

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to recommend Maddison McGann.

I've had numerous teachers, professors, instructors, etc. in my young life. I've had terrible teachers that didn't seem to know or care about the content they were teaching. I've also had incredible, renown teachers that have influenced me greatly, improving my skills and shaping how I think. Maddison falls into the category of incredible teachers that I have had. I was instantly impressed by her in my first Rhetoric class in August of 2018. Right away, I could tell that she has a passion for what she teaches, something I find to be the most important quality of an educator. She addressed what rhetoric was, explaining Ethos, Pathos, and Logos, but more importantly, she told us how important rhetoric is.

Maddison taught me how many groups of people are constantly fighting for my attention, my time, my vote, my money, my health, and my life. She told me how these groups are trying to influence me and profit off of me with the words they use and how they use them. Many times, the influences trying to sway my mind don't have my best interests at heart. The groups are overwhelming in power and manipulative tactics, but Maddie equipped me with the tools to identify, deconstruct, and combat negative rhetoric that is thrown my way. I can use rhetorical devices to my advantage when understanding all of the information I take in and communicating my own ideas strategically. This has now become a huge part of my everyday life and has given me the ability perceive things through my own eyes rather than be shaped by corrupt influences.

Not only has Maddie impressed me and opened my eyes to new ways of thinking, but she also provided digestible learning content through clear, concise teaching methods. Her instructions to us were thorough and understandable, never confusing. Lesson plans were easy to follow and understand so there was no waste of energy spent on misinterpreting or deconstructing the packing of the intended message. Learning in her class was engaging. We were regularly sparking intelligent discussion in class. There were relevant applications the lessons being taught, and most of the applications dealt with real life matters. Her strategies and exercises had intention and energy. All the energy behind the rhetorical practices in this class can now be directly converted into action, and action into change. Rhetoric is a powerful tool that I have learned the basics of thanks to Maddison.

I cannot stress how important it is for students to be taught by capable educators. We are at a time in our lives where we are learning the most we ever will. We are developing our own identities. We are making huge decisions that influence the rest of our lives; we are making decisions that inevitably influence those around us. To be given meaningful and comprehensible knowledge by teachers that understand their role and power as educators is everything. They give us the means to take control of our development, identities, and decisions. I am proud to have had Maddison McGann as a rhetoric teacher. She has been an empowering influence on my thinking. Her future students will be enlightened.

With thoughtful reflection,

Keegan Konsor

