

PLANNING YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT

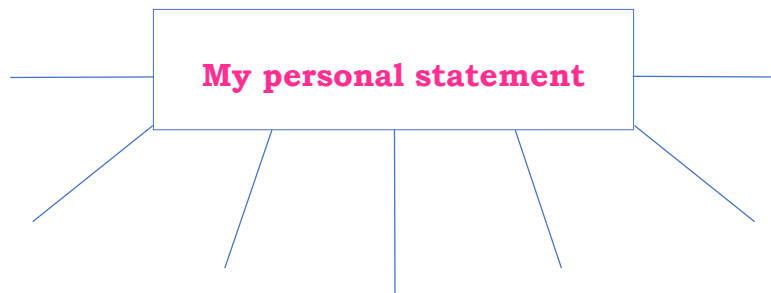
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Before you start writing your personal statement:

- look carefully at the entry requirements for the degree programme you're applying for;
- read the core modules and supporting modules of the programme to give you an idea what you'll be studying and how address these as your areas of interest;
- look at how you'll be assessed for the different modules – are there exams, coursework or both? How have you managed these in your previous degree?

Use the spider diagram below to make notes on the 3 points above. When writing notes, don't write in complete sentences, use bullet points and simple lists. This will help your ideas flow more easily. You can use this information to structure your writing more formally at the later stage.

(Add more lines to the diagram as required)



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<p>Name of the degree programme you're applying for:</p> <p><i>(state this clearly)</i></p>	
<p>Your previous education/qualifications:</p> <p><i>(how is this directly relevant and related to what you're applying to study? Why does having this make you want to study for this programme?)</i></p>	
<p>Outstanding achievements:</p> <p><i>(if you talk about your skills, it is essential you link it to evidence - think of education, work experience and extra activities, for instance sports, travel, music etc and make specific references these events and experiences. What do they demonstrate about your capabilities?)</i></p>	
<p>Future goals:</p> <p><i>(what do you intend to do both short and long term? Is it career, business or research focused? Tie them in to why you intend to study on this programme and how you think it will help you achieve this.)</i></p>	
<p>Strengths/personal qualities:</p> <p><i>(what can you bring to the course? Again, the key here is if you talk about skills, don't talk about everyday mundane things. If you've done anything like running your own business, published any work or presented at conferences, include these here. What do they show about you?)</i></p>	