

Reasons to go to grad school:

- narrow interest in a topic
- you like to do research → highlight this one, unique
- you want career advancement

Questions I need answered:

1. How did you get into this field? → this one
2. What education or credentials are required for continued advancement in this field? → this one
3. What was different than what you expected? Any myths you want to shatter for me?
4. What advice would you have for a young person interested in this field? → this one
5. Should I go to grad school right away or work for a year or two first? If work, what kind of experiences would be best? → this one
6. Which grad schools do you think are best in this field? Why?
7. Do you know any professors that I should contact?

Consider the benefits of studying in a city where you would like to be employed after graduation → find out if there are special opportunities in that area

- Which theorists or thought leaders do you admire in our field?
- Could you describe how you study? What is your routine?
- Could you tell me about a major failure in your life and how you dealt with it?
- What are your career plans and how does our particular program fit in with them?
- Why should we admit you over the many other fine and highly qualified candidates we have this year?
- What makes you different?

→ mostly at night, late at night

Look up these factors about the school:

1. What do you teach here? What are the program's strengths?
2. What is the largest and the most typical class size for a graduate class? Are classes restricted to graduate students? To majors?
3. What would be the advantages and disadvantages to going to grad school immediately after completing an undergraduate degree? The advantages and disadvantages of waiting a few years? The best use of the interim time?
4. What are the criteria and process for selecting TAs, RAs, and fellows?
5. Will I get to develop my own topics, or will I be expected to work on a professor's ongoing research?
6. What facilities are available for graduate students? Are there any restrictions on access?
7. What is the mean time to complete (a) classwork, (b) research, (c) thesis or dissertation? (That is, what is the mean time to complete the master's or PhD?) Ask about the program as a whole, but perhaps more importantly, by professor.
8. What is your attrition rate? Of those who don't finish, what are their reasons?
9. What kind of student thrives in your program?
10. How reliable is your financial support year to year? Is the first-year offer always sustained, given attainment of academic goals?
11. What are the age range, gender balance, ratio of married/single, and geographical origins of graduate students in the program?
12. Can you tell me who is launching new projects? Which professors have won awards and grants lately? (These presumably need graduate assistants.)
13. Can you tell me about your placement rates and types of jobs obtained by recent graduates? (Avoid relying on testimonials and anecdotal evidence.)
14. May I meet some currently enrolled students? (In person, or later via phone or email, be sure to ask about their research topics and be sure to take notes on specific professors mentioned.)
15. How can I be a strong candidate for a program like this?

Ask these questions and put the answer in the SOP

UBC specific questions :

→ Why are you interested in your chosen research area ?

→ Where do you see yourself in 4 years with this degree ?

Massively important

→ How have you prepared yourself for our program ?

→ Have to look, don't know yet

? What is the most unique quality about me as a person ?

• Father's unmanned ship

No failure

I am very independent

• I think by far the best thing about me has always been

how I respond to failure, growth mindset

I do not conform

Eloquent

Determination

Communication

My upbringing

I analyze everything

I like psychology

During web cam hacking,

I realized the risk

- What writers and which particular articles in your field of study have had the greatest influence on the development of your thought?

- Who were your favorite professors in college, and why? How has each influenced you?

- What is the best paper or exam you ever wrote in your major, and what makes it good?

- What do you consider the most important book, play, article, or film you have ever read/seen, and how has it influenced you?

- What is the single most important concept you have learned in college?

→ I do not have to work the hardest, I need to invest my effort in things that will have the most impact

• Practice sitting through something even if I don't immediately find it interesting

शर्प-स्टॉर, exceptionally organised, leaves his mark in things he does (I am hyper-organized myself)

फ़िल्म श्रावण, गायत्री सुर्य : humble, taught me that

the most effective 'sales pitch' about yourself

is the act of helping people around you with genuine intentions.

• Best paper/exam : Datalog and computer architecture final exam, because I actually understood those I studied those for the fun of it, not because I needed good grades

- What articles helped you develop your thought process?

↳ philip Guo

listening to him & don't think about failures humanist perspective

eloquently, helped me narrow down my goals and really reflect on where I want to see myself in life down the road

- the most important book, play, article :

Series of articles / videos by Jordan Peterson
shaped how I currently think about my life
Why I work, how I work

- What are some of the encouraging words a professor said about you?

