

Hello Professor Cohen,

I was in no way remarkable in the Colonial North America course that I took with you several years ago, but I got a lot out of those damned 50 word, one sentence summaries of entire books. I am still horrible at grammar (there is irony in here somewhere), but I now, in fact, excel at thesis writing. So much so that I am working on MFA in (Creative) Writing. I now get to stare down young English students and push them into following the grammar rules that I constantly flub and force them to write the exercises that I hated. But hopefully they will get as good at it as you encouraged me to be. Thank you. It was horrible at the time, but unendingly useful now. Thank you.

Feel free to show this to current students as proof.

I am currently reading "[title omitted]," by [author's name omitted]. Sigh. Perhaps Mr. [X] could use a creative writer to help him find his storyline. :)

Thanks for everything,
Beth Mattson
San Francisco, CA

[email, February 12, 2009]