



April 3, 2015

I am delighted to be writing a letter of recommendation of behalf of Ms. Blaise Badynee. Ms. Badynee completed her Masters in Linguistics with a Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) specialization at Oakland University in the Department of Linguistics. She completed the following courses that I teach in the TESL Program: ALS 518 Teaching Methods for Second Language Learning, ALS 519 TESL Practicum, and ALS 517 Second Language Acquisition. In addition, I was the first reader for her LIN 680 Seminar paper. These courses present past and current methodology used in second language teaching, theory, practice and assessment and the opportunity to teach a class of ESL students for one semester (ALS 519). Participants in the Graduate TESL Specialization Program are required to create a curriculum, authentic assessments, and daily lesson plans that can be used to teach listening, speaking, reading and writing skills at all proficiency levels.

While taking ALS 518 Teaching Methods for Second Language Learning, Ms. Badynee was required to create lesson plans that could be used in an ESL classroom to teach speaking, listening, reading comprehension, and writing. Her lessons were always clear and concise and she devised activities that encouraged every student to be involved in single, pair, or group activities. Her creative lesson plans demonstrated her ability to differentiate her teaching and to truly address the needs of every student in her classroom.

Ms. Badynee understands the importance of assessment, and she incorporated evaluation in each lesson that she developed. In ALS 538, she created authentic assessment and evaluation materials that allowed her to assess the students' proficiency development in speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing throughout the course. In ALS 518, she designed and facilitated a theme-based curriculum and daily lesson plans to meet the second language needs of her students. Her professionalism in her lesson development was always of the highest level.

Ms. Badynee established an outstanding rapport with her student teaching colleagues as well as with the staff, faculty, and students in Oakland University's Linguistics Department. She is consistently cooperative and collaborates with others very well. She is flexible and always maintains a positive tone. Her care and respect for colleagues and her students is always evident. She exhibits a calm and caring demeanor yet is always energetic and ready to take on any task.

Ms. Badynee continuously looked for ways to expand her own knowledge through academic study in areas involving language learning. She has high teaching standards and encourages her students to also work to be the very best that they can be.



Ms. Badynee has a strong working knowledge of the English language and linguistics as well as effective teaching methodologies that she is able to transfer to teaching Spanish. She is always open to suggestions and is highly motivated to continue improving her teaching and knowledge of linguistics and applied linguistics. She is insightful, reflective, and consistently thoughtful about her teaching and always learns from her experience.

It has been a pleasure to work with Ms. Badynee and I highly recommend her as a language instructor. She is a highly qualified instructor and a lifelong learner. Her ability to understand and adapt to other cultures, to cater to the needs, abilities, and proficiency levels of her students, and to work effectively with others from cultures different from her own, makes her a tremendous asset to any language program.

Sincerely,

Rebecca H. Gaydos
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