

Dear Admissions Committee,

I am applying to the Environmental Studies master's degree at the Evergreen State College for entry in the Fall of 2024. I am incredibly excited by the prospect of admission to this program. Its focus on holistic and interdisciplinary approaches to education are what drew my interest during my graduate school search, and I, therefore, fully understand the need for certain prerequisites to be a successful and promising student here.

For an advanced program of this sort, there is an obvious need for a well-rounded and varied education. I have taken and fulfilled the prerequisite requirements for statistics and natural sciences. I have also taken and earned 'A' letter grades in multiple social science classes during my time as an undergraduate student. However, given that I was a STEM student, all of my social science classes were taken in my first two years of college. My curriculum was almost entirely science-focused from the fall of 2018 to my graduation in 2021. As it is, the cut-off for the 5-year limit is the fall of 2019.

In the fall of 2017, I took 'Introduction to Psychology' (PSYC 2010) and earned an 'A' for this 3-credit course. This was my introduction into "human" sciences, where I learned about the beginnings of the field of psychology. I was taught about early theories of the mind, outdated treatments of mental illness, and ethics in human experimentation.

In the spring of 2018, I took 'Principles of Microeconomics' (ECON 2020) and earned an 'A' for 3-credits, as well. I remember this as a challenging course, and a strong look into the business department of Auburn University. I learned about the basics of market-value for goods and services. This class evaluated individuals such as consumers and business owners within the balance of the economy.

I also took 'Honors Ethics' (PHIL 1027) in the spring of 2018. While it may be considered more of a small facet of social science studies than a distinct category of its own, this class still provided a look into human consideration of the world. It certainly urged introspection into the student's own view of "right and wrong", and the sources and attempted prevention of pain and suffering across the world, with respect to vastly different cultural norms and practices. I received an 'A' in this 3-credit class.

Lastly, I took an honors class called 'Technology and Culture 1' (HONR 1007) in the fall of 2018. This class evaluated human technology across the ages, reaching all the way back to the 'discovery', or rather the controlled use, of fire. Anthropology was not a topic I found particularly interesting until this class. It was a reminder of our own evolution as animals, how we contributed to the extinction of our cousin-species, and the technological advancements that got us where we are today in such a short amount of geological time. I also earned an 'A' in this 3-credit class.

Given the knowledge I gained in these classes and the foundation they provided for the remainder of my college experience, I am asking that these courses be accepted as adequate prerequisites for the social science requirement at Evergreen. They are only about a year off on the timeline presented by the graduate department, and recent enough for me to remember

clearly and vividly the lessons I learned. They were critical in shaping my perspectives on the world, and I believe I am well prepared for the interdisciplinary graduate education in which these prerequisites are intended to aid.

Thank you very much for your time. I hope my petition will be considered favorably so that I might go forward with continuing my graduate education at the Evergreen State College.

Best,

Morgan McKenzie Shelton