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留学申请文书 PS 和 SOP 的区别解析

statement of purpose(sop) 侧重点在 purpose 上,也就是进入 graduate school program 的目的,那他自然而然得就包括了你之前在此领域所学,所做。很像是大家讨论的理科生的 ps,就是写研究背景,写未来规划。最后这个 program 为什么能满足你。

personal statement(ps) 侧重点在 personal。 目的是让 committee 充分了解你,力求最大限度展现自己。也就是让别人看到之后就能想象出你这个实实在在的人。可以包括经济情况,家庭情况,受教育情况,所在的地理位置,你将要拥有的机会,你曾经面对的挑战等。(这就是为什么很多美国人写的 ps 都像意识流) 可以没有固定格式

那么问题就来了。很多学校的申请只要求 ps。有的只要求 sop。而更有甚者要求 both ps and sop!?

这是怎么回事呢。那就是在一定程度上 ps=sop。那么我们就可以做出一个判断了,也就是说理科如果被要求了 ps 而不是 sop, 是应该按照 sop 来写的,也就是专业领域的相关以及未来规划。

最后,让人蛋疼的 both ps and sop 出现了。 这个时候我们就要回归 ps 和 sop 的本意了。如果学校两个都要求,那么 sop 就是专业领域的而 ps 就是展现自我的。也就是说 ps 是可以文艺的,可以不包括专业的,可以展现自己的特质的。

这个观点可以从 u michign 去年的申请要求得以体现 他们要求 ps 以 essay 的形式并且 500字以下。

最后总结下。也就是说学校如果只单独要求 sop 或者 ps, 就都当成 sop 来写。

如果学校要求 both ps and sop, 那就分开来, sop 为体现 professional (也就是我们一直习惯写的), ps 为体现自我 展现自我 没有固定要求

可以突出自己的性格,家庭和社会的影响。更像是 sop 的辅助,sop 是写你专业能力,而 ps 是你的综合实力。你的性格,独特的想法和经历可能会让你在专业道路上更成功,更有竞争力

看到之前有同学把 ps 和 sop 都交了同一篇上去,这样做是不应该的!

下面,列出几个学校的要求:

1. Your application must include a Statement of Purpose indicating your purposes and objectives in undertaking graduate study, your special interests and plans, and your strengths and weaknesses in your chosen field. Briefly describe any research projects or any independent research in which you have actively participated and indicate how this has influenced your career choice and desire to pursue graduate studies. If you have particular reasons for applying to Duke (e.g. you would like to work with a specific faculty member), please indicate these.

2. Personal Statement

How have your background and life experiences, including cultural, geographical, financial educational or other opportunities or challenges, motivated your decision to pursue a graduate degree at the University of Michigan?

For example, if you grew up in a community where educational, cultural, or other opportunities were either especially plentiful or especially lacking, you might discuss the impact this had o

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your development and interests. This should be a discussion of the journey that has led to your decision to seek a graduate degree.

3. Academic Statement of Purpose

The Academic Statement of Purpose should be a concise, well-written statement about your academic and research background, your career goals, and how this graduate program will help you meet your career and educational objectives.

Make sure your margins are set up at one-inch and that any inserted tables fit within those margins to avoid pages being added or removed in your original document(s).

4. The statement of purpose should be 300-500words concerning your purpose for undertaking or continuing graduate study, your reasons for wanting to study at Purdue, and your research interests, professional plans, and career goals. You also may explain any special circumstances applicable to your background and elaborate on your scholarly publications, awards, achievements, abilities, and/or professional history.

Your Statement of Purpose is a critical piece of your graduate school application. If you haven't written your Statement of Purpose yet, the Purdue University Graduate School would like to make the process a little easier by passing along a few tips:

Pay close attention to the directions as they vary across institutions and programs.

Be unique. Talk about interesting and relevant experience. One way to do this is to talk about a subject in your field about which you are passionate.

Write with skill. The Statement of Purpose may be the only writing sample you provide, so editing and organization are imperative. Be sure that you proofread your statement and have others, such as professors, teaching assistants, advisors, and peers read it. Ask for constructive feedback as well.

Be clear and specific. Instead of providing broad generalizations such as "my research internship provided valuable experience," write, "By transcribing interview protocols and coding the data, I gained a deeper understanding of how teenage mothers make attributions."

Give yourself enough time to write the Statement of Purpose, to get feedback from a variety of people, and to make the necessary revisions.

Be yourself; avoid using too much jargon and too many big words that aren't a part of your day-to-day vocabulary.

有些同学觉得每个学校都写不一样的工程量太大,如果你仔细的阅读了要求,最终不得不把你的初稿进行反复的修改以满足每个学校的不同要求。

