

Divide your personal statement into several paragraphs.

State the course for which you are applying.

Why do you want to do the course/research?

- Be clear about why you have chosen this course - how did your interest in this field develop? Show your enthusiasm for the course – give details of any projects, dissertations, modules that are relevant?

Why this university?

- Show that you have done some research on the department and institution and explain why you would value the opportunity to study with them.

Why you?

- What academic skills do you have to offer?
- What personal skills will you bring to the course? Highlight your skills and give evidence of how you have developed and used these skills in the past. E.g. communication skills, ability to work as part of a team, strong self-motivation, organisational skills. Here you are telling them what you will bring to the course.
- What are your strengths?
- What is the relevance of your first degree to this field of study?
- If relevant, point out any challenges you have faced and how you have overcome them e.g. any circumstances that may have affected your academic results in past years.

Sum-up – Short paragraph highlighting your commitment to this course/career area and your willingness to work hard to meet your goals etc.

Useful Information

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/careers/postgraduatestudy#applications>

<https://gradireland.com/further-study/advice-and-funding/applications/applying-for-postgraduate-courses>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/>