Emily Poulin

22 Heritage Boulevard

Longview, Washington 98632

Dear FHL Program Administrators,

My name is Emily Poulin, I am a sophomore in the honors program at the University of Washington, and I am writing to apply for the Marine Invertebrate Zoology course. I want to begin by saying I am passionate about pursuing a career in marine science. I spent the summer of 2018 taking courses at FHL, and this provided me with exposure to an exciting field of study that I am planning to dedicate my life to. I hope to return to FHL this summer because the time that I spent at the labs challenged me to work at a level more advanced that had ever been asked to before in my previous classes. I enjoyed this challenge because I am hoping to earn a Ph.D. in marine science after completing my undergraduate studies, and I believe that FHL is a fundamental stepping stone to find out what topics I am most passionate about.

At UW my academics have consisted of chemistry, biology, mathematics, and oceanography courses. During my summer at FHL, I had the chance to finally focus on marine biology through taking courses on marine botany and the ecology of marine birds and mammals. I conducted an experiment on the relationship between *S. sessilis* gametophytes and coralline algae using PCR, and my partner for this project is presenting our findings at the Western Society of Naturalists conference next weekend. For my second course, I studied the distribution of Harbor seal mother-pup pairs at different tide heights on Yellow Island, and this project inspired me to consider a career in marine mammalogy. My summer at FHL allowed me to become more integrated with the marine biology community at UW Seattle, and I am currently assisting on Chris D. Well’s research project that is examining anemone niches in the Salish Sea.

During my time at the labs, I could often be found in the marine invertebrate laboratory examining the animals. I am fascinated by them, and I have not had the opportunity to study marine invertebrates in detail at this point in my academics. I would love to take this course at FHL because of the diversity of organisms in this region along with the fieldwork that accompanies the course that would not be possible to experience at UW Seattle. If you select me for your program, I can promise that you will see a person who is passionate, willing to learn, and dedicated to improving herself and the people that she works for and with. Many of my closest friends at UW I have made through my classes at FHL, and I would love to take on the challenge that comes with taking advanced coursework. I will throw myself into this program because I know that hard work is required to achieve meaningful outcomes. Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to hearing from you. If there is any additional information I can provide, please let me know.

Best regards,

Emily