



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING
BY A LECTURER

Oriol Mirosa

The Department of Sociology presents the 2011 Departmental Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Lecturer to Oriol Mirosa. This citation is awarded on the unanimous recommendation of the student and faculty members of the Departmental Committee for the Evaluation and Improvement of Instruction, after their review of both quantitative and qualitative data from teaching evaluations of all Lecturers in the Department.

Since beginning his teaching career in the summer of 2007, Oriol has proved to be an invaluable asset to the department. He has particularly excelled in his three semesters spent teaching Sociology 475, "Classical Sociological Theory." Sociology 475 is a reading-intensive course in which students critically analyze classical works by Weber, Marx, Durkheim and Tocqueville. Although the subject matter can be overwhelmingly academic and complex, Oriol successfully engages his students in the material. Student evaluations repeatedly cite his enthusiasm and helpfulness with comments such as "explains very difficult issues in extremely clear ways," "always willing to help and explain theories in a different way" and "genuinely cares about the material as well as his students."

Oriol also met great success in his semesters teaching Sociology 357, "Methods of Sociological Inquiry," as well as Sociology 211, "The Sociological Enterprise." In addition to his deep knowledge of the course material, students commend Oriol for his attitude and efforts in the classroom, writing: "Thanks for your honesty and openness-it helped me feel comfortable in class" as well as "I really admire Mirosa's willingness to listen to concerns and work with you on anything you need." Another wrote: "He cares about what he teaches and clearly wants people to develop an understanding of the material." Countless other evaluations highly praise Oriol's teaching style and ability to foster a positive and highly productive learning environment.

Oriol Mirosa has a gift for teaching. Over the past five years, he has demonstrated a passion in the classroom that has left an indelible mark on the minds of his students. Oriol, we are truly grateful for you. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the field of sociology.

JAMES MONTGOMERY
PROFESSOR AND CHAIR