

What Students Have To Say

Four semesters.

Countless papers to grade.

And the privilege of working with 240 students to become stronger and more confident writers, to develop critical thinking skills by looking beyond their corners of the world, and to remember it's "toward," not "towards."



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2 of 4 < >

COMPOSE

Final assignment 5 Inbox x



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[Redacted] to me ▾

Apr 13 (4 days ago) ☆



Show details

Hey Ed!

My final assignment is attached. Took me awhile to figure out where to shorten it up to get it closer to 700 words. Really difficult to do with this subject. Hope it came out alright.

Also,

I am so thankful to have had you as a professor, a teacher, and a friend. Thank you for taking the extra step to connect with your students and be one of the best teachers I have had the pleasure of knowing in my educational career.

Really happy we will be working together moving forward still!

Chat soon brother!





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COMPOSE

Assignment 6 Inbox x



Inbox (5)

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Apr 12 (5 days ago) ☆



[Redacted]

to me ▾

Hey Ed!

Sorry for missing class today, I have ran into several scheduling conflicts with work and was call off tonight.

Just wanted to say you've been a fantastic professor all semester, and most likely my favorite thus far. I hope you continue your contagious enthusiasm to future classes.

Attached is my final paper, hopefully you enjoy

Thank you,

[Redacted]



Your message has been sent.

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COMPOSE

6C...fore real this time Inbox x



Inbox (1)

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to me ▾

2:42 AM (15 hours ago) ☆



Hi Ed!

Thank you again for letting me re-do this assignment. This subject felt much more natural for me to write about, and it allowed me to add more of myself into it than the last attempt. I'm really bummed that handing this in means this class is really over. It was by far my favorite this semester. I became a much better writer without feeling like I was in a "classroom".

Thank you for all of your wisdom,





Mail

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COMPOSE

First annual Inbox x

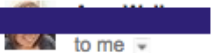
Inbox (4)

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to me

4:40 PM (2 hours ago)

I'm walking the 5k in Detroit this weekend. They sent me this today. I thought of you.

Also, thanks for the great semester. It's hard to find someone who can really teach.





Move to Inbox



More

COMPOSE

thought you'd like to see



Inbox

Starred

Sent Mail

Drafts

Trash

More



Google Talk will be replaced with Hangouts on June 26, 2017.

Tip: If you like the look of Google Talk, try the "dense roster" setting in Hangouts.

[Switch Now](#)

Search people...

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Claudia Headman



Edward Nakfoor <edwardnakfoor@oakland.edu>

8/2/16



A student from winter term, [Redacted] sent this yesterday ...

This happened because I had an office ... that the student passed each day ... and one particular day stopped in because the door was open ... he was comfortable to approach me. I was fortunate to be part of countless similar organic encounters.

For his final assignment he wrote about individuals who were considered "firsts" ... I suggested he contact Raquel Castaneda-Lopez, the first Hispanic elected to Detroit City Council ... he was skittish but finally took a leap; I also encouraged him to ask for an internship.

He struggles a bit with syntax but you'll get the idea:

Good Afternoon Professor Nakfoor,

Hope your summer is going well and that you are enjoying the summer rain. But if you are on vacation, hope you are enjoying the weather and scenery.

So I have been employed through the Council-member Castaneda-Lopez office to be a youth leader for high school students who do canvassing during a portion of their summer break. It is real awarding because not only do the youth learn about different topics and meet new people, so do I. It is also great because I am seeing youth really open up and be engaged how the city government works.

The Councilwoman asked me recently if I needed an internship for the fall, that the office was looking for someone to be their media director. Which I think she said like press release, newsletters, social media, etc. I have to ask her again before I submit my resume what the internship entails.

Thank you for giving me the push and to not be afraid to just get out there. Making that leap in interviewing the Councilwoman to that lead to an employment and to being offered an internship, it just that easy with just making that leap. I took that leap again, when I asked this lawyer that bank at my job if his firm does internships. I did not know then, but he was the right person to ask. He is the founder of his own law firm that focuses on criminal defense.

Just taking that leap, can go a long way. All that they can say is "yes" or "no".

Well hope this email caught you at a good moment, and brought you a feeling of achievement that your teachings bringing great wealth to your students.

A student sent this to the Dean of the College of Arts + Sciences

Concerning the Contract of Edward Nakfoor Inbox x



[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Apr 4 (1 day ago) ☆



I wanted to take the time to write you this email and express my great concern and sadness for the loss of a wonderful professor from this beautiful campus, Edward Nakfoor. I recently learned Ed has not been asked to come back to teach in the upcoming semesters.

