

Personal Statement – David Robertson

I am applying to study the MSc in Artificial Intelligence at Aberdeen University for a number of reasons. Firstly, I feel the content of the course is perfect in terms of what I would like to learn about particularly machine learning and data mining. These areas have interested me greatly since early in my undergraduate studies at Abertay University, thus I have based my honours project on the training of a neural network to drive a car in a game. I have also been in contact with the programme coordinator Dr Pang. I had a very interesting conversation with him when we met at Data Talent Scotland 2017, which really increased my interest in the course. I achieved a very high grade for my research proposal and am on track to continue that trend with my dissertation. I believe I will be able to achieve a first class degree, which will demonstrate my high level of academic ability.

Through my work with Justfone in the summer of 2016, I have increased my ability to work independently with short time frames. I was responsible for producing a python script that would turn a CSV file into a complete web form with links to a database. I had to research and complete this task within 2 weeks. This helped me develop skills in conducting relevant research and time management. Through the process of executing my honours project, I have further developed these qualities and increased my understanding of how to conduct efficient research of certain academic fields.

I believe this course will expand my knowledge in artificial intelligence greatly, allowing me to have a much better grasp on the fundamentals of the topic. I also believe it will allow me to pursue further research into the field in the form of a PhD in machine learning.