

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

MSC COMPUTING SCIENCE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

In 2020, as the global impact of the novel COVID-19 hit the country of Ghana, the government of Ghana resorted to exploiting technology to acquire sufficient data to better fight against the coronavirus. Based on this decision, the government built the GH COVID-19 tracking app, which can monitor contacts of people affected by the virus, display where they have been in recent times using multiple telephone-related data, and connect such people to health specialists for immediate action.

As a computer science student, I was delighted at the idea of this application aiding in the fight against the virus. In the wake of the launch of the COVID-19 tracker app, the government was revealed to have engaged two organizations, iQuent Technologies and Ascend Digital Solutions, to create and maintain the app. Although the app was a success, I always wondered why the nation did not allow the numerous smart students in the country to assist in making the application. During this period, with passion and desire to contribute to the fight against COVID, I implemented an android-based application as my final year project that could help lectures take attendance and track students who are present in lectures by scanning a QR code with the integration of Zoom video conference SDK to aid in online classes. In the end, I received an A, but not the accolades I had hoped for. This situation, however, became a catalyst in my growing desire to use information technology to help increase productivity in various sectors as I have envisioned. My motivation for applying to this MSc in Computing Science at University of Glasgow stems from my desire to acquire and develop a variety of skills; obtain a technological, theoretical, and practical grasp of information technology; and gain immense experience working on real software projects, which will kick start my IT career.

After being admitted to Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology for my bachelor's degree in computer science, I have gained a solid background in programming languages, web and mobile technologies, and database concepts. These skills have been useful as I work on my personal projects and have placed me in a good position to succeed in this information technology masters of science program.

Students from accredited tertiary institutions are required by law to perform one year of national service for the country after graduation. I was accepted into KNUST's University Information Technology Services (UITS), which is the main provider of central ICT services across KNUST and plays a leading role in the development of ICT in IT support, teaching, and research. During this period, I was assigned to work in the area of the university that consisted of the KNUST development office and the office of the directorate of student affairs. I gained experience by assisting university employees in both high and low positions. I was given access to higher offices because my role was so significant to provide IT support. Even though I had no prior knowledge of some areas of interest, I was able to gain a lot of experience and discover fresh approaches to challenges. My faith that information technology is the field I should devote myself to has grown as a result of how the authorities I was under responded to my proposals.

I believed that there must be a way to incorporate every idea I might have or receive, regardless of its source, based on the experiences I had while developing my application for my final year project and the experiences I had during my national service.

This master's program is particularly appealing to me since the courses to be taught are areas in one way or another where I can receive relevant knowledge to implement the variety of ideas I will receive, and student cohorts are invariably incredibly varied, with classmates from all over the world and representing a wide range of vocations and backgrounds. So, not only will I broaden my professional network with a number of clever and ambitious individuals, but I will also make new and intriguing acquaintances, learn more about the culture of the city, and participate in joint applied research. I plan to share my learned knowledge with other motivated students so that we can assist whenever a technology need arises.

I am excited to be accepted into this program and to become a part of the University of Glasgow community.