Student’s name: Jove

In 300 words or less, help us understand how you might engage specific resources, opportunities, and/or communities here. We are curious about what these specifics are, as well as how they may enrich your time at Northwestern and beyond.

Cognitive science is a subject that intrigues me, and I’ve furthered this interest in various ways. I’ve signed up for online data science courses and learned about machine learning by writing a 4000-word research paper on predicting random generators using linear regression. Through teaching sessions I was involved in as president of GenDigital Academy, an NGO focusing on spreading digital literacy across children in Indonesia, I get to understand how different kids have unique capabilities. I endeavored to understand the inner workings of children's minds and behaviors. Hence, I aspire to become a learning scientist who understands students individually and makes data-driven decisions to create an engaging learning environment and culturally responsive teaching that can boost students’ participation and understanding.

Northwestern’s Cognitive Science courses cover almost all the branches under the interdisciplinary field from computer programming to studying the inner workings of the human brain. I’m particularly interested in PHIL 225-0 on Minds and Machines. I believe that by studying the correlation between machine intelligence and human intelligence, I can learn the limitations of human intelligence and how I can leverage machine intelligence to increase learning efficiency and compensate for the limitations of human intelligence. Outside of class, I believe that student clubs like DISC would help me expand my connections and continue to pursue my interest in using technology to make a positive impact on society, something I’ve been doing as a high school student in GenDigital.

Hi Jove:

I think it’s great that you want to give a background on how you decided to pursue Cognitive Science. However, considering the prompt and word count, I would cut the first para by half (suggestion above) and only briefly give background on how you came to pursue your intended major. I would also elaborate a bit on out-of-class activities and add a conclusion.

All the best!