



Dalhousie University

Department of German
Marion McCain Arts & Social Sciences Bldg.
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Halifax, Nova Scotia
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May 27, 2002

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to recommend Paolo Fernandes' teaching abilities. I am the coordinator of the first-year language program at Dalhousie University, in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Mr. Fernandes came here last September to do a Master's degree in our department. He also taught his own section of German for Beginners. His class of thirty students met three times a week from September 2001 to April 2002.

Under my supervision and guidance, our Teaching Assistants are solely responsible for all lesson preparation, teaching, testing and evaluation of their students. The unit tests are developed by the group of teachers, and each section writes the same standardized test. Mr. Fernandes' students seemed to do very well. Not only did he teach this group, but he also gave private lessons in business German during the term, and has just finished teaching a section of the Summer School German for Beginners, which met five times a week for two hours a day.

Mr. Fernandes has a distinct gift for languages. He has native or near-native fluency, both written and oral, in English, German, Spanish and his mother tongue, Portuguese. He also speaks French and Italian. His excellent English is a result of a 'Grundstudium' – the equivalent of a B.A. - in English language and literature, during which time he was an exchange student in England.

Mr. Fernandes was well-liked as a teacher. His teaching style is friendly and creative, and it is important to him that his students enjoy the learning process. I believe that his considerable experience as a language student, as well as his teaching experience, make him a capable language instructor, whether teaching German (as he did for us), English or one of his other languages.

If you require further information, I can be contacted through the Dalhousie German Department. My office telephone number is 902-494-1095, and my email address is Bgarvey@is.dal.ca.

Sincerely,

Brigid Garvey, M.A.
Lecturer/Coordinator, German Dept.
Dalhousie University