Oakland University has been a great place to study and advance my knowledge to better myself for my career path. I was fortunate enough to take Ed's Journalism class in the fall of 2015. During his class, I was able to advance my writing style and was challenged by Ed to reach my full writing potential. When the class was over, I looked online to see if I could take another class taught by him. When I realized the classes he was teaching would not fit into my schedule, I was very pretty disappointed sad.

Knowing Ed for now two years, I have seen how much he genuinely cares for his students and wants what is best for them. His passion for his teaching and his knowledge of real-life journalism is inspiring and makes his classes memorable. I have spoken to many students who have felt the same way about him and his class. I feel as though Ed is an important element in the University setting. Creating a relationship with a professor has proven to be beneficial in getting jobs, and advancing in life; these are all things Ed helps his students accomplish.

He is the only one of my professors ever who has ever expressed interest in how we actually are doing., Whether it be extending time to talk about our weekends before lecture or staying later for office hours to allow himself to be an outlet for students to talk to, Ed is always trying to find the best options for all of his students to succeed.

In my case, I have recently started my own business and have had multiple meetings with Ed to discuss my website and how to build my business online. He personally took the time to help me and edit my entire website to make sure everything was flawless. When it came to my education, Ed took the time to help guide me and focus on getting my grades back to a passing level.

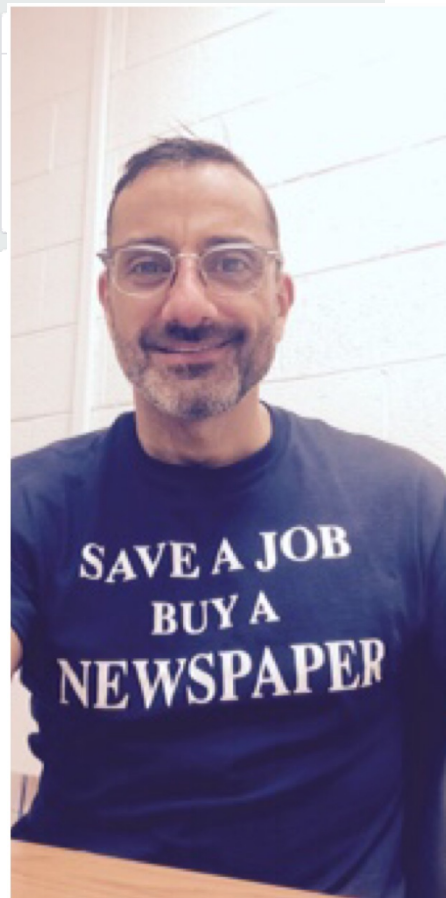
He has impacted my decision on staying on track to graduate in the next year. Ed also was there for me when I had planned to drop out when my mother passed away the semester before I took his class and when I was trying to keep my job, my education and my sanity, Ed made sure to support me and discuss with me how important it was to finish college, all while maintaining his other students and his teachings as well..

Again, I just wanted to take a moment express my thoughts on the decision to remove Ed from the staff here at Oakland. I hope you can consider reaching out to him in the future.

If you have any further questions, I would love to talk to you more,

This screenshot shows the Facebook page for 'Bring Ed Nakfor Back to Ou'. The page features a profile picture of a white flag on a pole. The header includes a status bar with 'Status' and 'Photo/Video' options. Below this is a text input field for writing on the page. The 'Reviews' section shows a 5.0 star rating from one review, with a prompt to 'Tell people what you think'. A post from April 6 at 3:25pm asks for pictures, memes, and ideas for a march/protest/sit-in, mentioning Ed Nakfor as a professor and using the hashtag #bringEDback. The page also has a 'Community' section with a 5.0 star rating and an 'About' section with a 'Send Message' button.

When students learned my contract wasn't being renewed, one started this Facebook page. That T-shirt in the photo near right is what I wear first day of class ...



This screenshot shows a Facebook post by Sarah Gauthier. The post is titled 'Bring Ed Nakfor Back to Ou' and is dated April 7 at 12:36 PM. The text of the post says 'his should do it'. Below the text is a photo of the same man from the previous image, wearing the same blue t-shirt. However, the text on the t-shirt in this photo has been edited to read 'SAVE A JOB Plz keep me at OU'. The 'Plz' and 'at OU' are highlighted in blue. The screenshot also shows the top of the Facebook interface with a search bar and navigation icons.



Students take home these pens on the last day of class ...