Personal Statement

Your Motivation

(1250 characters)

What drives you to apply for a PhD?

Explain what motivates you to apply for a PhD and what drives your interest in pursuing this program. Highlight your motivation to learn and develop.

Responding to Challenges

(1250 characters)

Describe a situation where you faced a challenge. How did you handle it, and what did you learn? Provide specific examples.

Describe how you persist through challenges, learn from feedback, and use problem-solving or creative thinking to explore issues from new perspectives. Draw from examples from your academic, professional or personal life.

Independent Study

(1250 characters)

Describe a situation where you needed to work independently to meet milestones in your academic, professional or personal life. Provide specific examples.

Describe how you manage your own learning and meet important milestones. Provide examples from your academic, professional, or personal life that demonstrate how you have successfully handled independent tasks or how you have developed these skills in preparation for doctoral study.

Recent Developments Within Your Research Area

(1250 characters)

Describe a recent development within your research area, which could be a method and/or theory. How does this extend previous thinking or ways of doing research in your area?

Discuss your knowledge of developments in your research area, including relevant methods or theories or approaches you've engaged with through experiences such as self-directed learning, practical applications in a professional setting or in academic contexts.

Technical Skills

(1250 characters)

Describe technical skills relevant to your area of research. How have you developed these skills in your academic, professional or personal life? How could you develop those skills in future? Provide specific examples.

Describe the technical skills relevant to your research interests (e.g. database management, programming languages, use of archives or long-form writing), and how you've developed these skills in your academic, professional or personal life. You might also discuss how you plan to further develop these skills in the future, with specific examples.

Examples of specific technical skills could include: database management; programming language; long-form writing.

Additional Information

(2500 characters)

Have you experienced any events or circumstances that have had an impact on your education, and limited your ability to perform in your studies?

- factors that you felt limited your choice of institution when choosing your prior study;
- any essential regular commitments that impacted the extent to which you could dedicate yourself to your studies (e.g. caring responsibilities, employment during studies, etc.);
- any serious disruption to your studies that prevented you from studying for at least 3 months over the course of a year (e.g. financial considerations, illnesses, bereavement, etc.).

If you have not already mentioned these in your responses to other questions, please feel free to mention them here. You do not need to repeat the impact of those events or circumstances if you have already mentioned them. This is optional and you should only provide information if you feel comfortable to do so. You do not need to provide personal or detailed information about the nature of the circumstances, only the impact that they have had on your studies