

Endorsement Checklist Essay

As someone who obtained a BA in Linguistics with a Minor in German, I naturally don't have a large portion of the ELA Endorsement checklist filled out. My coursework was not the same as someone who would've majored in an area such as English Composition and Writing. However, I feel very strongly that I have the foundational knowledge of how English works as a language. From a class that I took in my last quarter at Western Washington University, I learned a lot about language discrimination and oppression. One might think that those two words only relate between different languages. However, the history of America, along with many other countries around the world, have shown that linguistic discrimination and oppression can, unfortunately, undoubtedly take place within a single language itself. One of the biggest goals I have is to enlighten students about the tainted history of English and how all varieties and dialects of English are completely valid forms of communication. No one should be criticized for their dialect of English.

Due to not having taken any formal literature classes, I would need to study up on lots of the major and common reads to be up to date. Although I read some literature among my courses at college, none were in-depth analyses of the literature itself. One German course I had did an in depth analysis, albeit we only read a single novel. In tandem with this, I never took any formal writing classes, but I was able to write plenty of essays and papers throughout my time at College. I have also had plenty of personal narrative and creative writing projects that I have written since I was young which, everything combined, has led to me feeling confident in my writing skills.

Another somewhat large gap that I couldn't fill out on the Endorsement Worksheet was speech or debate and additional communication studies. In a similar

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sense with the writing portion, I haven't taken any formal communications courses at college. Instead, I have had lots of time to develop communication skills throughout my time in a variety of foreign language courses. Yet I can always learn more and develop my skills even further as one can never get too good at speech or debate.

The total accumulation of all the courses that I have taken during my time at South Puget Sound Community College and WWU has prepared me very well to be able to reach the hearts of students. I am adequately prepared to teach a complete understanding of English as a language, however I acknowledge that I fall short in certain areas, such as literature and communication and will strive to further my knowledge in those areas so that I may be as well equipped as possible to teach ELA to its fullest.