

Herman Debose, Chair
Department of Sociology
California State University, Northridge

Dear Dr. Debose,

I was one of Professor Gerald Schuttes's undergraduate students in his hybrid Soc 364/497 class in the spring of 2011, at California State University, Northridge. Under his supervision I successfully completed the very high level sixteen week semester of social statistics and social research methodologies. Additionally, I am both pleased and honored to be able to write a letter of recommendation for Jerry.

Jerry is a highly motivated Professor and always goes above and beyond the call of duty. He is completely and utterly devoted to the success of his students, and makes it a point at the beginning of each semester that, "he will not let his students fail" – each other or themselves. Jerry has developed a seamless lesson plan for each of his courses, and monitors the progress of his students regularly. He understands the natural fears and limitations of the class and works tirelessly to increase the level of knowledge and self-confidence within each of his students. Additionally, Jerry encourages his students to give him both negative and positive feedback. He strives to improve anything that could better assist his students and their educational experience. Jerry has proven himself to be a primary example of what a college professor should be and more.

The classroom experience was a truly life-changing experience for me. As a graduating senior on the precipice of graduation, I still found myself confused on all dimensions of life. Jerry took the time to mentor me and instilled upon me a level of self-confidence I that never had. I walked into his class as a fearsome graduating senior afraid of the "real world" and walked out as an adult ready to take charge of my future. I'm fortunate to say, that now I have an amazing career in the field of Market Research, and it's largely in part to the wonderful instruction and dedication of Jerry. I never knew how great of a researcher I would be until I took soc 364/497.

In summary, Jerry has displayed the qualities that make for a perfect recipient of the CSUN Distinguished Teaching Award. He is a prime example of what a college professor should be and an excellent example for faculty throughout the university. I truly pride myself in knowing that I had the opportunity of being instructed by one of the best University professors in the CSU system.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosaelena Marquez, B.A.
Soc 364/497 Alumni Student