

Motivation letter

Dear Members of the Admission Committee,

I am writing to express my strong motivation to apply for the Master's degree in Computer Engineering with a specialization in Artificial Intelligence and Human-Centered Computing at the University of Genova. With a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology, several years of professional experience as a Computer Science educator, and a focused interest in artificial intelligence and advanced computing systems, I am eager to further develop my academic and technical expertise through this program.

Artificial Intelligence is no longer an abstract concept. It is actively shaping how people learn, work, communicate, and make decisions. These facts motivated me to learn how AI systems work. To get basic concepts, I took short courses related to Artificial Intelligence, Machine learning, Data science, Data analytics and Internet of things. Also, from my Bachelor's in Information Technology, I developed a solid foundation in programming, data structures, algorithms, database systems, software engineering, and computer networks.

Being the eldest Son, I've always felt a strong sense of responsibility toward my loved ones. After completing my under-graduate studies, I started working as Secondary School Educator, School Education Department, Government of Punjab, Pakistan. But I always want to continue my studies. Therefore, I started to look AI related master's program in different universities. Then, my attention drawn to University of Genova's MSc in Computer engineering program. I searched about their courses, study manifesto, departments and professors. I got particularly motivated by university's commitment to modern computing challenges, including artificial intelligence, security, and large-scale software systems.

I am particularly drawn to the University of Genova's MSc in Computer Engineering – Artificial Intelligence and Human-Centered Computing because of its balanced and comprehensive curriculum that addresses both technical depth and real-world applicability. Courses such as Machine Learning and Deep Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Software Engineering, Advanced Data Management, and Operations Research align strongly with my academic interests, while subjects like Human-Computer Interaction, Computer Security, Data Protection and Privacy, and Virtualization and Cloud Computing reflect the modern challenges faced by intelligent systems in real-world environments. The inclusion of a Software Engineering Lab and applied components further reinforces my interest in this program, as it emphasizes practical problem-solving alongside theoretical understanding.

Most importantly, work of Professor Davide Anguita, Head of Program, makes me highly motivated to apply in the University of Genova's Computer Engineering program. My research interests are also closely aligned to his research interests. I am particularly interested in his research work in data analytics, big data, and machine learning for data-driven decision-making, especially their industrial applications. His publications such as

Informed Machine Learning: Excess risk and generalization, Robustness-Congruent Adversarial Training for Secure Machine Learning Model and Dynamical Systems Behavior Prediction: Machine Learning and Koopman Operator, made me highly motivated. I believe that working under his supervision would allow me to strengthen my theoretical understanding while gaining practical research experience, and I would be highly motivated to contribute actively to his ongoing research initiatives.

Through this program, I expect to gain advanced theoretical knowledge and practical skills in artificial intelligence, intelligent systems, secure software development, and human-centered computing. I also aim to strengthen my research skills, teamwork abilities, and problem-solving capacity through laboratory work, collaborative projects, and my master's thesis. I am particularly interested in how artificial intelligence can be responsibly integrated into software systems used in education, public services, and large-scale information infrastructures.

I believe I am a suitable candidate for this course, as I combine a strong academic foundation with professional experience and clear career goals. My background in Information Technology and work experience in programming languages like: Python, JavaScript, C++, TypeScript, Node.js, React.js and MongoDB, combined with years of teaching computer science, has strengthened my analytical thinking, problem-solving ability, and discipline. I am accustomed to structured learning environments and continuous professional development, which prepares me well for the rigor of a master's program.

Also, studying in an international academic environment requires adaptability, discipline, and independence. My professional experience, strong work ethic, and proficiency in English have prepared me well to meet these challenges and integrate successfully into the academic life at the University of Genova.

In conclusion, my academic background, professional experience, and clearly defined goals align well with the objectives of the MSc in Computer Engineering – Artificial Intelligence and Human-Centered Computing. I am highly motivated to contribute positively to the University of Genova's academic community and to use the knowledge and skills gained to make meaningful contributions to the field of intelligent computing.

Thank you for considering my application.

Yours sincerely,

Bilal Rafique