Personal Statement Charles Stahl, UC Santa Barbara

I spent my first two and a half years at Princeton competing on the varsity track and cross country teams. My time there taught me valuable skills such as conflict resolution, discipline and empathy. The varied goals of team members [academic or athletic] led to occasional disagreements that had to be headed off. Discipline came from completing difficult workouts together, either by pushing myself, pushing others, or having them push me. I learned empathy in supporting my teammates during these workouts or after disappointing races.

These skills would contribute to the experience of my classmates not because they don't have similar skills, but because I learned them in a different context.