

Rene Hurtado
WLC 300
Personal Statement
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I remember when I lived in Mexico as a little boy and saw my father give basketball lessons. I also had the privilege of seeing my grandfather give physical education classes in Mexico and see the impact they had on the lives of their students. To this day, their former students still remember them with great appreciation and affection. The moment their former students told me in a basketball reunion the impact that my father and grandfather had in their lives, that's when I decided to dedicate myself to education as well. If I had stayed in Mexico I think that right now I would have been a physical education teacher like my grandfather and would have my own basketball academy like my father. However, when I was 14 years old, my brother and I saw the opportunity to come live in the United States to follow our dreams since we were kids, of playing basketball in high school and also learning another language. When I got to Salinas I saw the diversity of cultures that existed in the city and that a majority of the population speaks Spanish. I got involved with their culture and that's when I decided to go for a bachelor degree in Spanish and so far I am very passionate about it.

I chose California State University, Monterey Bay because it is close to my second home in Salinas and also because of its educational opportunities and the support it provides to future teachers. I personally would like to get my credential in teaching and teach in the Monterey area but I am still open to other places. So far I have learned a lot at CSUMB, I have also studied subjects that I had never taken before, such as linguistics and literature. Although my first language is Spanish, I have seen a change in myself and have seen how my language skills have improved in Spanish.

My goal is to pursue my bachelor's degree in Spanish and then pursue the California single subject teaching credential in order to be a Spanish teacher at the high school level. I have always wanted to be an educator and right now Monterey County needs teachers so it would be the perfect time to be one. When I studied Spanish at Hartnell college I felt very passionate about choosing this major because I started to learn about new cultures, I started learning more about literature and its history, and also linguistics. Becoming a teacher would be a dream come true because since I was a child I always imagined myself in the classroom sharing my knowledge of the language. I hope and in the future I will be a teacher and have a positive impact in the life of my future students. This would mean everything to me.