



2020

## The 'Evolving' Classroom Photo Series

Stephanie Whang

*Whittier College*, [swhang@poets.whittier.edu](mailto:swhang@poets.whittier.edu)

Chris Payne

*Whittier College*, [cpayne1@poets.whittier.edu](mailto:cpayne1@poets.whittier.edu)

David Elithorpe

*Whittier College*, [delithor@poets.whittier.edu](mailto:delithor@poets.whittier.edu)

Kevin Sprague

*Whittier College*, [ksprague@poets.whittier.edu](mailto:ksprague@poets.whittier.edu)

Sarah Garcia

*Whittier College*, [sgarci11@poets.whittier.edu](mailto:sgarci11@poets.whittier.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://poetcommons.whittier.edu/covid>

---

### Recommended Citation

Whang, S., Payne, C., Elithorpe, D., Sprague, K., & Garcia, S. (2020). The 'Evolving' Classroom Photo Series. *Historical Methods 2020* Retrieved from <https://poetcommons.whittier.edu/covid/17>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Scholarship & Research at Poet Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in COVID-19 @ Whittier by an authorized administrator of Poet Commons. For more information, please contact [library@whittier.edu](mailto:library@whittier.edu).

## The 'Evolving' Classroom Photos: Imagery Zoom Fatigue and Zoom Burnout (2020)



Pictured above is a typical student's desk within a small bedroom. Notice here the classroom-esque nature of the student's work space. The desk is riddled with books, a laptop, a can of Coca-Cola, and of course, more books. In other words, what is inferred from this picture is that the bedroom also became the classroom, and for most students and professors, this photo shows us much more. The bedroom became the place to study, to eat, to sleep, to communicate with professors, essentially all aspects of a student's day revolved around being in touch with the classroom through these personal spaces, and the designation for the success during an ongoing pandemic. This picture embodies the transition to Distance learning for students, along with the changing dynamic of the classroom model that students and professors adapted to during their own transition.

## “Classroom on a Couch” (2020)



This photo displays a Whittier College students' couch as a “desk.” As shown in the picture the student lays out her laptop, agenda, and the rest of her course materials on her couch. Normally is not the ideal classroom but as a result of COVID and the quick pivot to online learning this has now become their workspace. It might not seem like the appropriate classroom setting but one has to improvise with what they have. Some students don't have the accessibility to a desk that is why their school served as that space to study and learn. However, as a result of COVID students were forced to continue learning at home. The pandemic has taught us that there might be challenges along the way but as long as we preserve and adjust to environments we are set in. This picture perfectly encapsulates the transition to online learning.

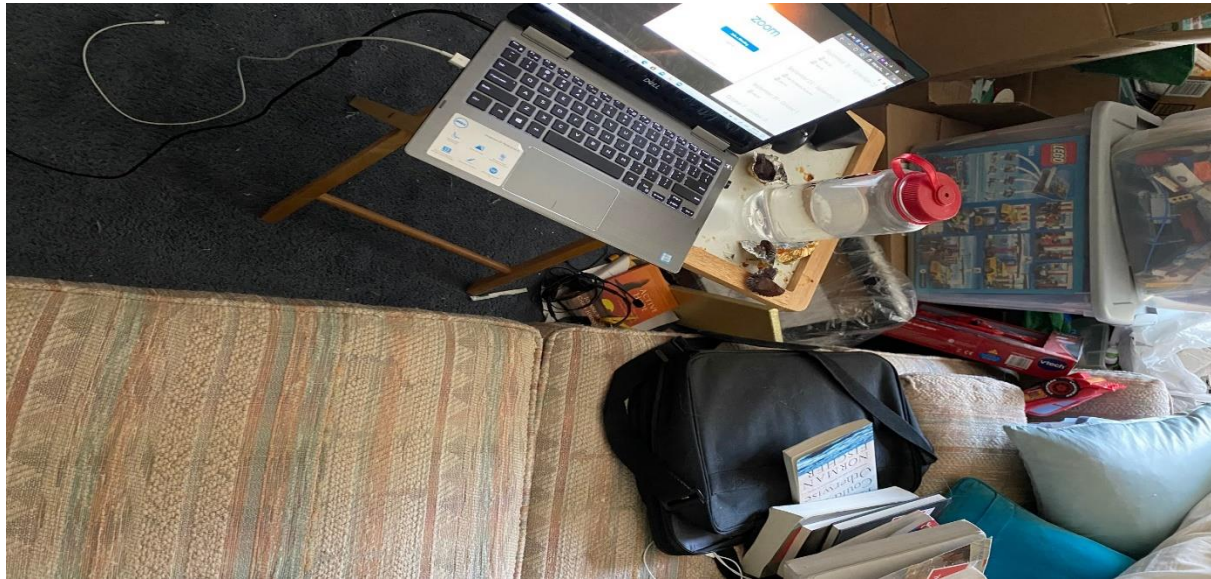
## A Student's Workspace (2020)



Pictured above is a photo of a student's workspace. This photo speaks to the diversity of workspaces among students enrolled in online classes. Some students work at desks, tables, or couches, and some (as pictured) work from their bed. There is most definitely an effect on student mentality when the place that is their classroom is the place in which they wake up, eat and go to sleep. There is no division between learning, free time, and sleep. A student's classroom is an important space for them, and it would be interesting to further study the effects that the zoom classroom has on the efficiency of student learning. One can also infer how students learn best and a specific student's learning tactics based on the workspace they choose, on the other hand, one could also study the effects on student learning from students who were forced into certain workspace based on living conditions.



### Student “Classroom” and Resource Accessibility (2020):



This image is of a student workspace during the Distance Learning Module 1 of the Fall 2020 term. Examine first the small table, and notice the computer, wrappers and water bottle. This implies that the student had access to some sort of snack and water during online learning, but the table itself suggests that the student may not have had a proper desk for learning. Next look at the books on top of what is presumably a couch as well as the boxes in the frame. This combined suggests that the student did not necessarily possess adequate space to store these materials while learning online. This picture demonstrates the unique situation of every student who participated in online learning. Lacking physical resources in any respect in person suggests that students had to rely heavily on online resources provided and recommended by Whittier College to ensure a successful learning experience for the 2020 pandemic.

## Student Workspace (2020)



This is a photo of the constructed 'classroom' environment of a single student's workspace during Whittier College's Fall Module 1 of 2020. On the desk, there are notebooks, writing utensils, empty mugs, and

other small personal items that this student may have kept on their desk for comfort or aesthetic. This student has a larger planner and a table planner, indicating that organization and planning plays a large part in their learning. There are an array of writing utensils and paper items that this student writes on, suggesting that this student still chooses to handwrite their notes and their planner over digitizing on one of the two computers. This brings into question the adjustments that students with different learning styles and capabilities have to take into their own hands in order to facilitate their own learning. This photo provides but one possible perspective of a student with a specific learning style or capability that might have been impacted by switching to a completely different learning format.

**Face Masks Delivery and “Poet Pledge to Protect” Postcard (2020)**



The postcard above sent between September and October 2020 reflects Whittier College’s mission to protect the well-being and learning goals of students, faculty and staff. Whittier College sent a positive message to its students of its mission statement to protect and serve their students, faculty, and staff during the pandemic, wherever they might be. On the back of the card, it reads:

We hope that this package brings some cheer and smile to your face. We all have a role in providing for the health and safety of our community. . . Together we can help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect those whom we come in contact with. (“Poet Pledge to Protect”)

Despite the transition to Distance Education, Whittier College celebrated the fact that they extended their mission to serve not only the people of Whittier College, but also serve the community of Whittier as a whole.