Study Plan

Dear Visa Officer,

My name is Sicheng Ouyang, and I am a student currently studying A-Level courses at WHBC, including mathematics, further mathematics, physics, and computer science. I am writing to explain my academic goals and reasons for choosing Canada, the University of Waterloo, and the Software Engineering program.

Since high school, I have been passionate about programming and software development. I enjoy writing code and built many project with java and python. This passion has led me to pursue Software Engineering at the university level, with a clear long-term goal: to return to China and work as a software engineer in one of the country's leading technology companies.

I chose the University of Waterloo because it is globally recognized for its excellence in engineering and computer science education. The Software Engineering program offers a rigorous and well-integrated curriculum that combines theory and practice. I look forward to courses such as **SE 212: Logic and Computation**, which builds a strong foundation in formal reasoning; **SE 350: Operating Systems**, where I will learn about process management and memory control; and **SE 240: Algorithms and Data Structures**, which develops efficient algorithmic thinking. Courses like **SE 463: Software Testing, Quality Assurance, and Maintenance** and **SE 464: Software Design and Architecture** will equip me with practical tools for building reliable, large-scale systems, while **SE 380: Feedback Control** and **SE 465: Software Architecture** will refine my understanding of system dynamics and structural design. The inclusion of **SE 390/490: Design Project phases** also ensures I graduate with hands-on experience in end-to-end software development.

Another reason I am drawn to Waterloo is its renowned co-op program, which allows students to gain up to two years of real-world work experience. I view this as a crucial opportunity to apply classroom knowledge to industry settings and to understand the workflows and expectations of professional software development teams. The skills I develop through this program will be directly transferable to the fast-paced and competitive technology landscape in China.

In addition, I would like to share some background about my travel history and ties to my home country. I currently hold a valid U.S. B1/B2 visa and have traveled to the United States several times. Notably, I lived in the U.S. for one year in 2014 and returned to China afterward. Just last summer, I again visited the United States and returned to China as planned, I believe this demonstrates my travel compliance and lack of immigration intent.

I also have important family responsibilities in China. I have a younger sister who is still growing up and needs support, and my parents are getting older, which increases my desire to be close to them after graduation. It is very important for me to be able to care for them and contribute to my family's well-being. These strong family and cultural ties reinforce my commitment to returning to China after completing my studies.

Canada's inclusive society, high-quality education, and safe environment make it an excellent place to study. However, I want to emphasize that my ultimate goal is not to settle in Canada, but to return to China after graduation. As China's tech industry continues to grow at a remarkable pace, there is a strong demand for globally trained software engineers. My plan is to bring back the advanced knowledge and international perspective I gain in Canada to contribute to China's technological development. I am particularly interested in working for major Chinese companies such as Tencent, Alibaba, or ByteDance, where I believe I can make a meaningful impact.

Studying Software Engineering at the University of Waterloo is a critical step in achieving my professional goals. I have deep roots in my home country, my family, cultural ties, and long-term aspirations are all based there. It is my firm intention to return home after completing my studies.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my application. I am sincerely looking forward to the opportunity to study in Canada.

Sincerely,
Sicheng Ouyang