

Application Related Information

Application: Application Incomplete
Grad Program Applying To: MIT

Iteration Name: 202510_GR_G
Program Name: MITU

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Yvonne Peterson
Recommenders Institution: The Evergreen State College

Recommenders Title: Member of the Faculty

Contact Name: Farrah Salawdeh

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: 10/31/2023 01:36 PM

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant without reservation.

Recommendation Type: General

Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation

Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000111748698

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>

Other Information

Created Time: 10/25/2023 05:05 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 10/31/2023 01:36 PM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier

THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON 98505

October 31st, 2023

The Evergreen State College
Olympia, WA. 98505

Attention: Graduate Admission Committee
RE: Farrah Salawdeh
Master In Teaching Program

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to highly recommend Farrah Salawdeh for the Master In Teaching program on the Olympia campus. He has the skill sets for teaching and will contribute to your learning community and towards the well-being of future K-12 students. The credit equivalencies he received in the Indigenous Storytelling: Cultural Political Performance will serve him well in his teaching: Research, Indigenous Studies, Political Science, U.S. History (Laws/Policies), Environmental Stewardship/Sustainability, Critical Thinking, and Liberation Theory.

Farrah Salawdeh managed time well and engaged in an active commitment to come into his own as a scholar taking learning time seriously and thriving in the student centered, independent study environment the class provided. Farrah could take charge of learning and was a reliable, effective, independent learner often offering perspective to class discussions. Consistently during fall and winter quarters, Farrah submitted summaries of articles including "Native Feminist Theories"; "Background of Treaty Making in Western Washington"; and the NARF article on the policy and impacts of Indian Boarding Schools "Let All That is Indian Within You Die!" Farrah maintained workshop notes, an analysis of reading material, and willingly participated in workshops/seminars. Tribal origin stories were researched and summarized, and Tribes in Washington State were researched to show federal recognition, IRA status, and geographic location. Farrah is gaining Tribal specific information to build upon for work as a public school teacher. Sit-spot observations were a challenge, but Farrah persevered and found an area on the beach to use all senses to take in the changing of the season. Recognizing the diversity in our learning community, Farrah shared a name poem, a thematic – where I am from and the house I was raised in poems and a poem summarizing how he is like his grandfather especially the "eyes."

The independent project Farrah committed to over 2 quarters, "Palestinian Cultural/Liberation Group," began because of critically thinking about exploring thoughts underlying feelings and feelings underlying thoughts, refining generalizations and avoiding oversimplifications, comparing analogous situations: transferring insights to new contexts, and clarifying issues/conclusions/beliefs within in his own writing and poetry and reading poetry. In addition to program readings, Farrah read *Rifqa* by Mohammed El-Kurd and *Before the Next Bomb*

Drops by Remi Kanazi to make interdisciplinary connections and to compare ideals with actual practice. By the end of winter quarter, Farrah expanded the group to “Olympia for Justice in Palestine” to bring in additional perspectives and to educate a greater audience. The project brought his leadership skills, research, planning/organizing, and collaborative skills forward and he is moving to a command of understanding international relationships.

Due to the COVID-19 virus, in-person workshops were held on Mondays and the class met virtually by Zoom on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Undaunted, Farrah persevered, creating an action plan to participate, use the chat to make clarifying comments, offer a perspective about readings and documentaries, learn about social work and Indigenous education, engage and analyze the five steps of colonization, share origin stories, identity politics, laws/policies/lived experiences of American Indians, liberation theory, critical thinking, Indigenous art, and environmental stewardship.

In closing, the learning community are in debt to Farrah Salawdeh for the spirit of giving, sharing, and inclusivity; the grounded and stability of trust and love everyone experienced is a tribute to Farrah’s personality and presence virtually and at the in-person workshops. Farrah Salawdeh met all requirements of the *Indigenous Storytelling: Cultural Political Performance* program, finishing in good standing.

Strengths – I wish every student I worked with arrived in Theory to Praxis workshops with Farrah’s attitude. He is focused, hardworking, ambitious and ready to ask social justice questions in a critical thought-provoking way. He is totally committed as a scholar to doing the best work and thinking he can on everything that he does. I highly recommend without reservation Farrah Salawdeh as a graduate student in the Master In Teaching Program on the Evergreen campus.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Peterson, Member of the Faculty
American Indian Studies/Indigenous Studies Planning Unit
The Evergreen State College
360-490-9659