November 15, 2012

Esther Rodriguez has asked me to write a letter of recommendation in support of her application for Teach America. I am more than happy to do so. I have only known Esther since the beginning of this semester, but I am quite impressed with her. And I think all of her impressive qualities make her a perfect fit for Teach America. She is currently a student of mine in Contemporary Social Theory. We have already had two exams, a paper and small group assignments. Esther has excelled in all areas; she did well on all the exams, her papers are well written, she is very articulate verbally, and made an excellent class presentation with her small group. She has attended class regularly and maintained the highest standards of behavior. But what stands out most, that with which I am most impressed, is her obvious engagement with the issues in the class. Along with actively participating in class discussions, she attends office hours regularly to further discuss the issues that have been raised in class.

Esther is intelligent, articulate, comfortable in front of a class, and she also has an engaging personality. I believe this combination of attributes would make her a wonderful teacher and a wonderful representative of the Teach America program. I strongly recommend her for the Teach America program. If I can be of further service, I can be reached at [psemm@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:psemm@mail.sdsu.edu) or 619-594-5906.

Sincerely,

Paul Tom Semm

Professor, Department of Sociology

San Diego State University