

# MEMORANDUM

Date: 24 September, 2022

To: Profesors, recommenders and contacts of reference at UofA

From: Samuel Rodriguez

Regarding: Letters of recommendation

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Below, I have listed the programs that I will be applying for, for the 2023-2024 graduate school application cycle. All of these are PhD programs.

Below I have provided all of the relevant information necessary to construct and write a letter! Once again, thank you for agreeing to write a letter of recommendation for my graduate school applications!

Some reminders and other pieces of information:

- I participated in the UROC/AWARDSS research training program over the course of the last academic year
- I was a recipient of the WRPFC training stipend for my research on a PIMSA grant, which focuses on minority groups in border communities
- I attended the APA convention (2022) and participated in a presentation panel.
- I have worked diligently on two separate projects, one of which I am the PI of, and the other in which I was the project coordinator.
- I am currently enrolled in PSY directed research under the guide of Dr. Purnima Madhivanan and Dr. Karl Krupp.
- I will be pursuing different PhD programs in counseling/clinical psychology
- My main research interests focus on minority communities and mental health within them. My research is designed to aid underserved communities and provide new methods of mental health intervention in said communities.

## **Personal Information:**

**Student Name:** Samuel Rodriguez

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**Cell Phone:** 520-355-9767

**Curent Major:** Psychological Sciences (B.S.)

**Current Minor:** Spanish/Music performance

**Cum GPA:** 3.5

Long term career goals: Work as a counseling/clinical psychologist in private practice, or at a research University. I am working to be a tenured University affiliate, and at some point in my career work as a private practitioner.

Intended Graduate Degree: PhD

**Background Information:**

First generation hispanic student in my immediate family	I will be the first person in my immediate family to graduate college with a bachelors degree. Both my parents are educators however neither of them have their degrees.
Part of the UROC/AWARDSS research program	The UROC/AWARDSS training program has proven to be a very beneficial program for me, as it has simulated what grad school might look like, and has exposed me to high levels of research management.
Independant research with undergraduate mentors	Even before being admitted into the UROC/AWARDSS program, I was involved with independent research through a UA lab, and as a mentee under the guidance of Dr. Krupp and Dr. Madhivanan. I have worked on personal projects with these mentors, and have designed, constructed and worked through the IRB processes of both projects. I have done outreach, data collection, and translation for both projects. I also am the PI, and project coordinator for these projects.
Classically trained on viola	I have spent 12 years playing the violin at first, then now ultimately the viola. I have been taking private lessons since the 5th grade and now am being classically trained by Dr. Molly Gebrian at the UofA. I have particiapted in many different orchestras, chamber groups, and summer camps through music.
Economic Situation	Coming from a lower income hispanic family, it has been quite challenging to manage all of the things I do financially. I am only able to go to college because of the financial aid I have earned myself through my work in highschool. I live off of living stipends and scholarships, and have worked *very* hard to

	maintain them. My parents come from lower income families that emigrated from Mexico.
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### **PhD Applications:**

The following tables provide all of the information regarding the application processes for each programs I plan on applying to.

<b>School and Department</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Primary Faculty</b>	<b>Research Match</b>
1.) University of Arizona  Psychology Department  Due Date: December 1st	PhD in Clinical Psychology	Dr. Heidi Hamann	Research with minority groups and the hispanic population - cancer research and mental resiliency of patients
2.) Indiana University  Psychology/Education Department  Due Date: November 15th *****	PhD in counseling/clinical psychology	Dr. Joel Wong*** (#1 choice)  I met Dr. Wong at the APA convention in Minneapolis, and we have been in touch for quite some time since then.	Masculinities and research focus on minority mental health. Research interest specifically on masculinity in minority communities
3.) Washington State University  Psychology Department  Due Date: December 1st	PhD in clinical psychology	Dr. Chris Barry	Adolsecent narcissism and self-esteem
4.) ASU  Psychology	PhD Clinical Psychology	Dr. Rick Cruz	Work with the hispanic population and its youth

Department			
Due Date: December 1st			
5.) Texas A&M  Psychology department  Due Date: December 1st	PhD Clinical Psychology	Dr. Brian Albanese	Work on risk factors associated with anxiety and other forms of mental illness
6.) UNC Chapel Hill  Psychology Department  Due Date: December 13th	PhD in clinical Psychology	Dr. Deborah Jones*** (2nd best choice)	Working with underserved families. Work on risk and resilience within households.
7.) Penn State  Psychology Department  Due Date: December 1st.	PhD in Clinical Psychology	Dr. Martha Wadsworth*** (3rd best choice)	Working with children in lower income and poverty stricken communities. Mental health factors associated with poverty.