



To Whom It May Concern:

Spring 2023

It is with great pleasure that I submit this letter of recommendation for Robert Wilson. I have known Robert since Spring semester 2022 when he was my student for Microbiology at Shasta College. I have been a full-time faculty member at Shasta College since 2017. Before coming to Shasta College, I taught college courses in microbiology, genetics, and molecular biology at UCLA and Cypress College and high school at Fairmont Preparatory Academy in Anaheim, CA.

Robert joined my class during when Microbiology sections were running as hybrid courses, with lectures being online and asynchronous and labs being in person. The asynchronous lecture required students to establish their own schedule at an appropriate pace to stay on track with the coursework. This required discipline, self-motivation, and perseverance, attributes which Robert has in abundance. Despite some health issues early in the semester, he kept up with the work online and did extra work for the labs he missed so he would not fall behind. Through this, Robert showed himself to be a highly motivated and determined student. He was a great independent learner, but also often sought clarification or explanations to broaden the context of the topics covered in lecture. He had insightful questions that showed he was thinking deeply about the material and striving to fully understand it, rather than just aiming for points. In the lab, Robert developed his skill as an organized and thorough microbiologist. At the end of the semester, he demonstrated great technical skill with the techniques he learned throughout the semester, applying them to identify a "mystery microbe" in our capstone project for lab. His work was well organized, clearly presented, and concisely explained. Although he did not correctly identify the microbe due to one mistake with a somewhat finicky test, he showcased his overall understanding of the concepts and techniques and the report reflected his overall experience and achievement in the course. Robert is an enthusiastic scientist who worked with care and precision in performing lab activities. He was meticulous and thorough, always making sure he understood all the steps involved in an experiment before beginning the work. These characteristics helped him succeed throughout the semester. Robert was a thoughtful and kind lab partner as well, always contributing equally to shared work and doing extra work when his lab partner was absent. When his lab partner stopped attending lab near the end of the semester, he showed resilience and adaptability by continuing to do excellent work on his own and collaborating with other lab groups seamlessly when needed. His successes can be directly attributed to his acumen, discipline, excellent time management, careful attention to detail, and tireless pursuit of fully understanding the material.

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Outside the classroom, Robert has cultivated his leadership skills through his involvement in Student Senate where he served as president and as a student trustee to the college district's Board of Trustees. From what I understand, he was fully committed to these roles for the two years he served, attending all meetings and fulfilling all duties. It was no surprise to me to learn that he also had a leadership role in the honor's society on campus, Phi Theta Kappa. He is an obvious choice as a leader due to his warm, friendly, and positive personality coupled with his excellent communication and collaboration skills. He is abundantly talented and highly intelligent and will develop further as a leader as he becomes even more assured in his abilities. Robert has overcome much and demonstrates perseverance and resiliency in all aspects of his life, attributes that will continue to serve him well in all his future endeavors. I have seen his motivation and discipline in achieving success in my Microbiology course, and I have no doubt that this same determination will continue to drive him to further successes in his education and ultimate career.

I am very happy to give my highest recommendation for Robert. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions or if there is anything else that I can do on his behalf.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Osborne, Ph.D.
Life Sciences Instructor
Shasta College
11555 Old Oregon Trail
Redding, CA 96049
(530) 242-2329
rosborne@shastacollege.edu

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