To: Admissions Committe

David Berver has asked me to write a letter of recommendation in support of his application for admittance to the Department of English at UCI for study in the Master of Fine Arts in Writing program; I am delighted to do so. I have known David for about a year and a half. He has been a student of mine in two upper division courses in the Sociology Department at San Diego State: Wealth, Status and Power and Contemporary Social Theory. David is also one of the creators and organizers of a student group of over a thousand members that has emerged as a response to the California state fiscal crisis and its impact on SDSU.

Of the more than five thousand students that I have taught at SDSU, David is one of the most intelligent, most knowledgeable and best read. He received an A in Wealth, Status and Power. David did well on all exams and wrote the best papers in a class of ninety students. He participated fully in class discussions, asking intelligent questions and making relevant and informed comments.

David is now taking Contemporary Theory from me. David has an A average at present. This course is arguably the most difficult course in the department because it requires more critical thinking and thinking at a higher level of abstraction. David’s papers reflect the highest level of competency in both areas. As in Wealth, Status and Power, his participation has been highly intelligent and informed.

During the two semesters that David has been in my classes he has consistently taken advantage of the office hours to discuss issues raised in class. From our office discussions, I can say that David is not only intelligent but firmly committed to learning.

I believe that David’s academic ability and potential would allow him to be successful in any graduate program. I can give him my highest recommendation without qualification. If I can be of any further help, I can be reached at [psemm@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:psemm@mail.sdsu.edu) or at my office phone 619-286-5254.

Sincerely,

Paul Tom Semm

Lecturer, Department of Sociology

San Diego State

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Of the more than five thousand students that I have taught at SDSU, David is one of the most intelligent and one of the best read. He received an A in Wealth Status and Power. He did well on all exams and he wrote the best papers in a class of ninety students.

David is now taking Contemporary Theory from me; this course is arguably the most difficult course in the department because it requires more critical thinking and thinking at a higher level of abstraction. David’s papers reflect the highest level of competency with both critical thinking and thinking at a high level of abstraction. In both classes, his participation was entirely positive; he asked intelligent and thoughtful questions and he has taken advantage of the office hours to discuss issues raised in class. I believe that David’s academic ability and potential would allow him to be successful in any graduate program.

I believe that David’s intellectual ability and potential would allow him to be successful in any graduate program. I am enthusiastic and can give him my highest recommendation without qualification.

Sincerely,

Paul Tom Semm

Lecturer, Department of Sociology

San Diego State