Instructions & Requirements of PS

All instructions are copied from official application websites.
by Shi
11/5/2017

MCDS @ CMU

The application requires a statement of purpose. What makes a good essay?
We are looking for strong, experience-based evidence that you can do well in our degree program and that you "fit" based on our areas of focus. For example, a description of a large software or research project, your involvement in the project, and the impact of the research is good evidence. An explanation of what drew your interest to the MCDS program and how it relates to your professional goals is also useful. You may also take this opportunity to explain any apparent weaknesses in your application. Although details regarding your personal interests and background can be helpful, they are not part of our admissions criteria and should not constitute the bulk of your statement of purpose. Most importantly, your statement of purpose should be written by you and provide an accurate representation of your experiences and goals.

CS @ UTAustin

This document should explain your rationale for obtaining a graduate degree in Computer Science -- your research interests, what you bring to the program, and how you hope to use the degree. This is **not a "life story"**, but be sure to cover any aspects of your application/background that might need additional explanation. Remember that readers of your statement are CS researchers, but not necessarily in your area!

DS @ Columbia

Describe how your professional and academic background has prepared you to pursue an advanced degree in the field of engineering or applied science at Columbia University. If there are any special circumstances that need to be brought to the attention of the Admission Committee, please include that information.

CS @ Stanford

The Statement of Purpose should describe succinctly your reasons for applying to the proposed program at Stanford, your preparation for this field of study, research interests, future career plans, and other aspects of your background and interests which may aid the admissions committee in evaluating your aptitude and motivation for graduate study. The Statement of Purpose **should not exceed two pages**.

CS @ Columbia

The personal statement, **limited to 2 pages**, should provide a brief description of:
Your academic and professional accomplishments.
Your overall career goals and specific goals in pursuing the M.S. Program.
Your preferences for concentration tracks within the M.S. Program. Any other information that you feel can help us evaluate your potential to succeed in the program.

CS @ UCLA

Please state your purpose in applying for graduate study. Describe your scholarly and research area(s) of interest, experiences that contributed to your preparation in the field, and your plans for your future occupation or profession. Briefly describe experiences that have prepared you for advanced study or research, and provide any additional information that may aid the selection committee in evaluating your preparation and aptitude for graduate study at UCLA. If you are applying for a research masters or doctoral program, you are encouraged to indicate specific research interests and potential faculty mentors.

Connective Media @ Cornell Tech

Below are two options for your essay submission. Please choose only one of the prompts and upload your response at the bottom of the page.

Option 1:
Here at Cornell Tech, you will take part in an innovative environment where creativity, technical depth and leadership share seats at the table. We value expressions of who you are and what you add to this formula. Please submit a **one- or two-page** statement that describes your interest in the Technion-Cornell Dual Masters Degree in Connective Media. Your submission should highlight personal experiences that demonstrate your creativity, leadership and technical abilities. In particular, feel free to elaborate on technical projects you have completed, their creative and technical aspects; any entrepreneurial or leadership experiences; future goals and the benefit you envision from being part of the tech ecosystem in New York City and the Connective Media Program.

Option 2:
Cornell Tech has a builder culture: our students get their hands dirty developing real digital products, and many of our students have prior software development experience. Have you ever developed a complete software application before (i.e., an end-to-end application that has a user interface, one or more web services, a database, etc)? If so, describe that application and your experience making it.

DS @ Harvard

Describe your reasons and motivations for pursuing a graduate degree in your chosen program of study at Harvard. What experiences led you to your research ambitions? Concisely state your past work in your intended field of study and in related fields. Briefly indicate your career objectives. Your statement **should not exceed 1,000 words**.

CS @ Yale

Your personal statement of purpose will aid the admissions committee in evaluating your application. Please compose a succinct statement of **500-1,000 words** concerning your past work, your preparation for the intended field of study, your academic plans for graduate study at Yale, and your subsequent career objectives.

CS @ Gatech

Please give a Statement of Purpose detailing your academic and research goals as well as career plans. Include your reasons for choosing the College of Computing as opposed to other programs and/or other universities. **Your space is limited to 4000 characters.**

CS @ Brown

Please upload a copy of your Personal Statement. Please give your reasons for deciding to do graduate work in the field you have chosen. Include a statement concerning your past work (study and research) in your chosen field, your plans for study at Brown, including issues and problems you want to address, and your professional goals.

CS @ UCSD

The statement of purpose is part of the online application. The statement of purpose is very important and is given careful consideration in the selection process. Be concise and specific in preparing your statement: give information that will aid the selection committee in evaluating your potential for completing a graduate program of study at UCSD.

CS/DS @ USC

A Personal Statement is optional for our program. The personal statement should describe succinctly your reasons for applying to the proposed program at the Viterbi School of Engineering, your preparation for this field of study, study interests, future career plans, and other aspects of your background and interests which may aid the admissions committee in evaluating your aptitude and motivation for graduate study. There is no required/recommended format or length for the personal statement.