* What skills and experiences do the most successful applicants demonstrate that are accepted at your school? What skills and experience would be ideal in your program?

Hello !

Thank you for your interest in the Master of Environmental Studies at The Evergreen State College. Excellent candidates to our Program have a well-rounded application package which includes competency in analysis, writing, quantitative skills, critical thinking, and general communication skills. We have no minimum requirements for GPA or GRE but we are looking for students with a demonstrated commitment to environmental issues and an interdisciplinary background. We will consider all types of experience in our review: jobs, internships, volunteer, hobbies, academic, etc. Please see our application and requirements webpage <http://www.evergreen.edu/mes/apply.htm>

* Do you have hands-on learning opportunities and support for finding internships?

We keep our students well-informed of opportunities to engage in internships, volunteer in the community, job in the environmental field, fun activities going on throughout the Pacific Northwest. There are a few ways that we accomplish this communication: 1)I send out emails through our listserve about opportunities;2) We have blog where we post jobs, internships and events <http://blogs.evergreen.edu/mesweekly/> ; 3) As a student you have access to Evergreen’s job search site which includes many jobs, internships, and volunteer opportunities in the local community <http://www.evergreen.edu/studentemployment/findajob.htm> 4) We also list many opportunities to help students fund their research on our website <http://www.evergreen.edu/mes/research-funding.htm>

We also provide internships within the Program. You can take up to 8 of your elective credits through an Internship or Individual Learning Contract (ILC). An ILC provides students the opportunity to create their own learning experience collaborating with a mentor, usually from the Program faculty, where they plan their educational experience and complete it independently. <http://www.evergreen.edu/mes/internship-process.htm>

* How would you describe the culture and environment of your school?

Yes, Olympia is a great place to live, work, and study! It is the State Capital so there are plenty of opportunities to collaborate with State and Federal Agencies. We are nestled between the Olympics and Cascade Mountain Ranges on the shores of Puget Sound. Evergreen is a small, liberal arts school with approximately 3,500 students on a 1,000+ acre campus which includes a 2.5 acre organic farm, miles of forest trails, and over a mile of beach on Puget Sound. Many students are outdoor enthusiasts and generally interested in environmental and social justice issues. The Master of Environmental Studies Program includes two cohorts (groups that begin and go through the Program together) of 45 students across a broad range of ages and backgrounds. Many students come from a Natural Science background while others are entering the environmental field from outside. Students learn from each other as well as their Faculty whose expertise are equally as diverse.

* Do you currently have AmeriCorps alumni at your school? If so, can you connect me to them so I can hear about their experiences?

Absolutely! Trace McKellips is a second year student and AmeriCorps alum. Here is his email [mcktra18@evergreen.edu](mailto:mcktra18@evergreen.edu)

* What steps can I take to ensure my application is as competitive as possible?

Study for the GRE, we have resources on our application webpage <http://www.evergreen.edu/mes/apply.htm>

Foster 3 people to write letter of recommendation for you to describe your ability to do excellent graduate-level work in writing, analysis, quantitative abilities, and general communication skills

Make sure that you have the prerequisites: 4 quarter credit hours in each Statistics, Natural Science, and Social Science <http://www.evergreen.edu/mes/prerequisites.htm>

Develop a resume which reflects your commitment to environmental issues by showing experience with hobbies, jobs, volunteer opportunities, and education.

Think about why you want to study environmental issues from an inter-disciplinary perspective and be prepared to write a 500-1000 word essay describing your enthusiasm.

* What’s the best way to follow up on my application and with questions after the fair?

I would love to hear from you at any time! My contact information is [mayh@evergreen.edu](mailto:mayh@evergreen.edu), 360-867-6225.

Please sign up on our mailing list to receive emails about upcoming events, <https://evergreenstatecollege.hobsonsradius.com/ssc/iform/G00x72c08670x6700kEB00l.ssc>