**Statement of Purpose**

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The digital age has revolutionized the life of individuals creating a major impact on them by making their conduct smooth and effortless. But the hidden debilitating effect of hacking the information stored on the digital platforms has been a major cause of worry. The security risks are undergoing a consistent transition to an extreme that newer threats emerge just when one thinks that they have controlled the risks. At this juncture comes the significance of professionals who facilitate rigorous research and studies to contain and diffract the ever-changing nature of threats. Apprehending the dire need to meet its demands, I wish to fortify my skills and knowledge in the field, and for the same, I seek admission for MS in Digital Forensics & Cyber Analysis at the George Mason University in the USA.

Having developed a curiosity to apprehend the working of computers in my early childhood, I kept fuelling my interest by engaging voraciously in its various nuances and applications. As I advanced through the years, my passion grew leaps and bounds and I got acquainted with the basic functions and operations. Soon, I found relief for my budding sensation to clear my doubts in this area by bombarding my cousin with queries and appraisals as he was an engineering graduate in computer science. Following his lead, I joined for a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Engineering at Chandigarh Engineering College in Punjab. The initial semesters acquainted me with several programming languages like C, C++, and Java, discrete mathematical concepts and data structures, and with this advantage, I engaged in a myriad of projects and workshops that escalated my learning. With my first touching base of Digital Forensics & Cyber Analysis in the subject of computer networks and operating systems, I looked for ways to gain experience in the field, and thereafter I completed my undergraduate degree with flying colours.

Even though gnawed by a quelling desire to continue my studies with a master’s degree, the prospects of receiving ample exposure and practical knowledge in an IT firm prompted me to work for Wipro Technologies Ltd in Pune. Serving the role of a SAP MM/SRM Consultant, I was tasked with developing and maintaining services and provide solutions to the issues reported by the customers through Service Now. With the direct interaction with the clients, I was able to procure the desired results and this earned wide appreciation from the clients and managers. With a stringent deadline and quick decision-making skills, I was able to navigate the team for project deliverables and scheduled regular meetings to discuss the updates and analyse the issues. While working in this company, I had a chance encounter with the problem of Digital Forensics & Cyber Analysis. In this IT firm, one of the systems that had been operating on some project was subject to the intelligent work of hackers and before they got a chance to misuse the relevant data, our specialists explored and impeded the attack. This incident piqued my interest in the domain of Digital Forensics & Cyber Analysis and I aspire to make such radical moves to safeguard the company data.

The advent of Artificial Intelligence has inexplicably ameliorated the lives of people but the threats lurking around the corners of the computer world needs to be studied and limited. Overcome by this realization, I had resigned from my job after a service of more than three years to pursue MS in Digital Forensics & Cyber Analysis at the George Mason University in the USA. With the diverse culture and experience imparted by the country of the USA, I believe that it would help me to gain global exposure and an enlightened perspective. Moreover, I could excel in my career as a higher educational qualification from one of the developed countries like the USA would throw a light on my accomplishments and find favour among the reputed companies and notable employers. Once having expanded my skills and knowledge, I aspire to contribute immensely to foil the unhealthy competition of the hackers by getting a sneak peek into the modern practices utilized by the USA.

Following the trail left behind by my brother who had completed his masters and research program in Cyber Security, my search for the apt course halted at your reputed university. As the program offered by the university would furnish me with an opportunity to attain advanced-level, high-quality training in the core areas of computer forensics, information security management, and forensic accounting, I strongly believe that it would assist me in advancing in my career. Moreover, as the university provides state-of-the-art facilities and experienced professionals, it has hiked my interests to pursue this program. To sustain my dream to be a Security Analyst, the designed curriculum would be beneficial to understand and mitigate the security threats in computer networks and thereby aid in defending the digital information of people and businesses. Therefore, I invite you to weigh my application in light of an ambitious individual.

Regards,

Kirti Chawla