**Recruitment Trip Class Presentation Outline**

**Intro:**

Hi, my name is Anna. I am a 2nd year student in the Master of Environmental Studies program at The Evergreen State College, a public 4-year located in Olympia, WA. I graduated from HSU in 2014 with a degree in Environmental Science – Policy, and am excited to share my experience at Evergreen State with HSU students. I will spend the next few minutes talking about Evergreen State’s Master of Environmental Studies degree program and why it may be a great fit for you. I’ll be able to answer a few questions after my presentation.

I will be passing around an interest form. Feel free to write your name and email if you would like to receive updates on the program.

*Transitional questions to ask:*

Has anyone heard of Evergreen State?

Who is interested in going to grad school?

**Main:**

**-MES is a 2 year Interdisciplinary graduate program**

Students and faculty come from natural and social science backgrounds.
Core classes, taught in the evenings are taught by two to three faculty with different expertise.
Example: I took a class that was co-taught by an economist, biogeochemist, and a political ecologist.

**-Similarities/Differences to HSU**

Similarities:
-Similar campus culture: Progressive, sustainability driven, smaller school.
-beautiful location: we have a beach on-campus, hiking trails, two hours away from two national parks (Olympic and Rainier)

Differences:
-No grades! We are on a pass/fail system. Narrative evaluation based.
-Olympia is the capital of Washington, which means there are several opportunities for MES students and grads to work with the state government. Example – SPP or WSDOT wetlands internship
-An hour from Seattle and two hours from Portland. You can enjoy the ‘big city’ for the day without having to drive far.
--Accessibility to further job and internship opportunities.
 Ex: I had an internship in Tacoma, a city 30 minutes from Olympia.

**-Program Structure**
-Diversity of students and faculty. Students come from a wide array of disciplines, not just from the biological and natural sciences.
-Faculty come from different disciplines, such as geography, economics, ecology, etc. They also only teach in the MES department.
-In first year 1st year, develop interests in the environmental studies field, connect with faculty, intern or volunteer. 2nd year students, MES students are assigned a faculty member to advise them.
-time for interning, working, or volunteering since classes are at night.
-typical schedule is Tue/Wed/Thu or Mon/Wed/Thu the first year and a first quarter of 2nd year and then much less class time after that since you are working on thesis.

 **Conclusion**
Thank you for listening. If you are thinking of pursuing a graduate degree in environmental studies, please consider Evergreen as an option. *(If the presentation is given before the grad fair)* I will be at the HSU grad fair on Thursday from 10am to 2pm in the UC quad. Feel free to stop by if you have further questions and talk more about the MES degree.

**Questions to expect:**
*Is there a part time option?*
Yes, it is a three year program.

*How many units is the degree?*
72

*When do applications open/close?*
October 1, 2015. Priority deadline is February 15, 2016.

*Is a thesis required or optional?*Required – the program helps guide you through the process.

*What kind of jobs do alumni have?*
It really depends. Many end up working for the government, but there are some who work for environmental non-profits, consulting firms, or start their own businesses. They are located all over the US and even abroad.

*Do I need to take the GRE?*
Yes, the GRE is required. Take no later than early January for Fall 16. Even if you aren’t going to apply to grad school right away, you should take it over spring break or right after you graduate since the scores last for 5 years, and you’ll probably be at your best test-taking skills!

*How many students are accepted into the program?*
There are about 45 students in the new cohort.

*Can you get a PhD after?*
Yes.

*What steps do I need to take before I apply?*
Sign-up to take the GRE, 3 letter of recommendations, purpose statement, be sure pre-reqs are met.

*What are the pre-requisites for the program?*
-one course in social science (economics, sociology, etc.)
-one course in natural science (biology, chemistry, botany)
-one course in statistics
(have to take within last 5 years, so Fall 2011 if applying for Fall 16)

*Financial Aid?*

-Most students cover tuition through a combo of scholarships from MES, loans, and work