

#### Application Related Information

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Application: Application Incomplete  
Grad Program Applying To: MPA

Iteration Name: 202410\_GR\_G  
Program Name: MPA

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By: Amy Cook  
Recommenders Institution: TESC  
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.  
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: Professor  
Contact Name: Zachary Young  
Recommendation Waiver Choice:  
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 02/10/2023 05:37 PM  
Recommendation Type: General  
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000109028167

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.  
Recommender Form: MPA Letter of Recommendation/Form  
Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

#### Recommender Form Questions

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How long have you known applicant:	3.5 years	Applicant ability as self-directed learner:	Zach has shown this ability multiple times in the programs he has taken from me
Time since last contact with applicant:	1 week	Applicant as productive member of group:	Zach is very reliable and clearly shows respect for others in a way that results in him getting along well with a wide variety of people and is skilled in all aspects of collaboration and group work.
Relationship with Applicant:	Student in several programs	Applicant most significant strengths:	Zach is mature, with a high degree of emotional stability – taking setbacks in stride and maintaining a positive self image. He also has a high degree of integrity.
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Excellent	Responsibility/reliability:	Outstanding
Communication Skills - Oral:	Very Good	Communication skills - written:	Very Good
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Outstanding	Ability to work independently:	Outstanding
Ability to handle stress:	Outstanding	Ability to think critically:	Excellent
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Excellent	Ability to think creatively:	Excellent
Openness to feedback:	Outstanding	Potential for leadership:	Very Good
Ability to work in a team:	Outstanding	Personal/professional reflection:	Outstanding

#### Description Information

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Description:

Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radiu>

#### Other Information

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Created Time: 01/30/2023 07:53 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 02/10/2023 05:37 PM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier



February 10, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to recommend Zachery Young for the Masters of Public Administration Program at The Evergreen State College. Zach was a student in several of my programs at Evergreen including Salmon, Raven and Whale in Fall 2017, Island Ecology and Evolution in Fall 2019, and Advanced Topics in the Biology of Sharks and Rays in Spring 2021. Each of these programs showcased characteristics of Zach that I believe will lead to his success in the MPA Program.

Salmon, Raven and Whale brought together the natural history, human culture and history and art of the Pacific Northwest. This program reinforced the lessons Zach learned as part of his AmeriCorps experience – the interplay between the natural world and human culture. In the case of SRW, the focus of our studies was on Northwest Indigenous culture. Zach clearly demonstrated his ability to engage in deep, interdisciplinary thinking in seminar papers, class discussions, and other elements of the program.

Both Island Ecology and Evolution and Advanced Topics in the Biology of Sharks and Rays were more science-intensive programs and Zach clearly demonstrated his ability to do advanced work in the sciences. In seminar discussions and assignments in both of these programs, Zach showed good critical thinking skills and was clearly comfortable navigating the professional literature. His paper in Advanced Topics on pelagic shark fishing in the Pacific Ocean provided him with a taste of the challenges of library research. He gained skills in planning a research project, developing good research questions, problem-solving around establishing what scale will be doable, and completing the work in a timely manner. All of these are skills that he can apply to doing a Masters thesis project.

Overall, Zach is a dedicated student with a number of characteristics that make me think that he will be successful in graduate school. He was struggling with some intense issues in his housing situation while taking Salmon, Raven and Whale, but kept his faculty informed and kept up with all program assignments. In this and in other interactions over the course of his time in my programs, Zach has clearly shown that he is mature, with a high degree of emotional stability – taking setbacks in stride and maintaining a positive self image. He has a high degree of integrity, is very reliable and clearly shows respect for others in a way that results in him getting along well with a wide variety of people and is skilled in the art of collaboration.



I am confident that Zach would do well in the MPA program at Evergreen. The Public Policy concentration seems like a particularly good fit with his long-term goals and his personality and experiences inside and outside of the classroom make him well-suited to this field. I feel that Zach has a strong future as a well-rounded person who engages in deep, interdisciplinary thinking and can see and communicate how his work fits into a larger context.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Cook". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name "Cook" being more prominent.

Dr. Amy Cook

Member of the Faculty  
The Evergreen State College  
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