



Jennifer Flad, Ph.D.
412 Maxwell Hall
Syracuse, NY 13244

To Whom it May Concern:

It was my pleasure to attend a guest lecture on April 10th, 2019 by Dustin Satterfield, a graduate student in the department of sociology, on the topic of health and disability. The lecture was in a very large classroom with 150 students. Dustin is my teaching assistant for this class and conducts discussion sections on Fridays with three sections of 25 students. I offer my second semester graduate students an opportunity to prepare and give a lecture and Dustin took me up on the offer. The size of this class makes it essential that the instructor creates clear visuals and uses accessible audio (usually a microphone is needed to ensure students can hear). It also requires the instructor to prepare pedagogically for this new environment. Dustin used a variety of PowerPoint slides with text, visual examples for the class to apply and analyze, and a conversational tone with lots of opportunities for student engagement.

Dustin chose to lecture on the topic of health and disability. In preparing for this lecture, we met to discuss the overall learning goals of the lecture. Dustin evaluated the assessment criteria for the content and created lecture content that linked to those specific goals and assessment criteria. Dustin chose examples and visuals that helped to spark conversation in the lecture. Several times, students engaged by raising their hands and participating in the conversation she helped to foster.

During the lecture, Dustin spoke in a casual tone and remained focused on the class by not relying on notes or slides for information. She was prepared and versed in the material. She asked students questions throughout the lecture and patiently waited for responses, giving them time to think through the questions and raise their hands to contribute. Dustin introduced complicated content regarding disability theory and helped to explain and elaborate on the theory both verbally and visually to give students multiple examples of how the theory is and can be applied within our current society.

Overall, I was extremely impressed by Dustin's lecture and presence in the classroom. She is a skilled instructor who can adapt active learning pedagogical styles to a large lecture classroom.

Warm Regards,
Jennifer Flad, Ph.D.