

# Global Opportunities

Personal Statement guidance



# Application Requirements

The application to study abroad contains:

- Ranked order of partner universities (up to 5)
- School exchange coordinator reference / consent
- Conditions of participation
- **Personal Statement**

**This application is only reviewed by Newcastle colleagues – not the partner universities.**

**Remember, your application is scored based on your personal statement.**



Find out more about our partner universities and how to research  
where will be a good fit for you!

# Introduction to Personal Statements

Your personal statement is an opportunity for you to explain your motivations for applying for a study/work placement abroad; to show us you have researched the destinations that you are interested in.

Key Points to Cover in Your Statement:

- Your academic interests/development goals.
- Your career development and future study goals.
- Your broader motivations for applying and how your application relates to your personal interests and development.
- How you will be an effective ambassador for Newcastle University.

The answers which score highest throughout each question are those which demonstrate **clear research** into the universities/courses/ destinations you are applying for.

Personal Statement is made up of answers to **4 questions**.

Maximum Word Count: **300 words** per question

Total Points Possible: **64 points**

Answers **cannot be amended** once submitted.

*Please explain how you would benefit from this experience in terms of your **academic development**. Consider your **academic interests** and any areas that you would like to develop (16 points)*

Explains how participation in the placement will support academic development and achievement.

**8 marks**



Explain WHAT your academic goals are.  
Explain WHY it is important that you achieve these academic goals.

Link academic opportunities available (e.g., facilities, module options and other learning opportunities) at the partner(s) to own academic interests and areas for development.

**8 marks**



Describe HOW attending 'University X' or working at 'Company X' will help you achieve these academic goals.

WHAT does 'X' offer as an institution that no one else does?

*Please explain how you would benefit from this opportunity from a **career development** perspective. Consider your plans for **future employment** or study **and any graduate attributes** that you may acquire to support your development in this area.*  
**(16 points)**

Explains how participation in the placement will support plans for future employment or study.

**8 marks**



HOW will going abroad support your future career or professional goals?

WHAT necessary soft skills will you learn from this opportunity? WHY are these important skills to have for yourself?

Indicates commitment to developing graduate attributes (such as problem-solving, inter-cultural competences, and communication skills) through participation on chosen placement and outlines how they intend to develop these attributes.

**8 marks**



Show - don't just tell - your commitment to developing in-demand graduate attributes and soft skills.

Outline HOW you intend to develop these attributes post-placement.

Please **explain** your **broader motivations** for applying for an international study/work placement. Consider how you might develop your language/cultural competence and how the placement destination(s) might support your **extra-curricular** engagements.  
(8 points)

Explains how participation in the placement supports the development of own interests/engagement/competences (e.g. sports/music/language/culture). Makes specific reference to features at the host organisations/destinations.

**8 marks**



WHICH of your extracurricular activities relate(s) to intercultural opportunities or reflect(s) a global mindset? WHY?

HOW will you continue to develop/pursue these interests while abroad? WHAT resources do your top choices offer that foster your hobbies?

Outside of academia and your professional life, describe HOW your personal life would benefit from going abroad.



***What personal experience/attributes do you already have that make you an effective ambassador for Newcastle University, and how will you commit to developing these attributes through your participation in this placement? (16 points)***

Evidences attributes of an effective ambassador (e.g. respectful of diversity, open-minded, diligent, enthusiastic, culturally aware, engaged) and demonstrates previous experience of applying these.

**8 marks**



WHY should you get this placement?

Describe HOW you engaged with (and value) differences in your academic, professional, and personal life. Have you had intercultural awareness training or an intercultural experience before?

Evidences commitment to developing personal skills while overseas (e.g. resilience, independence, inter-cultural competences, communication skills, confidence, cultural awareness) and outlines how they intend to achieve this development.

**8 marks**



WHICH personal skills do you feel you need to strengthen? WHAT FOR?

WHY is this global opportunity important to you?

## ***Remember! Accuracy and Presentation (8 points)***

Provides detailed and accurate answers. Writes in full sentences, has spell-checked answers and attempted to use correct punctuation and grammar.

**8 marks**



Taken time and care to write as best you are able. Use spell-checkers and editing tools effectively.

The maximum word counts are an indication of the level of detail expected for each answer, and you should not write more than this. Overly short answers will not score highly.

# Contact us



Good luck!



From Newcastle. For the world.