→ 2010 سیرہ : do you know the girl Tashaffi. She had the most outstanding transformation of everyone I know

Where were you and what were you doing when you first thought of pursuing this particular direction of graduate study? One student told me that she was talking with her professor in an English class, and

→ It all started with my father telling me the story, I searched for job market, career path, learning curve, research etc and decided to go for it. I wanted to do research after I noticed how much I spend writing and formulating thoughts. Graduate study was a viable option because of the chicken and egg problem into joining the industry as a security researcher.

Your next exercise is to define your career goal, as nearly as you can. Consider why you have chosen the particular path you are now pursuing, and make a list of your real reasons for doing so. What attracts you to this career? What do you hope to gain? Write these items down the left-hand side of a piece of paper. Be honest! Remember, nobody is going to see this list but you.

Career goal: Industry research

- What is attractive about industry research? How does this path drive me towards that career?

looking into google project zero, dig up the researchers' career path

Project zero criteria: vulnerability research and exploit development
most people there have a history of vulnerability research

public portfolio of vulnerability research

can include software development work

learning the fundamentals of programming, OS,
machine architecture

Privacy engineer: look into that →

Research intern: looks for a Masters, PhD

World class research labs and scientists

- Cryptography and privacy research group microsoft research

They seek graduate students for internship

Demonstrated ability to engage in research

How do they get promoted at industry research?

- What is your research interest?

Should definitely use Elizabeth Stobert as an inspiration

- How have you prepared yourself to succeed in graduate school?
- What body of relevant knowledge will you take with you?
- What study or laboratory skills have you honed to date?
- What personal attributes or physical characteristics make you particularly likely to succeed in your new career?

↳ the element of adversarial thinking, I have always liked psychology

↳ the cohort, be around and learn from other people who have worked extensively in -the field of web security, cryptography, reverse engineering, exploitation

How have you prepared yourself to succeed in graduate school

Definitely talk about google hacking

- participated in research
- taken certification
- personal studying
- ask for relevant project from office

Personal attribute:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| • stress management | • analytical |
| • coping with failure | • curious |
| • determination | |

Finally, list what you really learned from the research. Perhaps you gained specific knowledge of a concept, a technique, how to work with others, or even an emotion. For instance, you could have learned compassion, empathy, or even humility.

- Crowdsourcing :
1. Processing large amounts of data
 2. Working under tight deadline
 3. Anonymity network
 4. Peer-to-peer network

- Text to comics :
1. Presentation, aesthetics
 2. Psychology of readers → read up on it
 3. Drawing with python
 4. Project planning
 5. Preparing dataset
 6. Leadership and conflict management

Michael Gregg is the author, can mention him

- Major writers or thinkers of the field who have influenced you

Customize for uni

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Can you describe an experience that demonstrates remarkable drive or perseverance? Are you involved in sports? What do you do with your leisure time? Do you have any hobbies or pastimes to soften the stress of graduate study? What can you tell someone that would lead them to believe they'd enjoy your company?

remarkable drive/perseverance: upward trend

the research

weightlifting, I read in leisure time, I like debates

• Have you thought about the move? Mention the locale

Employment opportunities at Waterloo: Mention

• What will be doing in the time between admission and start of graduate school?

1. Get both the papers published
2. Work more with Tanzima mam
3. Get certifications on security and cloud/iot

parts of your application when they are important. Hint that there is far more to you than you have room to discuss in this short essay. Tie your essay to the rest of your application with notes like these: "See letter of recommendation," "See resume," "See bibliography for additional articles," "See awards." You will notice this technique in many of the essays selected for this book.

 note for shortening

Demonstrate that you have read the catalog carefully, researched the program, and considered your reasons for applying to this particular school. Find a common thread, a point at which your philosophy and theirs meet in happy confluence, as in these examples:

 emphasis on philosophy

- Buet is an institution that has historically produced students who succeed in graduate environments → look into stats

- Sparingly use bullet points
- What's your plan?

↳ Think of future research direction

Psychology + security

Privacy in mobile computing

differential privacy

cloud computing

secure computation

SOP my findings:

From ଆନୁମାତାଇଯା's SOP: Elaborate on how you want to continue your research with the potential supervisor of your liking

Ian Drosos Philip Guo:

Elaborated on the system he worked on during his job and quantified the impact of these systems and what skills he learned from these

Jeremy Warner Philip Guo:

Talks about getting insights from a massive dataset. Mentions the size of the dataset.

Mentions ongoing research. I plan to submit it on ' '. A prototype is available on ' '.

Career goal is industry research. I should talk about my usable security plan (Copy some idea from carleton mam)

Talks about how metal reduces video rendering time?

Rezwana mam:

Highlight university as they don't know buet

Highlight my supervisors more

Link to portfolio