

#### Application Related Information

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Application: Application Verified  
Grad Program Applying To: MIT

Iteration Name: 202430\_GR\_G  
Program Name: MIT

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By: Sarah Williams  
Recommenders Institution: Evergreen State College  
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.  
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: Faculty  
Contact Name: Gloria Gutierrez  
Recommendation Waiver Choice: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.  
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 07/26/2022 02:11 PM  
Recommendation Type: General  
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000107599218

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.  
Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation  
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: 07/11/2022 02:41 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 08/28/2023 01:28 PM

Modified By: Shalimar Pedersen

To: MIT Admissions, The Evergreen State College  
From: Sarah Williams, PhD  
Re: Gloria Gutierrez  
Date: 26 July 2022

Gloria Gutierrez has requested a letter of recommendation for admission to Evergreen's MIT program—something she did not anticipate! It is this ability of Gloria's to observe, reflect, adjust course, and consciously integrate with outstanding humor the flux of life that stands out as exceptional and delightful, both in relation to Gloria's capacity to as an educator and as important in recommending Gloria to any program fortunate enough to count Gloria as part of their learning community. Gloria believes in education's transformative power because Gloria has experienced the transformative power of education in her life. The two are not separate because Gloria's lived approach to her own education has been based on craft. Gloria's hand-crafted undergraduate career at Evergreen mirrored a highly crafted final senior project: a hand-spun, dyed, and woven classical Greek robe (*chiton*). It was my honor and pleasure to be the faculty sponsor for multiple, unanticipated quarters of this senior project as extenuating circumstances of individual and global dimensions compelled the need for more time to weave to completion both Gloria's woven wool garment and her undergraduate degree. Gloria's patience, tenacity, vulnerability, strength, commitment, humor, ingenuity, and deep sense of personal integrity are inspiring. From her research on the environmental and social values of the Slow Fashion movement, through her historical research regarding the plants used to dye wool and the significance of color in ancient Greece, to her resourcefulness in securing local wool and a Longhouse loom, Gloria made the most of a creative both physically and intellectually demanding senior project.

A couple essential paragraphs from my faculty evaluations demonstrate Gloria's learning as well as her learning to learn. It was in the writing and photo documentation she did of her textile project that Gloria not only engaged in graduate level scholarship but learned to articulate what she was learning as well as to teach others about why it mattered.

"Gloria's well-crafted weekly WordPress posts on her ePortfolio contained photos, drawings, bibliographic research, and text to describe her progress with the *chiton*, a *chiton* [robe] that due to material, labor, and time constraints became a *himation* [shawl]. From acquiring a fleece, to carding, spinning, weaving, dying, and fulling, Gloria used her WordPress ePortfolio to create detailed and comprehensive documentation of her learning process and outcomes. Consider, for example, these excerpts:

*'There was a good amount of pain. I bled several times from the combs, scalded myself a couple of times while dyeing, and used my body to the breaking point while spinning and weaving. I have a completely different perspective on clothing now. If I was paid minimum wage for every hour I spent on my himation, the dollar amount would be \$3,264.31. The concept of Slow Fashion has never been clearer to me and I think I will visibly flinch when I walk by stores such as H&M and Forever 21, with their \$5 shirts and \$30 dresses. That cost is asinine and speaks volumes about the lives of the people who actually made those clothes. The story is there for anyone who cares enough to listen. ... Spinning and weaving are not safe activities. There is power to be found in these crafts, in so-called "women's" work. Weaving is an act of defiance, which I feel is best illustrated by the ancient Greek story of Philomena.'*

Gloria is to be commended for risking and gaining so much in enacting her own contemporary rendition of the Philomena myth during this multi-quarter senior project. Like Philomena, when words were not enough, Gloria, too, found her voice through weaving.”

I highly recommend Gloria to you. Not only has Gloria excelled in achievement that embraces the Six Expectations of an Evergreen Graduate, but she did also so while working as a public school tutor. Gloria knows first-hand how and why education does and does not serve a diversity of students for a wide variety of both individual and structural reasons. Gloria is committed to making education matter through transformative public service as her chosen career. Please contact me if I can provide additional assistance in supporting Gloria’s MIT application.