

As I prepare to enter the Masters in Teaching program at the Evergreen State College, I have reviewed previous course work and have reflected upon developing knowledge through my work as a Youth Development Professional (YDP). In my former studies, I have completed 45 credits that have prepared me to teach elementary education. Though, there are some gaps in between my courses, I believe my developing knowledge and my time as a YDP has helped to fill those gaps.

Throughout my time in highschool and college, I have been able to be one step ahead in my coursework. During highschool, I was placed in advanced math classes, finishing all required courses before Sophomore year. In my Junior and Senior year of highschool, I was enrolled at South Puget Sound Community College and completed my Associates of Arts by graduation, putting me in a better education standing than most. I then went on to obtain my Bachelors from Seattle Pacific University, graduating in 2021.

When studying at SPSCC, I completed one math course, two art credits, two science credits and all required social studies credits. The math course I enrolled in was math in society. In this course, I was able to learn math that is typically used on a day to day basis within our society. By learning the different forms of math we use daily, it will help me teach students the most applicable math to their daily lives and what to focus on most. As I mentioned before, I was placed in advanced math classes throughout highschool and in those classes I was able to learn the basic math skills and principles used in our education system at an accelerated rate. I retained much of what I learned and was able to use my previous knowledge when taking both the West B and NES exams. I also took two science classes while at community college. Both science classes were physical science and I never completed credits for biological science. I plan to obtain biological science knowledge through a shadowing role at a school or a volunteer experience, where I can engage in a science outreach program. During my time at SPSCC and SPU, I was also able to learn basic art skills and gain all my foundational social studies knowledge that will be reflected in my work as a teacher.

When reviewing my course work for the English language portion of the checklist, I realized I never formally enrolled in courses that pertained to children's literature or structure. However, I did take 10 credits of English composition that I feel helped develop my understanding of language structure for teachers. As far as children's literature, I plan on researching award winning children's books as well as using my local library as a resource for knowledge. I also feel that in my time as a YDP, I will learn more about children's literature through my daily activities with the youth.

After reviewing and reflecting on my knowledge and my previous education, I feel that I am prepared to enter the MiT program at The Evergreen State College. I have retained much of what I've learned through past coursework and continue to grow my knowledge in my position as a YDP. I also believe that there are always opportunities to expand and develop on one's knowledge. One of the biggest lessons that I took away from my time at university is to always be a learner, you will never know enough and there is always room to learn and grow more.