

#### Application Related Information

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Application: Application Not Verified  
Grad Program Applying To: MIT

Iteration Name: 202330\_GR\_G  
Program Name: MIT

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By: Zoltan Grossman  
Recommenders Institution: The Evergreen State College

Recommenders Title: Professor

Contact Name: Tristan Glaser

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: 08/02/2022 11:57 AM

Recommender Assessment:

Recommendation Type: General

Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation

Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000107682847

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.radiu>

#### Other Information

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Created Time: 07/22/2022 06:05 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 08/02/2022 01:12 PM

Modified By: Shalimar Pedersen



**ZOLTÁN GROSSMAN, Ph.D.**  
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August 2, 2022

Admissions Committee  
Master in Teaching Program  
The Evergreen State College  
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW  
Olympia, Washington 98505  
[graduateadmissions@evergreen.edu](mailto:graduateadmissions@evergreen.edu)

Dear MIT Admissions Committee,

I would like to offer my strong recommendation of Tristan Glaser for admission to the Master in Teaching program. I have known Tristan for two years, as a student in my Evergreen programs “Conceptualizing Place: Pacific Northwest Native Art and Geographies” in fall 2020-winter 2021,” and “American Frontiers: Homelands and Borderlands” in winter 2022. He did excellent work in integrating fields such Native Studies, immigrant studies, art, geography, and environmental studies, and produced outstanding project work.

Tristan participated in weekly seminars on the readings, offering useful insights in class discussions that connected our class themes. He submitted all required weekly synthesis papers integrating our seminar readings with other class activities, exhibiting interconnective breadth and analytical depth.

In “Conceptualizing Place” (with Alex McCarty and myself) students completed trainings in Adobe Illustrator and InDesign, to produce a 132-page class publication, titled *Removing Barriers: Restoring Salmon Runs through Tribal Alliances*, on Pacific Northwest Indigenous leadership in removing dams, dikes, and culverts. Tristan submitted a map of the Nisqually River watershed in Washington state, developed in several drafts and described in a class presentation. The excellent map described the terrain of the watershed, from Mount Rainier National Park to the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, and told a visual narrative of the historic damming of the river for electricity, and diking of the estuary for cattle pasture, and how Nisqually treaty rights has enabled the repair and recovery of much of the watershed.

Tristan worked on a three-student Team developing the 10-page chapter on the Nisqually Watershed, titled “Nisqually: Restoration and Healing.” Tristan was responsible for researching and writing the sections on the colonial era in the Nisqually Watershed since the 1854 Medicine Creek Treaty was signed in its estuary, through the 1960s Fish Wars and 1974 Boldt Decision, and ending with the federal-tribal collaboration to restore tidal flows in the estuary. Tristan did more than his share of the writing work for the chapter, and developed the extensive bibliography. In addition to revising and publishing his Nisqually Watershed map as part of the chapter, he created a unique and useful map of how the precolonial channels were opened up in the Nisqually Estuary. The book PDFs are at <https://sites.evergreen.edu/removingbarriers>

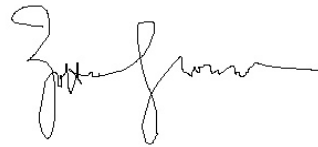
In “American Frontiers” (with Kristina Ackley and myself), students contributed to the “Olympia’s Hidden Histories” project, exploring the local place-based history of the displacement of Indigenous and immigrant communities (as well as salmon and oysters) in the former Deschutes River Estuary. Student teams developed four digital walking tours of downtown Olympia, to tell stories of the creation of a settler colonial and white supremacist landscape, and of contemporary cultural and environmental revitalization efforts. Students were trained in the web-based ArcGIS StoryMaps platform to produce the self-guided walking tours.

Tristan was a valuable part of the four-student Dam Team, which examined the displacement of the Little Hollywood shantytown community in the 1940s, to make way for the 1951 construction of the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Dam, which blocked the Deschutes Estuary and created Capitol Lake. The tour concluded with the current debate over the possible removal of the dam to restore the estuary. Team research was reviewed by the Squaxin Island Tribe and Olympia Historical Society.

Tristan's specific work on the walking tour included researching and writing sections on the dam construction and creation of Capitol Lake, and its lasting effects on the health of the Deschutes Estuary and Budd Inlet, including the issues of water quality, sediment management, and salmon health. Tristan helped with detailed text edits, layout design, and bibliographic citations. He produced an excellent original Illustrator map of the Little Hollywood shantytown community displaced by the creation of Capitol Lake. The "Olympia's Hidden Histories" walking tours will be made public in October at <https://arcg.is/1O5D0a>

Tristan worked effectively as an individual or in a team, and took a patient and respectful approach with faculty and fellow students. He has a promising future as an engaged scholar, researcher, and educator, skilled in using technology to educate students and the public. I give him my highest recommendation for the Master in Teaching program. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zoltán Grossman", with a stylized, flowing script.

Dr. Zoltán Grossman