

#### Application Related Information

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Application: Application Incomplete  
Grad Program Applying To: MES

Iteration Name: 202510\_GR\_G  
Program Name: MES

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By:	Kory Russel	Recommenders Title:	Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Studies
Recommenders Institution:	University of Oregon	Contact Name:	Emma Hamaker-Teals
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs:	I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.	Recommendation Waiver Choice:	I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.
Recommendation Form Submitted:	✗	Recommendation Status:	Received
Received Date:	03/21/2024 11:09 PM	Recommender Assessment:	
Recommendation Type:	General	Recommender Form:	Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Entity ID:	1024000117920725	Recommendation Owner:	Josephine Bernier

#### Recommender Form Questions

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How long have you known applicant:	Applicant ability as self-directed learner:
Time since last contact with applicant:	Applicant as productive member of group:
Relationship with Applicant:	Applicant most significant strengths:
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Responsibility/reliability:
Communication Skills - Oral:	Communication skills - written:
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Ability to work independently:
Ability to handle stress:	Ability to think critically:
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Ability to think creatively:
Openness to feedback:	Potential for leadership:
Ability to work in a team:	Personal/professional reflection:

#### Description Information

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Description: Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radius>

#### Other Information

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Created Time:	03/06/2024 11:25 AM	Created By:	Josephine Bernier
Modified Time:	03/22/2024 04:16 PM	Modified By:	Shalimar Pedersen



UNIVERSITY OF  
OREGON

School of Architecture  
& Environment

March 22, 2024

Dear Office of Admissions at Evergreen State College,

It is a true pleasure to write this letter on behalf of Emma Hamaker-Teals, whom I had the privilege of teaching in Winter 2024 and whom I believe would make an exceptional student at your institution.

In ENVS 459 Water, Public Health, and the Environment, Emma had an almost-perfect attendance record and was noticeably engaged during every class. The class required weekly reading responses, discussion sections, homework assignments, a quantitative research paper, and a final group presentation, all of which demonstrated Emma's individual work ethic and outspoken curiosity. Particularly in a small class environment, I appreciated her willingness to break silences and ask thoughtful, nuanced questions. By doing so, not only did she encourage her peers to speak, but she brought the conversation deep below the surface level, often grappling with concepts of sociocultural context and privilege alongside material that focused mainly on the natural sciences. This level of deep thinking and sociocultural awareness, in concert with her humility, made her an ideal student.

In our frequent interactions outside of class, I learned that Madeline is much more than her academic achievements. She is a caring student, skilled at advocating for herself and others, and I have seen this in action. She wants to work with the environment in a way that interacts with humans and as such has taken many classes that investigate different human interactions with the environment. For example, in her ENVS 411: Topics in Queer Ecologies, she learned about the role the environment played in the history of queer movements. She is currently on track to graduate in summer 2024 which makes her total time at the University of Oregon a little over three years with a degree in General Social Science and a minor in Environmental Studies. She is respectful during our conversations, and she has a level of maturity I rarely see in students her age. As an instructor, I am grateful that she uses her voice to speak up for herself and others; other students' experiences, along with my own, were richer because of her involvement.

In short, I am thoroughly impressed with her mind for asking difficult questions, her heart for community matters, and her will to break down barriers. It is my pleasure to wholeheartedly recommend Emma for a Master of Environmental Studies at Evergreen State College. I am confident that she will be an informed and essential member of your campus community. Please do not hesitate me for any further information and clarification.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kory Russel  
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