



WI-FI

Improvements in Coverage and Performance

- Wi-Fi across campus is being assessed this summer to make upgrades, improvements in coverage and repairs to ensure wireless service is functioning at the highest possible level of performance and availability. To date, Van Kampen, Clark and Page have undergone extensive work. An entire update of campus will be completed by the end of summer.

Faster Connection

- IT is working to support Wi-Fi 6--the latest standard for wireless technology--which would make Westmont one of the few schools in the country to do so. The Wi-Fi 6 standard is more than 3x faster than its predecessor. Many new wireless devices support Wi-fi 6 and Westmont's wireless network will be ready.

OS Requirements for Mobile Devices

- The best wireless experience depends on meeting minimum operating system (OS) requirements for notebooks, smartphones and tablets. To assist in providing the best wireless experience on campus, IT has identified the minimum OS requirements for all popular devices on the Westmont wireless network. IT will provide instructions for how to upgrade as well as how to contact IT support for assistance.

INTERNET

Internet Bandwidth Improvements

- Each year IT increases the amount of internet bandwidth available to Westmont, and this year is no different. Progress toward this year's bandwidth upgrade is promising, and when you arrive this fall, everyone should be able to experience an overall improvement.

Internet as a Shared Resource

- To avoid technological disruptions during class and study times, internet traffic will be reserved for academic and institutional priorities between the hours of 7am and 5pm. From 5pm through 6am, other traffic will be supported--Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, YouTube, gaming, and a host of other platforms.

SECURITY

Two-Factor Authentication

- To combat increased security threats that have emerged during COVID-19, and to help protect your data and personal information, Two-Factor Authentication will be required for access to Westmont Gmail and other Google-hosted services (Google Docs, Groups etc.). For those unfamiliar with Two-Factor Authentication (or 2FA), think of a time you've received a text with a code required to login to, for example, an iTunes or email account. This is 2FA at work. Our hope is to work with many of you this summer to implement this additional layer of security. But if not, we can also work with you when you arrive. Look out for more information from IT.

Being Smart Online

- Cyber security awareness is a necessary skill in our digital world. Using computers is a regular and often necessary part of our daily lives, and as more take advantage of open connections and trust more users, exposure to various scams increases. So, please be vigilant. Look out for campus alerts from IT, and please practice the safety precautions we prescribe, especially when you're on Westmont's network.

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

Computer Lab

- Computer labs throughout campus will be available during advertised hours. All lab computers will be regularly cleaned on a schedule determined by the custodial team to ensure all college provided equipment is always safe to use.

Printing

- Printing is a resource used extensively by students with more than 600,000 pages printed last year. IT will decentralize printing locations to support social distancing and provide easier access to printing services. We plan to make printing available at various locations across campus such as Page, Emerson, Armington, GLC South and Clark. In addition, printing services will remain available in the library.

Canvas Learning Management System (LMS)

- IT has worked with faculty to increase the functionality of Canvas. While this will entail a few new areas to learn, they are all delivered within the familiar Canvas interface.

Support

- IT will have trained student workers assigned to each of the residence halls throughout the semester who can help ensure you have a great computing experience. When you arrive to campus, IT will provide instructions on how to connect with these support services.