

Application Related Information

Application: Application Incomplete
Grad Program Applying To: MPA

Iteration Name: 202510_GR_G
Program Name: MPA

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Kyle Pittman
Recommenders Institution: The evergreen state college
NPP

Recommenders Title: Teacher
Contact Name: Scott Robertson

Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.

Recommendation Waiver Choice: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.

Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 04/03/2024 11:35 PM

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant with reservation.

Recommendation Type: General

Recommender Form: MPA Letter of Recommendation/Form

Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000118182415

Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

How long have you known applicant:

2.5 years

Applicant ability as self-directed learner: Overall, Scott preferred to work independently during his time as my student and though he needed correction at times, he did not usually need further direction or instruction beyond what was initially provided and did prove his capabilities to conduct research and complete fairly rigorous assignments on his own.

Time since last contact with
applicant:

Applicant as productive
member of group:

I believe Scott has the potential to be a productive member of a group. More often than not, he did not prove to be a source of support for the groups he was assigned to work with during his time in my classes, either because of his absence from class, lack of responsiveness, or neglect to consider the learning materials. However, Scott did work well with others that he forged strong relationships with and, after firm feedback, did correct his actions and began engaging more with others. I can also imagine that in his line of work, he does maintain a fair ability to work with others collaboratively and in group settings and recognizes the values of this type of work. His aversion to it during his undergraduate studies may have been related to the lack of perceived relevance of the course material or the different attitude present amongst students rather than colleagues.

Nearly a year

Relationship with Applicant:		Applicant most significant strengths:	Scott's most significant and relevant strengths lie in his ethics, values, and reflective attitude. He is clearly someone who wants to "do" good in the world and has chosen a career that inherently involved supporting others through trials that not many others choose to cope with. I have great respect for those in this line of work and I know it takes a deep strength of character and drive to continue in it, which speaks to the kind of strengths one must have to pursue graduate studies in a service-oriented discipline. With firm direction and honest feedback, Scott is fully capable of making necessary corrections should his ambitions waver when completing coursework.
	Professor		
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Above Average	Responsibility/reliability:	Above Average
Communication Skills - Oral:	Below Average	Communication skills - written:	Above Average
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Excellent	Ability to work independently:	Very Good
Ability to handle stress:	Unable to Judge	Ability to think critically:	Excellent
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Very Good	Ability to think creatively:	Unable to Judge
Openness to feedback:	Very Good	Potential for leadership:	Above Average
Ability to work in a team:	Below Average	Personal/professional reflection:	Above Average

Description Information

Description:

Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radius>

Other Information

Created Time: 04/02/2024 06:49 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 04/03/2024 11:35 PM

Modified By: Josephine Bernier



Date: April 3, 2024

RE: Letter of Recommendation for
Scott Robertson

To the Master of Public Administration Admissions Committee,

My name is Kyle Pittman and I am a Member of the Faculty at The Evergreen State College where I am assigned to teach with the Native Pathways Program (NPP). I am writing this letter of recommendation for **Scott Robertson's** application for admission to the Master of Public Administration program at The Evergreen State College.

During his time in undergraduate studies, I worked with Scott in my roles as a part-time adjunct faculty and then as a full-time faculty member. Therefore, I was able to observe and evaluate Scott's performance from multiple angles. Overall, Scott was able to achieve the learning outcomes and objectives in each successive quarter adequately and was a persistent student who occasionally exceeded the average performance of fellow classmates. Scott's writing abilities were consistent, and his soft skills steadily improved during my time as his faculty member, particularly his comprehension and analytical thinking. Scott also tended to follow assignment requirements exactly as written, preferring his work to meet stated expectations rather than striving to achieve a standard beyond the minimum.

Most notably, Scott displayed a perceptive and calculated communication style when engaging with other students. He sometimes took on the role of a contrarian and used this to invoke the critical thinking faculties of other students, demonstrating a desire to preserve the diversity of thought within the learning community. Scott also served as an elected officer on the NPP's Student Governance, a body of students that works to facilitate aspects of the curriculum and enrich the social dynamics of the program. As the Treasurer, he took on a position of responsibility to manage the finances of this group and worked closely with others to plan the annual NPP graduation ceremony.



While Scott does have several noteworthy achievements in this regard, he also has some major areas for improvement. With his tendency to follow instructions exactly as stated, Scott sometimes submitted work with the minimum effort required to pass and did not typically take advantage of additional learning resources or scholastic opportunities provided by the program, even choosing to leave scheduled class sessions early without an explanation. Despite having moments of insight during class periods, he was an infrequent participant in discussions and sometimes struggled to work collaboratively with others.

Toward the end of his undergraduate studies, there were times that I had frank conversations with him about his efforts falling short of expectations. Admirably, Scott did accept responsibility for his actions and made modest improvements after receiving guidance, which reflects favorably on his earnest desire to do well in his studies and ability to assess his own progress. Additionally, while he primarily opted to work independently, Scott did forge strong relationships with a few classmates, expressing the potential to work well with others.

Scott has strong personal values and made a career of supporting those experiencing issues with substance abuse, indicating an ethic toward public service and a potential need to increase his knowledge and skillset around organizational/institutional resources so as to continue providing support for those less fortunate. Although I have faith in Scott's moral character and aspirations, his commitment to academic integrity and excellent performance can be lacking.

Therefore, it is with reservation that I recommend Scott be accepted into the Master of Public Administration program. If there are any questions, please reach out to me with the contact information below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kyle Pittman', with a stylized, flowing script.

Kyle Pittman, MPA

Member of the Faculty
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