

Application Related Information

Application:	Application Incomplete	Iteration Name:	202610_GR_G
Grad Program Applying To:	MES	Program Name:	MES

Recommendation Information

Recommended By:	Justin Bastow	Recommenders Title:	Associate Professor
Recommenders Institution:	Eastern Washinton University	Contact Name:	Emma Bartholomew
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs:	I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.	Recommendation Waiver Choice:	
Recommendation Form Submitted:	✓	Recommendation Status:	Received
Received Date:	01/10/2025 10:59 AM	Recommender Assessment:	I recommend this applicant without reservation.
Recommendation Type:	General	Recommender Form:	Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Entity ID:	1024000121479737	Recommendation Owner:	Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

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

Description:	Form URL:	https://evergreenstatecollege.radius
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Other Information

Created Time:	12/29/2024 07:21 PM	Created By:	Josephine Bernier
Modified Time:	01/10/2025 10:59 AM	Modified By:	Josephine Bernier

Evergreen State College
Graduate Admissions

January 10th, 2025

Dear Graduate Admissions,


I am writing in enthusiastic support of Emma Bartholomew's application to your Master's in Environmental Science program. I am Emma's major advisor here at Eastern Washington University, where Emma is on track to graduate with a degree in Environmental Science and minors in Biology, Philosophy, and Sustainability. I also had Emma as a student in my Biology II (majors introductory ecology and evolution) course in fall 2023. The suite of minors Emma is completing along with her interdisciplinary major is a testament to the breadth of Emma's intellectual interests, as well as the depth of her academic training here at Eastern.

Our Environmental Science program at Eastern is an interdisciplinary program run by faculty in Biology, Geosciences, and Chemistry. It combines coursework from all three departments as well as a series of Environmental Science seminars and courses in economics, planning, statistics, and GIS. The Biology department, to which I belong, prides itself on incorporating inquiry, research, and the scientific method into coursework. Two courses that exemplify this are Introduction to Biological Investigation (Biol 270) and Senior Capstone (Biol 490). Introduction to Biological Investigation is a class in which students learn about experimental design, scientific communication, and basic statistics. Students then use these skills to design and conduct an experiment of their own, which they write up and present. It is a very open-ended course, which students variably find exciting or frustrating depending on whether or not they are genuinely interested in taking part in science. Emma excelled in Biol 270 (in winter 2024), developing a project that involved growing green onions on a variety of media. This was an ambitious project, which took up much of our department greenhouse, and required a substantial amount of outside class time, but produced some great data, including time lapse videos of the onions recorded on GoPros. Emma was near the top of her class in Biol 270. Students revisit these skills in their senior capstone class (Biol 490), which combines an original research project with lectures on some specialized topic within Biology. Emma will be taking her capstone in Restoration Ecology this spring.

I can tell that Emma is well suited for graduate study because she has consistently done best in field or research courses (e.g. Field Botany, compared to Botany). In addition to her capstone, this spring she will be completing her Sustainability minor with Sust 371 (EWU Campus Sustainability). This course is essentially an internship with the campus Sustainability Officer (Dr. Erik Budsberg) to improve some aspect of campus sustainability. It is emblematic of the hands-on opportunities Emma has consistently sought out, and I am excited to see what project she develops.

Overall, I think Emma's experiences here at Eastern have prepared her very well for graduate work in environmental science, and that Evergreen would be an excellent fit for her interests and skills. I recommend her without reservation. I'm sure she would contribute a lot to your campus and program, just as she has ours. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about Emma, her application, or our program.

Thank you,



Justin Bastow