

PERSONAL STATEMENT

What is the relevance of your life/educational experience to your application? What are your **goals and objectives**? **What is your motivation**? Why are you **interested in a particular course**? It is worth mentioning that you are aware of the commitment involved in undertaking a degree course and the costs involved. That you can meet the practical, academic, financial & personal demands of the course.

Why do you want to study in higher education?

Discuss your course of choice

Demonstrate you have the skills to deal with university life

show you are an interesting personality who will benefit from university life

What are your reasons for studying this course?

What are your ambitions?

Which aspects of your subject you enjoy and why

Has work experience inspired your interest in this area?

Do you have skills which lend themselves to this course?

Recent Study

Areas of your current study which have stimulated you and why

Any relevant projects you have done/are doing

Life skills, strengths and work experience

Think about what life skills you have accrued. When you make a statement about a skill give evidence through an example of something you've done which demonstrates that skill (e.g. responsibilities you've taken on, extracurricular interests, hobbies etc). Skills could include:

Independence/self-reliance

Self-motivation and organisation

Confidence

Problem solving abilities

Being approachable and empathetic

Team working

Communication Skills

Attention to detail, diligence and focus

Finishing off

Pull together and summarise the main points of your statement

Finish with a positive comment about your suitability for the course/University

Do:

Mention the subject by name

Use the space provided

Avoid humour

Get feedback from tutors

Indicate a Career Plan

Don't:

Just list achievements- relate them to your skills or your future

Evade issues- turn past negatives into positives

repeat yourself

Any supplementary forms with a restriction on number of words go straight to:

- Your reasons for applying to this course, aspects of the curriculum and course structure that particularly interest and engage you & why - 150
- Then on to why you are a suitable candidate – mention qualifications, any essays or research or projects & experience – all combining towards your suitability for the course - 200
- Then on to your career plan – some possible options – they don't have to be set in stone – but they like to see evidence of how this course fits your life and future plans. 100
- Short piece to indicate you are fully prepared for the personal, practical and academic demands of post graduate study 50
- If there's room - Sell yourself in final paragraph. 100

With this structure – the statement binds itself together naturally around you as the topic. Each application is different – so these are just suggestions. Word counts vary.

I've put in guidelines word numbers (sometimes that helps when you have to stick to a strict word count)