

Email from Professor Whitaker

Ella Moreau Case, October 2025

From: Daniel Whitaker
To: Margaret Holloway
Subject: Clarification on grading concerns

Dear Dean Holloway,

I want to bring to your attention a series of interactions I have had with one of my students, Ella Moreau, in the Mortuary Science program. Over the past week, her communications have shifted in tone and become increasingly aggressive.

Most recently, she emailed me regarding her Week 6 paper grade. While it began with questions about rubric alignment, her follow-up messages have implied bias on my part, expressed impatience when I did not respond quickly enough, and suggested that she would escalate concerns beyond my course. In her last note, she closed by reminding me of her ability to evaluate faculty, which I found troubling given the context.

I do not want to overstate the situation, but the tenor of her messages feels less like academic inquiry and more like a challenge to professional boundaries. I am concerned that this may continue to escalate and could affect both my ability to teach effectively and the classroom environment.

I would appreciate your guidance on next steps. Should I attempt another direct response, or would it be appropriate for you (or another administrator) to intervene at this stage?

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Daniel Whitaker