

**Kyle J Bradshaw**

**Evergreen State College - Master in Teaching Program Application**

**Endorsement Checklist Essay**

My completed endorsement checklist highlights a blend of completed and planned coursework that has prepared me to teach Social Studies effectively. My academic foundation, combined with real-world experiences, equips me to foster critical thinking, historical inquiry, and global awareness in the classroom.

Courses such as *History of the West and the World* and *Urban Geography* have enriched my understanding of world history, geography, and how societies interact with their environments. These classes developed my ability to explore global connections and trends, a skill crucial for teaching historical events and their implications. Similarly, *Division & Inequality in the United States* and *Urban Sociology* deepened my understanding of social dynamics, equity, and systemic change, particularly within the American context. They enable me to approach Social Studies with a focus on diverse perspectives, preparing me to guide students in examining history through the lenses of marginalized communities.

In civics and economics, courses such as *Honors American Politics* and *The Global Economy* provided me with a strong grasp of governmental systems, and economic principles. These subjects are vital in helping students understand their roles as informed citizens. My coursework in environmental studies, such as *Human Impacts on the Environment*, adds an interdisciplinary layer to my teaching by connecting historical, social, and ecological systems.

While my academic foundation is solid, I recognize areas for growth, particularly in U.S. women's history and the 20th-century U.S. era. To address these gaps, I have planned to take additional coursework, including *African American History* and *U.S. History II*, which will provide a more comprehensive view of significant historical events and underrepresented narratives. My planned enrollment in *Pacific Northwest History* and *World Civilizations III* will also expand my regional and global knowledge.

My passion for local Northwest history further supports my development as a Social Studies educator. I regularly visit the Washington State History Museum, especially for events and gatherings that highlight the history of underrepresented communities. As an outdoor and environmental educator, one of my favorite parts of the job was helping history come alive for students in real-time by connecting their surroundings to historical narratives. These experiences deepened my love for teaching history and my understanding of its impact on shaping communities. Hoping to teach within Tacoma Public Schools, I aim to leverage my affinity for learning about the complex and challenging history of this region to inspire my students. I believe this passion will allow me to connect with students meaningfully and help them engage with their local history.

In summary, my completed coursework has prepared me to teach a wide range of Social Studies topics with depth and critical insight. By complementing my academic studies with planned courses and leveraging my personal experiences and interests, I am committed to addressing gaps and providing students with an inclusive and comprehensive understanding of Social Studies.