

Subject: Re: History Instructor Leon Martin Ennis

Dear Dr. Cooke,

I am sending you this correspondence with specific regard to one of your instructors at Grossmont College, Leon Martin Ennis--History 109: Modern American History- during this summer session 2014.

My husband, William and I have a young son, Christopher Hill, who has been enrolled in Mr. Ennis' class, ending today. Christopher just turned 16 on July 8 and will be a senior in high school this September.

William and I thought it would be a good idea and a good introduction into the college setting to allow Christopher to take a college course this summer.

I want you to know what this experience has been like for Christopher, according to what he communicates to his father and I on a daily basis. I believe that, all too often, people are quickly identified for a grievance, but are seldom given praise or recognition for a job well done. For this reason, we believe that, as President of Grossmont College, both you and the Dean of the History Department, Dr. Janet Castanos, should be aware of what type of impact Mr. Ennis has had on Christopher.

Although we have never met Mister Ennis, he has truly been a profound educational influence as well as a positive role model for our young son. Christopher has always been a mostly "A" student, active in sports, extracurricular and community volunteer activities. Still, it is a challenge for parents to guide their children to make productive and meaningful choices. Therefore, we truly appreciate when positive guidance comes from another source.

Through the everyday teaching of Mr. Ennis, we have quietly but joyfully observed our son come out of class thoughtful, inquisitive, often excited, sharing and intellectually processing the history lessons he had learned that day and how history impacts our daily lives.

I know this summer has been an educational milestone for Christopher because of Mr. Ennis.

His knowledge and ability to impart his wisdom to his students in a way that genuinely instills a love for learning and a thirst for knowledge can never be overstated.

My husband William and I respectfully request that you thank Mr. Ennis for us. Please be so kind as to forward him a copy of this letter and to include this in his personnel file as well. Also, feel free to share our comments with anyone who might be wondering about the caliber of your teaching staff.

Mr. Ennis has truly made a difference in the life of a young man, our son, Christopher Hill. Yes, we noticed. Yes, Mr. Ennis really mattered in our lives. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Aida and William Hill