

Date: April 13, 2022

To: Dr. Kathleen Danser

CC: Benjamin Smith

### **Teaching Observation of Benjamin Smith Graduate Teaching & Learning Program Level 3**

On April 13, 2022, I had the opportunity to observe Benjamin Smith deliver a microteaching presentation to GTL 3, Phys 111 Quantum Mechanics.

This microteaching presentation was the capstone project for Level 3: Practicum of Graduate Teaching and Learning Program with the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research. Although only five minutes in length, participants were required to design and deliver the first lesson plan of their created course containing a bridge/hook, learning objectives and outcomes, pre and post assessment, participatory learning, and a summary; all aspects of the BOPPPS lesson planning model. In this second microteaching, Benjamin was required to incorporate feedback from his initial teaching and demonstrate how he adapted his lesson.

Microteaching presents an exceptionally challenging task by measuring how adeptly participants can apply, integrate, and demonstrate scholarly teaching principles within a shortened presentation time frame. Benjamin was easily able to navigate these limitations and he demonstrated his knowledge and teaching efficacy through the development and facilitation of clear learning outcomes, timely formative assessments, and active learning strategies that made effective use of the existing features of the Mentimeter platform. Additionally, in GTL 3 participants must integrate and make visible principles of reflective teaching practice through 360-degree feedback after which they reteach the lesson; this was not an issue for Benjamin as he clearly outlined feedback given and how he incorporated that into this particular re-teaching of the lesson.

Benjamin is a great teacher. He effectively conveyed information, confidence and charisma in his well-organized presentation to keep students' attention. Although his topic could be seen as intimidating, Benjamin's approach to the course introduction, condensed into a 5 minute microteaching lesson, demonstrated his ability to develop digestible, interesting lessons while ensuring students are provided essential information. I have full confidence in Benjamin's instructional abilities in future roles and would gladly take any course designed and delivered by him.

Sincerely,



Erika Nelson

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