

Meet Guide #7:



Writing your Personal Statement

The personal statement is one of the most important parts of your university application. It's a chance to stand out from the crowd and demonstrate why you'd be an amazing candidate for your chosen course. We break down our tips below.

If you need to get in touch with the team, contact us on Microsoft Teams



Personal Statement FAQs

Q. Why do I need a personal statement?

So you can apply for up to five courses via the UCAS form. You can **apply for up to 5 different places** but you only write **ONE personal statement**.

Q. How long should my personal statement be?

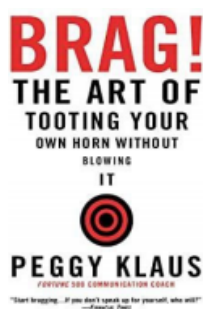
Your statement can be **up to 4,000 characters** or **47 lines of text** (including spaces and blank lines), whichever comes first.

Q. When is the deadline?

15 October - Oxford/Cambridge Medicine, Dentistry & Veterinary courses
25 Jan - Most other undergraduate courses



Book Recommendation: Your 'Bragalogue'

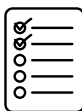


The Art of Tooting your own Horn without Blowing It
by Peggy Klaus

When it comes to your personal statement you should definitely include your Bragalogue. What's your Bragalogue I hear you ask, well it's the things you've achieved that you are most proud of! The term was coined by Peggy Klaus.

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Structure: The Simple Breakdown

Here is a breakdown of how you could structure your personal statement:

1. Opening:

- Talk about why you want to study your chosen course.
- What is it that you enjoy about the subject? Do you have any specific areas of interest within your subject area?
- How do your current studies relate to the course?



2. Skills and Activities:

- Talk about activities that you have done outside of your studies
- This could be hobbies, work experience, achievements, extra reading etc.
- What transferrable skills have you learnt/developed from these activities that will help you in your studies? There are some examples below



3. Conclusion:

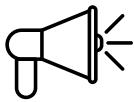
- Summarise why you would be a great candidate for your course
- Do you have any career ambitions or future plans that you could mention?
- End on a positive!

Transferrable Skills Examples:

Leadership, team working, organisation, time management, prioritisation, written/spoken communication, public speaking, research skills.

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Toot Toot!

- Ask the questions below to help your mentee get inspired for their personal statement
- If you notice any reoccurring themes or experiences being used/said, then please write those down in a list for your Mentee.

An interesting article or blog you've read recently?

A pet project you have?

Your family would say your main strength is?

Last activity or event that you volunteered at?

Favourite part of STEM you are interested in?

A problem you recently solved is?

A recent buzzword you've used in you studies is?

A "trending topic" in your area of interest is...

A subject you talk about most is?

A topic you discuss a lot with your mentor?

The theme of your favourite class/module?

Something you are proud of?

Something in society you wish to change?

Favourite topic to read about is?

Last thing you did outside your studies is?



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Here are our final top tips to think about when writing your personal statement:



Do your Research

On university course websites, look for:

- Which modules they are offer- and how many of those can you choose?
- How do the courses differ at different universities? Which would you prefer?
- Do they have more exams, course work group projects?
- Is there an industry year? Or an opportunity to study abroad?