Location, near and far

Western’s beautiful 157-acre campus resides in Monmouth, Oregon, but both Monmouth and its neighbor, Independence, provide WOU’s home in the mid-Willamette Valley.

These two historic towns offer a safe and quiet environment for WOU students. There are opportunities for recreation with miles of bike trails, the Willamette River for canoeing and kayaking, coffee shops, night spots with live entertainment, and art galleries and historic sites.

WOU is 20 minutes from the state capital, Salem, and a little more than an hour from Portland for city life. We’re a short drive from the Oregon coast, mountains and other scenic areas. Nature lovers and outdoor adventurers can travel in any direction to find their favorite spot, from the ski slopes of Mt. Hood to the Columbia River Gorge for wind-surfing or whale-watching in Depoe Bay.

Average high temperatures: from high 40s in December and January to low 80s in summer.
Average low temperatures: from low 30s in December to low 50s in summer.
Average annual rainfall: 46 inches; 218 days with no rain.