

09/29/16

Dear Shenandoah Conservatory Evaluation Committee,

This is my letter of recommendation for Assistant Professor of Music Production and Recording Technology (MPRT), Mr. Adam Olson. During my time as an undergraduate student at Shenandoah University, Professor Olson was my assigned faculty advisor and taught several classes that were essential to the completion of my degree in Music Production and Recording Technology. I also had the opportunity to work closely with Professor Olson in my work-study position as a student supervisor in the Ruebush Mac Lab. I consider Professor Olson to be an exemplary educator with a very strong work ethic who works tirelessly to stay on the cutting edge of Music Production and Recording Technology.

As a transfer student, I needed a dependable academic advisor when I came to Shenandoah University. I am very thankful to have had Professor Olson as my faculty advisor, because he was always easily accessible and willing to help. I went to my advising sessions knowing that I could rely on Professor Olson to give me good advice and to point me in the right direction. There were a few times when I needed to take upper level courses early, and I wasn't confident that I could be successful. Each time that happened, I went to Professor Olson, and he told me that he believed I could handle it. He always encouraged me to challenge myself as a student, and I believe that I greatly benefitted from that encouragement.

Professor Olson taught some of the most challenging and rewarding courses that I took while I was in the MPRT Program at Shenandoah University. He is an educator who expects his students to go above and beyond what is required, because that is what the recording industry demands. I never had any issues getting extra help after class, during office hours or via email. Over time, I came to realize that if Professor Olson was in his office, all I had to do was knock on his door to get help. His projects and assignments really allowed me to push the boundaries of what I was capable of accomplishing, and his lectures were always very well presented.

The thing that really makes Professor Olson stand out as an educator is how much time he devotes to his work. I've seen him in his office still working well after midnight on numerous occasions, and his car is still somehow the first one on the Ruebush lot the following morning. I truly don't know how he does it. His time management skills are beyond impressive along with his ability to multitask and his enthusiasm for teaching. Great teachers lead by example, and Professor Olson is no exception. I will forever be thankful for the lessons that I learned in his classes and feel that he is a truly remarkable educator.

Regards,

Justin Hall