

**Sharon Brennan**  
**Teaching Statement**  
**1/15/21**

I am thrilled to be so close to starting my career as a music educator. Supporting students as they learn and grow is something I am incredibly passionate about. I hope to become an elementary general music and/or choir teacher. I would also be interested in teaching high school or middle school choir. Each level would present different musical and educational opportunities. I want to learn more about what each grade has to offer through my experience student teaching and the early years of my teaching.

The education courses I have taken while attending Central Washington University (CWU) have greatly expanded my knowledge. I plan to utilize the teaching methods I have gained through my courses. I will use differentiated instruction to ensure my students can all have equal access to the content regardless of their learning style. Inquiry based learning is another method of teaching that I will use because it encourages students to be active and engaged. I will make sure that all of the content that I teach is accessible to all my students. I want students of diverse backgrounds to feel seen and heard in my classes. I will ensure that my content is taught in a way that grants all students equal opportunity to be successful. This includes students who may be English language learners, students with disabilities, and students who come from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Central Washington University (CWU) and its music department has given me endless opportunities to better myself as a musician, future educator, and human being. I have been inspired since the first day I stepped foot on campus. My professors have not let a day go by without sharing their contagious enthusiasm and passion for the art of music. They have helped me to understand why music is so valuable. I will take this energy and knowledge with me every day that I teach. I will utilize my conducting skills, choral and vocal methods, along with many other skills I have learned in my music courses. I am very grateful for the experiences I have gained while being a part of the CWU music department. The knowledge I have gained will continue to shape who I am for the entirety of my professional career.

I am looking forward to completing my degree here at CWU because it enables me to be in the classroom and work with students. I have gained a plethora of knowledge from my CWU courses, professors, and mentors. I know that my education will continue as I enter the classroom as a student teacher and I am so excited to begin this journey.