Statement of Purpose

Dear Admission Committee,

My name is Derek Lee, and I am pleased to apply for the at Washington University in St. Louis. I am confident that my academic background, research experience, and professional skills make me a strong candidate for your program.

In my free time, I enjoy reading top-tier academic research to stay updated with the latest advancements in Finance. I occasionally study articles from leading ABS 4+ rated journals such as the Journal of Finance, Review of Financial Studies, Journal of Financial Economics, among others. This habit not only deepens my understanding of theoretical and empirical approaches in Finance but also sharpens my ability to critically analyze complex economic phenomena.

My career aspiration is to become a quantitative analyst. To achieve this goal, I have developed strong practical skills in Python, SQL, Financial Modeling, Risk Management, Quantitative Analysis, Excel VBA. These technical competencies, combined with my analytical thinking and problem-solving abilities, position me well to succeed in your rigorous academic environment and contribute meaningfully to the field.

I am particularly drawn to Washington University in St. Louis due to its strong academic environment, research-oriented approach, and distinguished faculty. The program's curriculum aligns perfectly with my academic interests and career objectives.

Beyond my technical skills, I bring strong collaborative abilities, having worked effectively in diverse team settings on several academic projects. I am eager to contribute to classroom discussions, collaborate with peers on research initiatives, and actively participate in the intellectual community at Washington University in St. Louis.

Thank you for considering my application. I am eager to contribute to and benefit from the rigorous academic culture at Washington University in St. Louis. I am confident that your program will provide the ideal foundation for me to achieve my academic and professional goals, and I look forward to the opportunity to join your distinguished academic community.

Sincerely,

Derek Lee