

I am petitioning to waive the social science and natural science prerequisites for the MES program. In addition to having taken social science and natural science courses as an undergraduate, I believe my professional experiences make up for the time that has passed since earning my degree.

For the social sciences credit, my work as an international program leader, as a writer for ANEKED, and as a civil servant have given me diverse experiences in anthropology and sociology. As a study abroad program leader, I was regularly immersed in questions regarding culture, community building, politics, history, and service. As a writer for ANEKED, I summarized witness testimony from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings in The Gambia, describing and clarifying experiences of survivors of Yahya Jammeh's Authoritarian Regime for publication in the TRRC Digest. This job required considerable, thoughtful research about human rights issues and Gambian history, culture, and current events. As a program coordinator, I wrestle with social issues every day, using data and public feedback to create important recreation services for older adults in North Bellevue, Washington.

For the natural sciences prerequisite, I argue that my experience and training as an outdoor education specialist justify my waiver request. As an educator, I spent the last decade immersed in ecological and environmental questions, teaching curriculum on subjects like plant and wildlife identification, wildlife tracking, animal behavior, environmental issues, and environmental justice. In 2016, I also graduated from a three-month FAGASA Level 1 guide certification with Nature Guide Training in the Greater Kruger area of South Africa. There, I developed my understanding of ecology, wildlife tracking, plant identification, birding, conservation, and natural resource management.