**To Whom It May Concern,**

I am writing to provide my assessment of Professor Jameson Watts; under whose instruction I completed my **DATA 510 Graduate Capstone** during my final year in the Master of Data Science (MSDS) program at Willamette University. The capstone served as our culminating experience, tying together the technical, analytical, and real-world application aspects of Data Science.

Professor Watts demonstrated exceptional dedication to preparing us for the realities of the industry. He organized multiple sessions featuring guest speakers—Data Scientists, Consultants, and other industry experts—giving us up-to-date perspectives on what it truly means to work in the Data Science realm. This blend of industry insights and academic rigor helped me gain confidence and sharpen my professional focus. In particular, I appreciated the opportunity to participate in mock interviews with a Machine Learning Engineer from Cambria, which gave me practical feedback on how to handle real-world Data Science interviews.

Throughout the course, Professor Watts showed strong leadership by balancing academic deadlines with the demands of a collaborative, project-based environment. The capstone experience effectively mirrored a professional team setting, requiring that we manage our time, communication, and analytic responsibilities to deliver a polished final product. In this setting, Professor Watts’s straightforward guidance and regular check-ins ensured we stayed on track without sacrificing the creativity inherent to Data Science projects.

One area for potential improvement would be the level of technical scaffolding provided. Occasionally, Professor Watts assumed a deeper background knowledge of certain complex terms or methods. A bit more in-depth explanation would have helped solidify our understanding, particularly for those of us still refining these foundational skills. Nonetheless, he was always approachable and receptive to questions, illustrating his genuine interest in our success.

In summary, Professor Watts’s teaching style blends professionalism with practical insight, preparing students to meet industry demands and adapt to the dynamic nature of Data Science. His effectiveness in exposing students to real-world practices, coupled with his accessibility and dedication, significantly contributed to my growth as a budding data professional. It is my pleasure to offer this positive review for Professor Watts as he stands for promotion to Full Professor.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my experience. If you require any additional details, feel free to contact me.

**Sincerely,**  
Brian Adolfo Cervantes Alvarez  
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