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To Whom It May Concern:

I am taking this opportunity to express my support for Matthew Hernandez. I am a Political Science major and Philosophy minor graduating from UNC-Chapel Hill in May of 2019. During my time at UNC, I had the pleasure of taking both PHIL 112 - Making Sense of Ourselves and PHIL 274 - African-American Political Philosophy with Matt. Prior to my first class with him, I had limited experience with philosophy; Making Sense of Ourselves significantly influenced my desire to continue my studies in philosophy.

In the classroom, Matt did an excellent job of structuring class in way that was conducive to learning and growth as a philosopher. Readings were always relevant and interesting, and he always made an effort to include a variety of diverse authors. Much of the material he used, especially his lectures on moral taint and anger, I find myself reflecting on well beyond the conclusion of the class. Lecture was consistently interactive and supportive of students' ideas. Once-a-week discussion days were particularly helpful in developing independent thoughts and interacting with others. These helped solidify ideas and opinions. Matt was also very present in the small groups, making himself available to clarify ideas, answer questions, and provide constructive feedback. He was very knowledgeable and seems to truly care about his students development as both people and philosophers.

Beyond his teaching skills and philosophical knowledge, what stands out about Matt is his attitude and character. As his student, I appreciated his patience, ability to connect with his students, and humble demeanor. His grading and feedback was always helpful and fair; He took his time in providing thorough and direct comments. He had an appropriate amount of flexibility and attentiveness to students and consistently had a positive and open attitude. Matt is the kind of person who not only is a great teacher, but a great person.

I recommend Matt for any position without hesitation and believe he is sure to be a positive addition anywhere he goes. If you have any further questions, I'm happy to provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Annah Bachman

