

June 1, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Chris Riley, whom I had the opportunity to teach in Fall 2025 in PAF 502: Public Service Research II at the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions at Arizona State University.

PAF 502 is a core course in the College's Master of Public Administration (MPA) track that emphasizes quantitative research methods and data analysis for public service professionals. One of the central goals of PAF 502 is to encourage students to think critically about the limitations, assumptions, and practical implications of quantitative methods and research design. Throughout the semester, students are challenged not only to master technical concepts including multiple regression analysis and data programming in R, but also to apply them thoughtfully to relevant issues in public service.

Chris performed exceptionally well in my class and earned an "A" grade. He was engaged throughout, thoughtful in his written work, and demonstrated a keen ability to connect quantitative results to the often more difficult, subjective parts of public service work.

Please feel free to contact me if additional information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick McMullen", with a stylized, cursive script.

Nick McMullen, M.S.
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