDENT | NATIVE AMERICAN

AA, WALLA WALLA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CLASS OF 2025

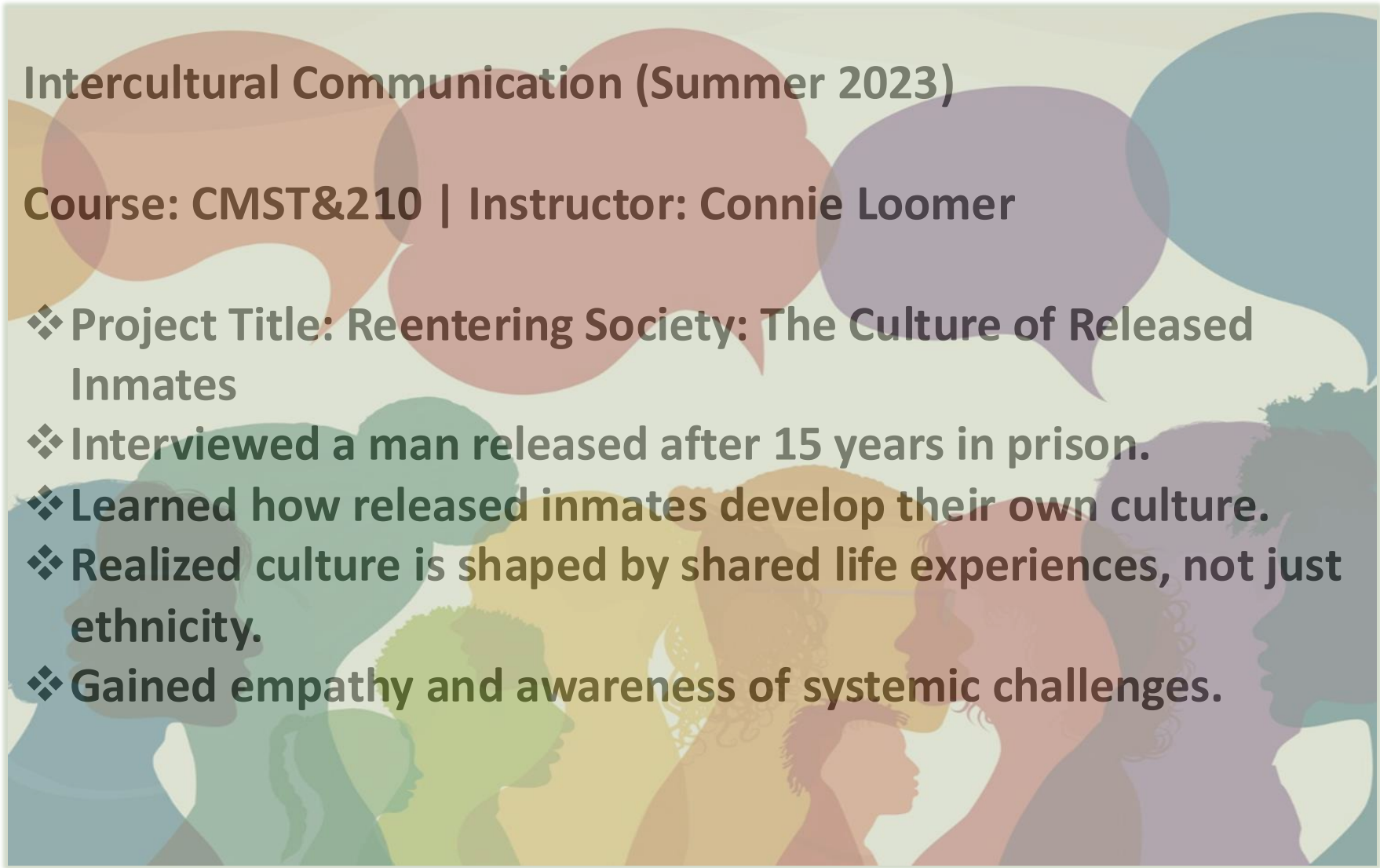
GATEWAY STUDENT, WHITMAN COLLEGE

ASPIRING FAMILY LAW ATTORNEY



Course: BIOL&170 | Instructor: Becky Samitore-Durand

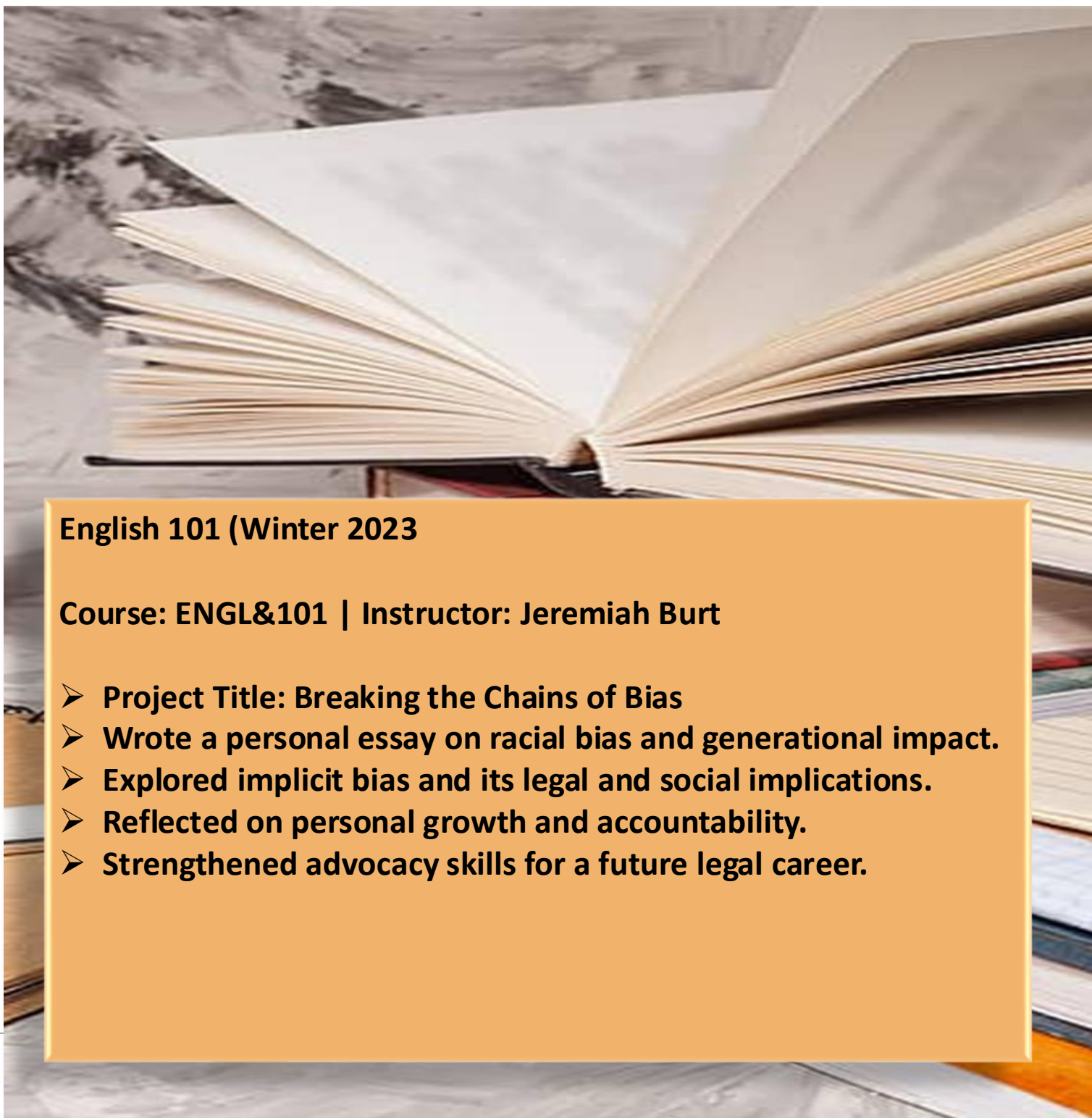
- **Project Title: Building a Healthy Diet with Food Allergies**
- **Designed a personalized, science-based meal plan.**
- **Balanced nutrition with multiple food allergies.**
- **Applied scientific principles to real life.**
- **Gained appreciation for individualized health care.**



Intercultural Communication (Summer 2023)

Course: CMST&210 | Instructor: Connie Loomer

- ❖ **Project Title: Reentering Society: The Culture of Released Inmates**
- ❖ **Interviewed a man released after 15 years in prison.**
- ❖ **Learned how released inmates develop their own culture.**
- ❖ **Realized culture is shaped by shared life experiences, not just ethnicity.**
- ❖ **Gained empathy and awareness of systemic challenges.**



English 101 (Winter 2023)

Course: ENGL&101 | Instructor: Jeremiah Burt

- **Project Title: Breaking the Chains of Bias**
- **Wrote a personal essay on racial bias and generational impact.**
- **Explored implicit bias and its legal and social implications.**
- **Reflected on personal growth and accountability.**
- **Strengthened advocacy skills for a future legal career.**



Reflection & Future Plans

The WWCC Honors Program has been a significant part of my growth as a student and future professional. Through completing my three honors projects, I developed stronger research, writing, and communication skills. I gained confidence in sharing my ideas, thinking critically about real-world issues, and learning how to approach problems from different angles. Being part of the Honors Program also helped me connect my identity, as a Native American woman and a TRIO student, with my academic work in meaningful ways. These experiences have shown me the importance of using education to make a difference in my community. The skills I've gained through the Honors Program will support my future goals by helping me stay focused, organized, and motivated. I'm proud of my accomplishments and excited for what comes next.

After graduating from WWCC in 2025 with my Associate of Arts degree, I will continue my education at Whitman College through the Gateway Program. I plan to follow Whitman's law pathway to prepare for law school. My long-term goal is to become a family law attorney, supporting families in crisis and advocating for those who need a voice.

